

(Footnotes to Meetings: maintenance of international peace and security)

^a Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Japan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, Thailand, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

^b Seychelles did not make a statement.

^c Denmark (Minister for Development Cooperation), Armenia, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Germany, India, Japan, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Papua New Guinea, Qatar, South Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Uganda and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

^d The representatives of Chile, Cyprus and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela did not make a statement.

40. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings and adopted one resolution and two presidential statements under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security”. At the meetings, the Council focused on the relationship of the United Nations with the African Union, the European Union, the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) and other regional organizations from Africa, Asia and Latin America.

Strengthening the relationship with regional organizations, in particular the African Union

On 12 January 2012, the President of South Africa reviewed the lessons to be drawn from the situation in Libya and affirmed that greater political coherence and a common vision between the African Union and the United Nations were critical to the resolution of African conflicts.¹¹⁶⁶ He noted the positive experience of 10 years of cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations and offered a series of proposals, including the institutionalization of the relationship between the Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council, the development and definition of modalities for cooperation and decision-making between the two

institutions, a clear division of labour and the exploration of solutions for capacity-building and sustainable resource allocation.¹¹⁶⁷

The Secretary-General said that the collective efforts of the United Nations and the African Union in conflict prevention and mediation, peacekeeping and peacebuilding were making a real difference throughout the continent, and highlighted examples of the strengthened partnership.¹¹⁶⁸ The Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union said that both traditional and new threats required concerted responses by the two organizations and a much closer partnership, on the basis of a creative reading of the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter. He specifically mentioned the need for the two organizations to agree on a set of principles aimed at clarifying the relationship and anchoring it on a more solid platform, including support for African ownership and priority-setting.¹¹⁶⁹ Echoing the previous speaker, the Chair of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union offered a series of reflections on innovative ways of interpreting Chapter VIII of the Charter that would add value, improve the relationship and optimize the chances of achieving sustainable peace. He highlighted issues that required measures of improvement, namely the process of decision-making, particularly in determining when and how to engage in

¹¹⁶⁶ See also the concept note circulated by South Africa (S/2012/13, annex).

¹¹⁶⁷ S/PV.6702, pp. 3-4.

¹¹⁶⁸ Ibid., p. 5.

¹¹⁶⁹ Ibid., p. 7.

specific crisis situations, the gap between the requirements of an operation and the resources available, institutional relations, differences in the approach to deployment in fragile environments and capacity-building.¹¹⁷⁰

Speakers generally acknowledged the progress made and the challenges remaining in the relationship between the United Nations and the African Union in the maintenance of international peace and security.

After the discussion, the Council adopted resolution 2033 (2012), in which it, *inter alia*, encouraged the improvement of regular interaction, consultation and coordination between the Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council on matters of mutual interest. Following the vote, the representative of the United Kingdom stated that while his country commended the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, it did not believe that such cooperation should come at the expense of the Security Council's primacy with respect to the maintenance of international peace and security or its practical capacity to speedily and effectively respond to any threat to international peace and security.¹¹⁷¹

Cooperation with the European Union

In her briefing to the Council on 13 February 2012 the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union outlined the contribution of the European Union to international peace and security. She highlighted the ability of the European Union to marshal a comprehensive approach, exemplified by its involvement in Somalia and Mali, where security measures were accompanied by development cooperation. She also mentioned the involvement of the European Union in international negotiations, including mediation, on behalf of the international community and underlined her role in dealing with the Iranian nuclear issue and in facilitating the dialogue between Serbia and Kosovo. In addition, she noted the work of the European Union with international and regional partners, in efforts to address some of the more difficult challenges to international peace and security, such as violations of international law by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the conflict in

the Syrian Arab Republic and the Middle East peace process.¹¹⁷²

Most speakers welcomed the contribution of the European Union to international peace and security.¹¹⁷³ Some speakers also highlighted the active role that it played in the issue of children and armed conflict.¹¹⁷⁴ The representative of Togo cautioned against overlapping actions, and said that it was important for both the European Union and the United Nations to bear in mind what the other was doing before making a new commitment.¹¹⁷⁵

