

<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.8426 17 December 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2018/1092)		14 Member States <sup>h</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Executive Director of UNODC, representative of the Independent Commission for Overseeing the Implementation of the Constitution, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, <sup>i</sup> all invitees <sup>j</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Pakistan and Turkey.

<sup>b</sup> The Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation and Sweden was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>c</sup> Australia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine.

<sup>d</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

<sup>e</sup> The representative of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine.

<sup>f</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

<sup>g</sup> The Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Ukraine.

<sup>h</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

<sup>i</sup> The representative of Kazakhstan spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011).

<sup>j</sup> The Executive Director of UNODC participated in the meeting via videoconference from Vienna. The Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Georgia, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine.

## 18. The situation in Myanmar

During the period under review, the Security Council held three meetings under the item entitled "The situation in Myanmar". The three meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>272</sup> No decisions were adopted by the Council under this item during 2018. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. In

addition, the Council conducted a mission to Bangladesh and Myanmar from 28 April to 2 May 2018.<sup>273</sup>

In 2018, the Council was briefed by the Secretary-General, the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, the United Nations High

<sup>272</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>273</sup> For more information on the Council's mission to Myanmar and Bangladesh, see part I, sect. 33.

Commissioner for Refugees, the Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Goodwill Ambassador, and the Chair of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar. Discussions in the Council were focused on the security, humanitarian, and human rights situation in Rakhine State, the status of the Rohingya refugees across the border in Bangladesh and internally displaced persons and the conditions necessary for their return, restrictions on humanitarian access, progress in the implementation by the Government of Myanmar of the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State as a means of addressing the root causes of the crisis, and the need for accountability for crimes committed against the Rohingya.

In his briefing to the Council on 13 February 2018, the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs noted that, five months since the start, in August 2017, of the large-scale violence that forced 688,000 Rohingya to leave Myanmar for Bangladesh, the outflow of people continued, although at a lower rate, and that large-scale acts of violence had subsided.<sup>274</sup> Nevertheless, he emphasized the insecurity of the Rohingya from Bamar and Rakhine communities and the lack of humanitarian access to conflict-affected areas. The Assistant Secretary-General further urged the Government to take a leadership role in promoting intercommunal cohesion and creating an environment conducive to dialogue and the respect for basic human rights.<sup>275</sup> The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees underscored the absence of conditions necessary for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons and called for increased humanitarian support. He also endorsed the recommendations of the Advisory Commission for a solution focused on a two-track approach involving, first, access to citizenship and the restoration of rights for the Rohingya and, second, inclusive development aimed at improving living conditions.<sup>276</sup>

During the briefing held on 28 August 2018, the Secretary-General reiterated that conditions had not been met for the return of refugees and asked Council members to join him in urging the authorities in Myanmar to cooperate with the United Nations and ensure immediate, unimpeded and effective humanitarian access. He added that accountability was essential for genuine reconciliation among all ethnic groups in the country. The Secretary-General further

informed the Council of his appointment of a Special Envoy on Myanmar in April 2018, who had commenced a process of consultations in furtherance of the Secretary-General's policy of engagement to encourage positive actions by the Government, help defuse tensions among communities and build confidence and trust.<sup>277</sup> The Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme provided an overview of efforts to implement the tripartite memorandum of understanding signed between the Government of Myanmar, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as a framework for creating sustainable conditions for voluntary returns.<sup>278</sup> The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Goodwill Ambassador drew the attention of Council members to the significant underfunding of international humanitarian efforts and implored the Council to encourage a more robust international response in that regard.<sup>279</sup>

In a letter dated 16 October 2018 to the President of the Council, the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States requested a meeting on the situation in Myanmar and for the Chair of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar, established by the Human Rights Council, to formally brief the Council, which, they explained, would enable Council members to receive further information on the situation and its implications on international peace and security.<sup>280</sup> In a letter dated 18 October 2018 addressed to the President of the Council, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea and the Russian Federation objected to the holding of the requested meeting, maintaining that it was outside of the mission's mandate, would set a bad precedent for the Council and would erode the mandate and duplicate the work of the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council.<sup>281</sup>

On 24 October 2018, the Chair of the independent fact-finding mission on Myanmar gave a briefing on the findings and recommendations of the report of the fact-finding mission of 12 September 2018, highlighting the consistent patterns of human rights violations in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States, in addition to serious violations of international humanitarian law, committed primarily by the

<sup>274</sup> S/PV.8179, p. 2.

