

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
Thematic		
Children and armed conflict	Resolution 2427 (2018)	33
Protection of civilians in armed conflict	S/PRST/2018/18	fourth
United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution 2436 (2018)	7

^a For additional information on mandates and decisions relevant to peacekeeping and political missions, see part X.

30. Women and peace and security

In 2018, the Security Council held two meetings, including one high-level meeting, under the item entitled “Women and peace and security”. Both meetings took the form of open debates.⁴⁹⁰ During the period under review, the Council did not adopt any decisions. More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers, is given in table 1.

Further to the concept note circulated by Peru,⁴⁹¹ the Council held an open debate on 16 April 2018 under the sub-item “Preventing sexual violence in conflict through empowerment, gender equality and access to justice”.⁴⁹² At the meeting, the Council heard a briefing by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and a Senior Researcher from Kalandan Press. The Deputy Secretary-General noted that during 2018 in Myanmar, and in many other conflict situations, sexual violence had once again been used as a tactic to advance military, economic and ideological objectives, and it had again been a driver of massive forced displacement. She affirmed the common responsibility to bring justice, recognition and reparations to the survivors of sexual violence – not only justice in the courtroom but also social justice and economic empowerment.⁴⁹³ The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict noted that the annual open debate on sexual violence in conflict provided a critical opportunity for taking stock of progress or regression on the issue. She stressed that, while significant normative and operational progress had been achieved, sexual violence continued to be employed as a tactic of war and terrorism and as a tool of political repression. She proposed three recommendations: first, she called on the international community to give serious consideration to the establishment of a reparations fund for survivors of

conflict-related sexual violence; second, she encouraged a more operational response to stigma alleviation and, in cases where survivors faced ongoing risks, she encouraged States to adopt special quota projects to help relocate women and children to third countries; third, she recommended marshalling sustained political resolve and resources equal to the scale of the challenge, noting that the gender-based violence response in humanitarian settings remained chronically underfunded.⁴⁹⁴ Speaking also on behalf of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, the Senior Researcher from Kalandan Press stated that the international community, particularly the Security Council, had failed the Rohingya people and that the recent crisis could have been prevented if warning signs had not been ignored. She reported on her research and on evidence of rape by Government troops and noted that similar situations existed around the world. She affirmed that the rule of law must drive the response to the Rohingya crisis and called for the Security Council to refer the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court.⁴⁹⁵ During the meeting, several speakers noted the importance of imposing targeted sanctions against perpetrators of conflict-related sexual violence and supported the Secretary-General’s recommendation to introduce sexual violence⁴⁹⁶ as a designation criterion for sanctions.⁴⁹⁷

On 25 October 2018, further to a concept note circulated by the Plurinational State of Bolivia,⁴⁹⁸ the

⁴⁹⁰ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

⁴⁹¹ [S/2018/311](#), annex.

⁴⁹² [S/PV.8234](#).

⁴⁹³ *Ibid.*, pp. 2–3.

⁴⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 3–6.

⁴⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 6–7.

⁴⁹⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 39 (Mexico), p. 42 (Italy), p. 62 (Sudan), p. 65 (Bangladesh), p. 66 (Ireland) and p. 79 (Argentina).

⁴⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 8–9 (Sweden), p. 10 (United States), p. 11 (Ethiopia), p. 12 (France), p. 14 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 20 (Kazakhstan), p. 23 (Netherlands), pp. 27–28 (Canada), p. 34 (Spain), p. 42 (Italy), pp. 47–48 (Lithuania), p. 54 (Germany), p. 72 (Costa Rica) and p. 74 (Montenegro). For more information on the discussion, see part VII, sect. III.B, “Discussion relating to Article 41”.

⁴⁹⁸ [S/2018/904](#), annex.

Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item “Promoting the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda and sustaining peace through women’s political and economic empowerment”. At the meeting, the Council heard a briefing by the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and the General Director of the Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling.⁴⁹⁹ The Secretary-General noted that, despite progress in some areas, the participation of women in formal peace processes remained extremely limited. He emphasized that the meaningful participation of women was directly linked to more sustainable peace and underscored that a “gendered approach” to peace and security meant supporting peacebuilding at the local level, even during conflict. As peace processes faltered at the national and international levels, he stressed the importance of supporting local women’s groups that negotiated humanitarian access and supported community resilience. He urged the Security Council to invest in gender equality and women’s empowerment, not only as ends in themselves, but as critical means of achieving the overarching aim of preventing and ending conflict and building peace and prosperity.⁵⁰⁰ The Executive Director of UN-Women noted the clear gender inequality in women’s access to resources, which she indicated was a reflection of the non-prioritization of women’s needs and the relegation of women to small-scale and local peripheral initiatives. She shared three priorities for 2020, namely: to stop supporting, brokering and paying for peace negotiations that excluded women; to ensure that the 15 per cent minimum target for projects advancing gender equality and women’s empowerment was met by all relevant entities and peace and security funds; and to protect women activists, peacebuilders and human rights defenders.⁵⁰¹ The General Director of the Women’s Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling gave a briefing to the Council on the situation of Palestinian women and called on the Security Council to act to ensure women’s meaningful participation in conflict prevention, democratic transition, reconciliation efforts and humanitarian work.⁵⁰² During the discussion that ensued, a number of speakers noted the insufficient

participation of women as delegates, mediators and negotiators in peace processes⁵⁰³ and referred to the need for gender-sensitive conflict analysis.⁵⁰⁴

During the period under review, the Informal Expert Group on Women and Peace and Security continued to be convened in accordance with resolution 2242 (2015).⁵⁰⁵

In 2018, the Council referred to issues relating to women and peace and security under numerous items on its agenda and addressed in its decisions a wide variety of measures in connection with the women and peace and security agenda; selected provisions of those decisions are listed in table 2. In particular, the Council: (a) stressed the importance of women’s full and meaningful the participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution and in public affairs and governance; (b) called for measures to combat sexual violence, including through monitoring, analysing and reporting on conflict-related sexual violence, as well as for the prosecution of perpetrators of sexual violence; (c) called for gender mainstreaming to be taken into account as a cross-cutting issue; and (d) called for the meaningful participation of women in peacekeeping operations.

⁵⁰³ *Ibid.*, p. 10 (Sweden), p. 12 (Netherlands), p. 18 (China), p. 19 (Kuwait), p. 24 (France), p. 26 (Poland), p. 32 (Ukraine), p. 35 (Slovakia), p. 37 (Turkey, speaking also on behalf of Australia, Indonesia, Mexico and the Republic of Korea), p. 37 (Pakistan), p. 38 (Norway, speaking on behalf of the five Nordic countries), p. 39 (Albania), p. 43 (Republic of Korea), p. 47 (United Arab Emirates), p. 51 (Mexico), p. 54 (Italy), pp. 56–57 (Israel), p. 58 (Belgium), pp. 61–62 (Ghana), p. 63 (Canada), p. 65 (Viet Nam), p. 66 (Ireland), p. 70 (Nepal), p. 73 (Lebanon), pp. 87–88 (Costa Rica), p. 94 (Djibouti), p. 95 (Senior Adviser on Gender Issues of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe) and p. 103 (Spain).

⁵⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 11 (Sweden), p. 16 (Kazakhstan), p. 22 (United States), p. 39 (Norway, speaking on behalf of the five Nordic countries), p. 49 (Dominican Republic), p. 52 (Mexico), p. 57 (European Union), pp. 63–64 (Canada), p. 67 (Ireland), p. 82 (Maldives) and p. 101 (Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for Women, Peace and Security).

⁵⁰⁵ For further details, see [S/2018/188](#), [S/2018/362](#), [S/2018/475](#), [S/2018/688](#), [S/2018/881](#), [S/2018/885](#), [S/2018/1087](#) and [S/2018/1139](#).

⁴⁹⁹ [S/PV.8382](#).