Open debate with regional organizations of Africa, Asia and Latin America

At the outset of the meeting of the Council, on 6 August 2013, the President of Argentina pointed out that the last time the Council had held a debate from a broader perspective on the relationship between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations had been on 13 January 2010. She emphasized that the primary objective of the debate was to consider the role of regional and subregional organizations and explore the options to strengthen the bilateral relationships between the United Nations and a spectrum of regional and subregional organizations and arrangements.¹¹⁷⁶

The Council then adopted a presidential statement, in which it, *inter alia*, expressed its intention to consider further steps to promote closer and more operational cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the fields of conflict early warning, prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.¹¹⁷⁷

In his briefing after the adoption of the presidential statement, the Secretary-General expressed his belief in the value of combining the deep knowledge, unique insights and strong local networks of regional and subregional organizations with the

¹¹⁷⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 9-10.

¹¹⁷¹ [S/PV.6702 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p.10.

¹¹⁷² [S/PV.6919](#), pp. 2-4.

¹¹⁷³ *Ibid.*, p. 5 (France); p. 6 (Azerbaijan); p. 7 (Luxembourg); p. 9 (Australia); p. 10 (Guatemala); p. 11 (China); p. 14 (United Kingdom); p. 18 (Morocco); pp. 19-20 (United States); and p. 21 (Republic of Korea).

¹¹⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 6 (France); p. 8 (Luxembourg); p. 17 (Argentina); and p. 21 (Rwanda).

¹¹⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 15.

¹¹⁷⁶ [S/PV.7015](#), p. 2. See also concept note circulated by Argentina ([S/2013/446](#), annex).

¹¹⁷⁷ [S/PRST/2013/12](#).

universal membership and legitimacy, long experience and operational capacity of the United Nations in the area of international peace and security.¹¹⁷⁸

The representative of Cuba, speaking on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States, said that it was the first time the organization he represented had participated in a debate of the Council. In his view, regional and subregional organizations had an essential role to play in conformity with Chapter VIII of the Charter.¹¹⁷⁹ The representative of Ethiopia, speaking on behalf of the Chairperson of the African Union, noted with appreciation the increased cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations in conflict resolution, peacekeeping, post-conflict peacebuilding and reconstruction and, as examples of such cooperation, mentioned the signing and implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 9 January 2005 in the Sudan, the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur and the African Union Mission in Somalia. However, he also pointed out areas with a need for greater cooperation, namely, predictable, sustainable and flexible funding for African Union peace support missions authorized by the Council, and consultation and effective coordination between the two organizations.¹¹⁸⁰ The representative of Peru spoke on behalf of the Union of South American Nations. While highlighting the activities of the Union in the field of peace and security, she recognized the primary role that the Charter had entrusted to the Council in that respect, as well as the complementary role played by regional bodies.¹¹⁸¹ Against the backdrop of the decisions adopted by the League of Arab States on a number of issues concerning the Middle East and the inability of the Council to adopt resolutions on those same issues, the Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations called for an end to that controversial trend and for the Council to seriously consider the decisions of regional organizations. He stressed that frequently changing situations and crises required strengthened cooperation and the accelerated adoption and implementation by the Security Council of decisions taken by regional organizations.¹¹⁸² After the briefings, participants in the open debate identified

success stories and challenges in the collaboration between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations.

Partnership with the Organization of Islamic Cooperation

On 28 October 2013, the Council had before it a concept note circulated by Azerbaijan.¹¹⁸³ In his briefing to the Council, the Secretary-General said that the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) were working closely on issues ranging from conflict prevention and conflict resolution to counter-terrorism, from human rights and humanitarian affairs to intercultural dialogue and sustainable development. He made reference to the collaboration between the United Nations and OIC on a wide range of matters, including the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Middle East peace process, the path of reform in Myanmar, the transition in Afghanistan, the situation in Mali, the peace process in the Sudan and the issue of terrorism. He welcomed the significant progress achieved in the strategic dialogue between the two organizations, including through formal partnership agreements and joint workplans, staff exchanges and joint mediation deployments.¹¹⁸⁴

The Secretary-General of OIC informed the Council of his organization's efforts in the maintenance of peace and security, conflict prevention and conflict resolution. He also stressed the contribution of OIC to the work of the United Nations in a broad range of areas, and mentioned that the United Nations-Organization of Islamic Cooperation general biannual consultation meeting had provided an opportunity to identify all areas of cooperation with a specific time frame for implementation.¹¹⁸⁵

Council members generally welcomed the collaboration between the two organizations. Echoing the Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation, speakers noted that OIC was working on many issues that were also on the agenda of the Security Council.¹¹⁸⁶ Several participants also

¹¹⁷⁸ S/PV.7015, p. 4.