<sup>275</sup> Ibid., pp. 2–3.

<sup>276</sup> Ibid., pp. 3–5.

<sup>277</sup> S/PV.8333, pp. 2–4.

<sup>278</sup> Ibid., pp. 4–5.

<sup>279</sup> Ibid., pp. 5–6.

<sup>280</sup> S/2018/926.

<sup>281</sup> S/2018/938.

Myanmar military, which – according to the report – could amount to the gravest crimes under international law.<sup>282</sup> The Chair called upon the Council to refer the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court or another international ad hoc tribunal and to impose targeted individual sanctions against those most responsible for serious crimes.<sup>283</sup> The provisional agenda was adopted by a procedural vote at the outset of the meeting.<sup>284</sup> In their statements before and after the vote, the representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational

<sup>282</sup> [A/HRC/39/64](#).

<sup>283</sup> [S/PV.8381](#), pp. 4–6.

<sup>284</sup> For details on procedural votes on the agenda, see part II, sect. II.A.

State of), China, Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation voiced their opposition to holding the meeting, maintaining, inter alia, that it was beyond the role of the Council as provided by the Charter.<sup>285</sup> Other Council members who had voted in favour of the provisional agenda underscored the importance of the briefing for the Council to fulfil its responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security.<sup>286</sup>

<sup>285</sup> [S/PV.8381](#), p. 2 (China), pp. 2–3 (Russian Federation), p. 4 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)) and p. 19 (Kazakhstan). For more information on relations with the General Assembly, see part IV, sect. I.

<sup>286</sup> [S/PV.8381](#), p. 3 and p. 6 (United Kingdom), p. 9 (Netherlands), p. 9 (United States), p. 10 (France) and p. 17 (Peru).

### Meetings: the situation in Myanmar

<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>
<a href="#">S/PV.8179</a> 13 February 2018			Bangladesh, Myanmar	Assistant Secretary- General for Political Affairs, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8333</a> 28 August 2018			Bangladesh, Myanmar	Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Goodwill Ambassador	Secretary- General, all Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8381</a> 24 October 2018	Letter dated 16 October 2018 from the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the		Bangladesh, Myanmar	Chair of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar	All Council members, all invitees	Procedural vote (rule 9) 9-3-3 <sup>c</sup>

<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>
	United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/926</a> )					
	Letter dated 18 October 2018 from the Permanent Representatives of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/938</a> )					

<sup>a</sup> The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees participated in the meeting via videoconference from Amman.

<sup>b</sup> The United Kingdom was represented by its Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the United Nations.

<sup>c</sup> *For*: Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States; *against*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Russian Federation; *abstaining*: Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan.

## Europe

### 19. The situation in Cyprus

During the year 2018, the Security Council held two meetings and adopted two resolutions concerning the situation in Cyprus. More information on the meetings, including on outcomes, is given in the table below. The Council also held two closed meetings with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#).<sup>287</sup>

During the two meetings of the Council, no statements were made. The Council unanimously adopted two resolutions: resolution [2398 \(2018\)](#) on 30 January and resolution [2430 \(2018\)](#) on 26 July 2018. By these resolutions, the Council extended the mandate of UNFICYP for six months, respectively, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the reports of the Secretary-General.<sup>288</sup> In both resolutions, the Council requested the Secretary-General to maintain transition planning in relation to a settlement, guided by progress in the negotiations, and encouraged the sides to engage with each other, as well as with UNFICYP and the United Nations good offices

<sup>287</sup> Held on 16 January and 12 July 2018 under the item entitled "Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B"; see [S/PV.8157](#) and [S/PV.8308](#). For more information on the mandate of UNFICYP, see part X, sect. I.

<sup>288</sup> [S/2018/25](#) and [S/2018/676](#).