⁵⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 3–4.

⁵⁰¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 6–8.

⁵⁰² *Ibid.*, pp. 8–10.

Table 1
Meetings: women and 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.8234 16 April 2018	Preventing sexual violence in conflict through empowerment, gender equality and access to justice Report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence (S/2018/250) Letter dated 2 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2018/311)		47 Member States ^a	Five invitees under rule 39, ^b Permanent Observer of the observer State of the Holy See to the United Nations	Deputy Secretary-General, all Council members, ^c all invitees ^d	
S/PV.8382 25 October 2018	Promoting the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda and sustaining peace through women's political and economic empowerment Report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security (S/2018/900)		70 Member States ^e	Six invitees under rule 39, ^f Permanent Observer of the observer State of the Holy See	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^g all invitees ^h	

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<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>
	Letter dated 9 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2018/904)					

^a Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czechia, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates.

^b Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Senior Researcher from Kaladan Press, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, and Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for Women, Peace and Security.

^c Sweden was represented by its Minister for Culture and Democracy.

^d Canada was represented by its Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Women, Peace and Security; Norway spoke on behalf of the five Nordic countries; and Mali spoke on behalf of the Human Security Network.

^e Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czechia, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

^f Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), General Director of the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, Principal Adviser on Gender and the Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 (2000) on Women and Peace and Security of the European External Action Service, Permanent Observer of the International Organization of la Francophonie, Senior Adviser on Gender Issues of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization for Women, Peace and Security.

^g Sweden was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Netherlands was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs; and Côte d'Ivoire spoke also on behalf of Equatorial Guinea and Ethiopia.

^h Germany was represented by its Minister of State in the Federal Foreign Office; Slovenia was represented by its State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; and Ukraine was represented by the First Deputy Chairperson of the Verkhovna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine.

Table 2

Provisions relevant to women and peace and security, by theme and agenda item

	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
Participation of women in peacebuilding and in conflict prevention and resolution			
Country- and region-specific	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution 2405 (2018)	10, 39
	The situation in Cyprus	Resolution 2398 (2018)	7
		Resolution 2430 (2018)	8

**Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of
the Security Council for the maintenance of
international peace and security**

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
Central African region	S/PRST/2018/17	Eighth
The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution 2448 (2018)	39 (b) (v)
The situation in Guinea-Bissau	Resolution 2404 (2018)	4 (d)
The situation in Liberia	S/PRST/2018/8	Fifth, eighth
The situation in Libya	Resolution 2434 (2018)	4
The situation in Mali	Resolution 2423 (2018)	64
Peace consolidation in West Africa	S/PRST/2018/3	Sixth
	S/PRST/2018/16	Eleventh
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution 2406 (2018)	4, 33
	Resolution 2416 (2018)	16, 17
	Resolution 2429 (2018)	27, 32, 35, 56 (viii)
	Resolution 2445 (2018)	17
The situation in Somalia	Resolution 2408 (2018)	14
	Resolution 2431 (2018)	53
Thematic Maintenance of international peace and security	S/PRST/2018/1	Nineteenth
	S/PRST/2018/2	Tenth
	Resolution 2419 (2018)	16
United Nations peacekeeping operations	S/PRST/2018/10	Sixteenth, seventeenth
Representation and participation of women in political processes at all levels, including decision-making		
Country- and region-specific		
The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution 2405 (2018)	14, 39
	S/PRST/2018/15	Fourth
The situation in Burundi	S/PRST/2018/7	Seventh
Central African region	S/PRST/2018/17	Fifteenth
The situation in the Central African Republic	S/PRST/2018/14	Fourth
	Resolution 2448 (2018)	57
The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution 2409 (2018)	6, 8, 10, 39
The situation in Guinea-Bissau	Resolution 2404 (2018)	4 (d)
The question concerning Haiti	Resolution 2410 (2018)	17
The situation concerning Iraq	Resolution 2421 (2018)	2 (e)
The situation in Libya	S/PRST/2018/11	Fifth
	Resolution 2434 (2018)	4