¹¹⁷⁹ Ibid., pp. 4-5.

¹¹⁸⁰ Ibid., pp. 6-7.

¹¹⁸¹ Ibid., p. 8.

¹¹⁸² Ibid., p. 11.

¹¹⁸³ S/2013/588, annex.

¹¹⁸⁴ S/PV.7050, pp. 2-3.

¹¹⁸⁵ Ibid., pp. 4-5.

¹¹⁸⁶ S/PV.7050, p. 7 (Azerbaijan); p. 12 (Australia); p. 13 (Pakistan); and p. 22 (Russian Federation).

mentioned the importance of dialogue between religions and of respect for religious diversity.¹¹⁸⁷

At the meeting, the Council adopted a presidential statement, in which it recognized and

¹¹⁸⁷ Ibid., p. 6 (Secretary-General of OIC); p. 8 (Azerbaijan); p. 9 (Morocco); p. 11 (Rwanda); p. 11 (Luxembourg); p. 13 (Australia); p. 13 (Pakistan); p. 15 (Guatemala); p. 17 (United Kingdom); p. 19 (Togo); p. 20 (France); and p. 22 (Russian Federation).

further encouraged the active contribution of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation in the work of the United Nations, and acknowledged the continuing dialogue between the United Nations and OIC in the fields of peacemaking, preventive diplomacy, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.¹¹⁸⁸

¹¹⁸⁸ [S/PRST/2013/16](#).

Meetings: cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.6702 S/PV.6702 (Resumption 1) 12 January 2012	Strengthening the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union, in the maintenance of international peace and security Report of the Secretary-General on United Nations-African Union cooperation in peace and security (S/2011/805) Letter dated 4 January 2012 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2012/13) Letter dated 9 January 2012 from the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2012/20)	Draft resolution submitted by Colombia, India, Pakistan, South Africa, Togo (S/2012/25)	Ethiopia, Kenya, Nigeria ^a	Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^b all invitees	Resolution 2033 (2012) 15-0-0
S/PV.6919 13 February 2013	European Union			High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union	All Council members, High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union	

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S/PV.7015 S/PV.7015 (Resumption 1) 6 August 2013	Letter dated 1 August 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2013/446)	S/PRST/2010/1	38 Member States ^c	Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations, Secretary-General of the Organization of America States, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^d all invitees	S/PRST/2013/12
S/PV.7050 28 October 2013	Strengthening the partnership synergy between the United Nations and the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Letter dated 3 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Azerbaijan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2013/588)			Secretary-General of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)	Secretary-General, all Council members, Secretary-General of OIC	S/PRST/2013/16

^a Kenya (Minister for Foreign Affairs, in his capacity as Chair of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union), Ethiopia (as Chair of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development) and Nigeria (as Chair of the Economic Community of West African States).

^b South Africa was represented by its President; Azerbaijan, Colombia and Guatemala were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs; France was represented by its Minister of State responsible for French nationals abroad; Germany by its Minister of State; Portugal by its Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Togo by its Minister, Special Adviser to the President; and China by its Special Envoy for African Affairs.

^c Cuba (Minister for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States), Peru (Minister for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Union of South American Nations), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (Minister of the People's Power for Foreign Affairs, on behalf of the Southern Common Market), Armenia, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia (on behalf of the Chairperson of the African Union), Fiji, Georgia, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kyrgyzstan (on behalf of the Collective Security Treaty Organization and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization), Lithuania, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Solomon Islands, South Africa, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Uruguay and Viet Nam (on behalf of the States members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations).

^d Argentina was represented by its President.