

- ^c The Chairperson of the African Union Commission participated in the meeting via videoconference from Nouakchott. Indonesia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, who spoke on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations; Germany was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Estonia was represented by its Minister of Defence; Canada was represented by its Minister of National Defence, who spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Women, Peace and Security; and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) was represented by its Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, who spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. The representative of Norway spoke on behalf of the five Nordic countries; the representative of the Republic of Korea spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of United Nations Peace Operations; and the representative of Italy spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends on the Responsibility to Protect. 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, Turkey and Ukraine.
- ^d The Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan participated in the meeting via videoconference from Juba.
- ^e Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Fiji, Indonesia, Pakistan, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal and Uruguay.
- ^f Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. The representative of Côte d'Ivoire spoke also on behalf of Equatorial Guinea and Ethiopia.
- ^g 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, Georgia, Liechtenstein, Montenegro, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey and Ukraine.
- ^h Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.
- ⁱ The Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

27. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings relating to the work of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.⁴⁴⁵ The Council adopted one presidential statement and one resolution, under Chapter VII of the Charter. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, the Council heard semi-annual briefings by the President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and by the Prosecutor on the work of the Mechanism.⁴⁴⁶ At those meetings, the Council considered the progress achieved as well as the challenges to the implementation of the mandate of the Mechanism during the reporting period, in particular with regard to the enforcement of sentences. In that connection, most Council members called upon Member States to cooperate with the Office of the Prosecutor in locating and apprehending fugitives remaining at large. Speakers also recognized the role of the two former Tribunals and of the Mechanism in providing access to justice and international criminal law as a way to build sustainable peace.

The decisions of the Council dealt with most of the aspects discussed in those meetings. On 19 March 2018, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it requested the Mechanism to present its report on the progress of its work by 15 April 2018.⁴⁴⁷ In addition, the Council requested the Informal Working Group on International Tribunals to carry out a thorough examination of the Mechanism's report, as well as the report on the evaluation of the methods and work of the Mechanism by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS), and to present its views

⁴⁴⁵ In a note by the President of the Security Council dated 2 February 2018 (S/2018/90), the Council agreed that issues pertaining to the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, established by resolution 1966 (2010), would be considered under an item entitled "International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals", under which the Council would also consider issues pertaining to the items entitled "International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991" and "International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994". For more information on the mandates of the two Tribunals and of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, see part IX, sect. IV, "Tribunals".

⁴⁴⁶ S/PV.8278 and S/PV.8416.

⁴⁴⁷ S/PRST/2018/6, fifth paragraph.

and any findings or recommendations for the Council's consideration in its review of the work of the Mechanism.⁴⁴⁸ The Council noted with concern that the Mechanism faced problems in the relocation of acquitted persons and convicted persons who had completed serving their sentences, and emphasized the importance of the successful relocation of such persons.⁴⁴⁹ Furthermore, the Council stressed its determination to combat impunity for those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law and the necessity that all persons indicted by the two Tribunals, including the remaining fugitives, were brought to justice.⁴⁵⁰

On 27 June 2018, the Council adopted, albeit not unanimously, resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#), under Chapter VII of the Charter, by which it appointed the Prosecutor of the Mechanism with effect from 1 July 2018 until 30 June 2020.⁴⁵¹ In the resolution, the Council urged all States to intensify their cooperation with and render all necessary assistance to the Mechanism, in particular to achieve the arrest and surrender of all remaining fugitives indicted by the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, as soon as possible.⁴⁵² The Council noted the concerns expressed by some Member States with respect to the early release of persons convicted by the Tribunal, and encouraged the Mechanism to consider an appropriate solution.⁴⁵³ In addition, the Council welcomed the report submitted by the Mechanism to the Council and the report of OIOS on the evaluation of the methods and work of the Mechanism.⁴⁵⁴ In that regard, the

Council requested the Mechanism to implement the recommendations made by the Informal Working Group on International Tribunals and to continue to take steps to further enhance efficiency and effective and transparent management.⁴⁵⁵ With a view to strengthening independent oversight of the Mechanism, the Council recalled that, as set out in its presidential statement of 19 March 2018, future reviews carried out pursuant to paragraph 17 of resolution [1966 \(2010\)](#) should include evaluation reports sought from OIOS with respect to the methods and work of the Mechanism.⁴⁵⁶

During the period under review, the Council took note of the intention of the Secretary-General to appoint the judges nominated to fill the two vacancies resulting from the resignation of one judge and the passing of another judge of the Mechanism. In addition, the Council took note of the intention of the Secretary-General to reappoint 23 judges and the President of the Mechanism, as well as of the nomination of the Prosecutor for reappointment for a new term of office, which was decided, as referenced above, by the Council in resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#). In accordance with article 10 of the statute of the Mechanism, the President of the Security Council addressed a letter to the President of the General Assembly transmitting the list of nominations for the two judge vacancies in the roster of the Mechanism to the Assembly.⁴⁵⁷

⁴⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, sixth and eighth paragraphs.

⁴⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, ninth paragraph.

⁴⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, tenth paragraph.

⁴⁵¹ Resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

⁴⁵² *Ibid.*, para. 4.