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	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
	The situation in Mali	Resolution 2423 (2018)	38 (c) (iv), 64
	The situation in the Middle East	S/PRST/2018/5	Twelfth
		Resolution 2433 (2018)	24
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	S/PRST/2018/3	Fifth
		S/PRST/2018/16	Sixth
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution 2416 (2018)	17
		Resolution 2429 (2018)	27, 32
		Resolution 2445 (2018)	18
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution 2408 (2018)	5, 11, 14
		S/PRST/2018/13	Fifth
Thematic	Maintenance of international peace and security	S/PRST/2018/1	Nineteenth
		S/PRST/2018/2	Tenth
		Resolution 2419 (2018)	16
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	S/PRST/2018/10	Sixteenth
	Conflict-related sexual violence and gender-based violence		
Country- and region-specific	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution 2405 (2018)	38
	The situation in Burundi	S/PRST/2018/7	Eleventh
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution 2399 (2018)	21 (c), 39
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution 2409 (2018)	15, 16, 36 (i) (b), 37 (i) (b), 41, 45, 59 (i)
	The situation in Guinea-Bissau	Resolution 2404 (2018)	14
	The situation in Liberia	S/PRST/2018/8	Ninth
	The situation in Libya	Resolution 2434 (2018)	4
		Resolution 2441 (2018)	11, 14
	The situation in Mali	Resolution 2423 (2018)	10, 38 (d) (iii), 38 (e) (ii), 61, 63
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution 2406 (2018)	7 (a) (v), 7 (a) (vii), 7 (c) (ii), 24, 26, 31
		Resolution 2416 (2018)	25, 26
		Resolution 2428 (2018)	14 (d)–(e), 22
		Resolution 2429 (2018)	7 (ii), 11 (i), 19 (iii), 27, 35, 39, 44, 56 (i), 56 (vii)

**Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of
the Security Council for the maintenance of
international peace and security**

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>	
The situation in Somalia	Resolution 2408 (2018)	23	
	Resolution 2431 (2018)	44, 49	
	Resolution 2444 (2018)	50	
Maintenance of international peace and security	S/PRST/2018/2	Tenth	
	Resolution 2419 (2018)	8	
United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution 2436 (2018)	18	
Gender mainstreaming, gender expertise and gender-sensitive responses			
Country- and region-specific	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution 2405 (2018)	38
	Central African region	S/PRST/2018/17	Eighth
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution 2399 (2018)	35
		Resolution 2448 (2018)	57
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution 2409 (2018)	39
	The situation in Guinea-Bissau	Resolution 2404 (2018)	4 (d)
	The question concerning Haiti	Resolution 2410 (2018)	17
	The situation concerning Iraq	Resolution 2421 (2018)	2 (e)
	The situation in Libya	Resolution 2434 (2018)	4
	The situation in Mali	Resolution 2423 (2018)	64
	The situation in the Middle East	S/PRST/2018/5	Sixth
		Resolution 2433 (2018)	24
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	S/PRST/2018/3	Third
		S/PRST/2018/16	Twelfth
	Peace and security in Africa	Resolution 2439 (2018)	9
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	S/PRST/2018/4	Fifth, eighth
		Resolution 2406 (2018)	14, 25, 33
		Resolution 2428 (2018)	20
		Resolution 2429 (2018)	27
		Resolution 2431 (2018)	22
The situation in Somalia	Resolution 2444 (2018)	12	
	Resolution 2431 (2018)	22	
Thematic	Maintenance of international peace and security	S/PRST/2018/1	Nineteenth
		S/PRST/2018/2	Tenth
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	Resolution 2417 (2018)	3

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	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	S/PRST/2018/10 Resolution 2436 (2018)	Sixteenth 18
Women's protection and women's protection advisers			
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution 2409 (2018)	39, 41
	The situation in Mali	Resolution 2423 (2018)	38 (d) (iii)
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution 2406 (2018) Resolution 2416 (2018) Resolution 2429 (2018)	7 (a) (i), 7 (a) (vi) 28 35
Thematic	United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution 2436 (2018)	7
Role of women in countering terrorism and violent extremism			
Country- and region-specific	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution 2405 (2018)	30
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	S/PRST/2018/16	Twelfth
Thematic	Maintenance of international peace and security	S/PRST/2018/2	Tenth
	Threats to international peace and security	S/PRST/2018/9	Seventh
Participation of women in peacekeeping operations			
Country- and region-specific	The situation in Cyprus	Resolution 2430 (2018)	12
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution 2448 (2018)	57
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution 2409 (2018)	51
	The situation in Mali	Resolution 2423 (2018)	58
	The situation in the Middle East	Resolution 2426 (2018) Resolution 2433 (2018)	10 23
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution 2416 (2018) Resolution 2429 (2018)	27 26
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution 2431 (2018)	22
	The situation concerning Western Sahara	Resolution 2414 (2018) Resolution 2440 (2018)	15 12
Thematic	United Nations peacekeeping operations	S/PRST/2018/10 Resolution 2436 (2018) Resolution 2447 (2018)	Seventeenth 19 14

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>	
Participation of women in the security sector and in security sector reform			
Country- and region-specific	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution 2405 (2018)	19, 21
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution 2448 (2018)	40 (b) (iv)
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution 2409 (2018)	37 (ii) (b)
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	S/PRST/2018/3	Twelfth

31. Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings under the item entitled “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and issued one presidential statement. Three of the meetings took the form of briefings and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.⁵⁰⁶ More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

The Council’s deliberations during 2018 continued to focus on topics addressed in previous years, such as the sanctions measures against Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da’esh) and Al-Qaida, the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters and the countering of the threat of terrorism through the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and international cooperation. The discussions also focused on the response to extremist propaganda and the underlying conditions causing young men and women to be lured into violent extremism, the implementation of resolution [2341 \(2017\)](#), on the protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks, and the establishment of an investigative mechanism to document crimes committed by ISIL (Da’esh) in Iraq.⁵⁰⁷

The Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism gave briefings to the Council twice, on 8 February and 23 August 2018. During his first briefing, he noted that the fight against ISIL (Da’esh)

was entering a new phase and that the report of the Secretary-General showed that the group and its affiliates continued to pose a significant and evolving threat around the world. As explained in the report, ISIL (Da’esh) was no longer focused on conquering and holding territory; instead, it had been forced to adapt and focus primarily on smaller and more motivated groups of individuals who remained committed to inspiring, enabling and carrying out attacks. In addition, returning foreign terrorist fighters, and those who had relocated to other regions, continued to present a considerable threat to international security. While the structure of the global propaganda machinery of ISIL (Da’esh) continued to deteriorate, members and sympathizers of the group were still able to use social media and encrypted technology and communications tools to communicate and coordinate and facilitate attacks. He noted that the ability of ISIL (Da’esh) to generate revenue had been considerably weakened, largely owing to its loss of control of oil and gas fields in the Syrian Arab Republic; its revenues had fallen by more than 90 per cent since 2015.⁵⁰⁸

In his second briefing, the Under-Secretary-General reiterated that ISIL (Da’esh) remained a serious and significant concern and that its evolution from a proto-State structure into a covert network brought new challenges. The Under-Secretary-General highlighted how the United Nations system was strengthening the coordination, coherence and effectiveness of its counter-terrorism efforts in support of Member States. He also reported on his visit to Afghanistan on 14 and 15 August 2018, during which he had held high-level consultations with the President, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and other Cabinet members and senior officials of the Government of

⁵⁰⁶ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

⁵⁰⁷ For more information on the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da’esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, see part I, sect. 36, “Threats to international peace and security”, part VI, sect. II, “Investigation of disputes and fact-finding”, and part IX, sect. III, “Investigative bodies”.

⁵⁰⁸ [S/PV.8178](#), p. 2.