⁴⁵³ *Ibid.*, para. 10.

⁴⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, para. 6. See also [S/2018/347](#) and [S/2018/206](#).

⁴⁵⁵ Resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#), para. 8.

⁴⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 12.

⁴⁵⁷ For details on actions of the Security Council concerning judges of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, see part IV, sect. I.D, "Practice in relation to provisions of the Charter involving recommendations by the Security Council to the General Assembly".

Meetings: International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

<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.8208 19 March 2018						S/PRST/2018/6
S/PV.8278 6 June 2018	Letter dated 13 April 2018 from the President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals addressed to the		Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Rwanda, Serbia ^a	President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Prosecutor of the Mechanism	All Council members, all invitees	

**Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of
the Security Council for the maintenance of
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>
	President of the Security Council (S/2018/347)					
	Letter dated 17 May 2018 from the President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2018/471)					
S/PV.8295 27 June 2018		Draft resolution submitted by Peru (S/2018/628)	Serbia		Two Council members (Peru, Russian Federation), invitee	Resolution 2422 (2018) 14-0-1 ^b (adopted under Chapter VII)
S/PV.8416 11 December 2018	Note by the Secretary-General on the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (S/2018/569)		Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Rwanda, Serbia ^a	President of the Mechanism, Prosecutor of the Mechanism	All Council members, all invitees	
	Letter dated 19 November 2018 from the President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2018/1033)					

^a Serbia was represented by its Minister of Justice.

^b For: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States; abstaining: Russian Federation.

28. Children and armed conflict

During the period under review, the Security Council held one high-level meeting and adopted one resolution in connection with the item entitled “Children and armed conflict”. More information on the meeting, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in table 1.

Further to the concept note circulated by Sweden,⁴⁵⁸ the Council held a high-level open debate on 9 July 2018 under the sub-item entitled “Protecting children today prevents conflicts tomorrow”.⁴⁵⁹ At the meeting, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and a civil society representative from Colombia.⁴⁶⁰

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General provided an overview of the trends regarding children and armed conflict, as presented in the report of the Secretary-General for 2017,⁴⁶¹ and expressed profound shock at the over 21,000 violations against children perpetrated by armed groups, Government forces and unknown armed actors. Noting the examples of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Myanmar and Somalia, she highlighted a sharp rise in the number of abductions, an elevated number of children killed or injured, the use of children in suicide attacks, the targeting of schools and hospitals, denials of access and attacks on humanitarian convoys, and the unlawful detention of children allegedly associated with armed groups. In terms of positive developments, the Special Representative highlighted, *inter alia*, the progress in the adoption and implementation of action plans for the protection of children in the Central African Republic, Mali, Nigeria and the Sudan, and the advances in that context attained through the peace process in Colombia. Emphasizing the important connection between child protection and any strategy to reach and sustain peace, she also noted the work of her Office pursuant to the presidential statement of 31 October 2017⁴⁶² to compile good practices and guidance on the integration of child protection into peace processes.⁴⁶³

In her remarks, the Executive Director of UNICEF highlighted the short- and longer-term threats

facing children in the context of armed conflict and called for zero tolerance of all violations against children. She stressed the importance of fully reintegrating children into their communities through quality education, training and psychosocial support and upholding their rights as a fundamental part of any peace process.⁴⁶⁴ The civil society representative described her experience as a child soldier recruited by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (FARC-EP) and spoke to Council members on behalf of the Group of Young Consultants on Childhood, Adolescence and Armed Conflict. In her remarks, she made a series of recommendations on how to address the root causes that compelled children to join armed groups, on ensuring that children were consulted in the process of reintegration, on tackling the specific issues affecting girls in the reintegration process and on acknowledging children as victims who were entitled to reparations.⁴⁶⁵

During their deliberations, Council members and other speakers expressed concern over the increased number of violations against children in 2017 and underlined the responsibility of the international community to respond to those developments. They also acknowledged the positive developments, including the release of over 10,000 children by armed forces and groups and the signing of new national action plans. Many speakers noted that the primary responsibility for the protection of children lay with Member States and called upon those that had not done so to commit to the relevant international instruments. They also stressed the importance of ending impunity and ensuring accountability. Speakers emphasized the need for peace operations to prioritize and have the resources necessary to monitor child protection issues, including through support for child protection advisers, and called for the provision of timely, objective and accurate information to the Council on violations and abuses against children, including through the monitoring and reporting mechanism on grave violations against children in situations of armed conflict.

At the outset of the high-level open debate, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution [2427 \(2018\)](#). In the resolution, the Council called upon States and the United Nations to mainstream child protection into all relevant activities in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations with the aim of sustaining peace and preventing conflict.⁴⁶⁶

⁴⁵⁸ [S/2018/625](#), annex.

⁴⁵⁹ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

⁴⁶⁰ [S/PV.8305](#).

⁴⁶¹ [S/2018/465](#).

⁴⁶² [S/PRST/2017/21](#).

⁴⁶³ [S/PV.8305](#), pp. 2–4.

⁴⁶⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 4–6.

⁴⁶⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 6–8.

⁴⁶⁶ Resolution [2427 \(2018\)](#), para. 3.