

to resume dialogue and for the international community to support the parties in such endeavours. He pointed out that international humanitarian operations remained critical to the livelihood of over 10 million people and that the human rights and humanitarian situation would only be improved through resumed diplomacy. Following the briefing, speakers reiterated the importance of strict and full implementation of relevant Council resolutions and, in that regard, some advocated the modification of the

sanctions measures in line with the political progress, pointing out that the political settlement was another important but under-stressed component of the relevant resolutions. In that connection, speakers underlined the importance of a united Council.<sup>660</sup>

<sup>660</sup> For further details on the discussion, see part VII, sect. III.B.

### Meetings: non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea

<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.8507</a> 10 April 2019		Draft resolution submitted by United States ( <a href="#">S/2019/302</a> )			Six Council members <sup>a</sup>	Resolution <a href="#">2464 (2019)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8682</a> 11 December 2019			Japan, Republic of Korea	Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> China, Equatorial Guinea, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States.

## 36. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

In 2019, the Council held two meetings, one of which was a high-level meeting, under the item entitled “Peacebuilding and sustaining peace”. One meeting took the form of a briefing and the other was an open debate.<sup>661</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

The Council heard briefings from a variety of speakers, including the Secretary-General, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, representatives from other international and regional organizations such as the World Bank and the African Development Bank, and experts from civil society and non-governmental organizations.

On 18 July 2019, at the initiative of Peru, which held the Presidency for the month,<sup>662</sup> the Council convened a briefing under the sub-item entitled

“Strengthening partnerships for successful nationally-owned transitions”.<sup>663</sup> The Secretary-General stated that managing nationally owned and forward-looking transitions was a priority for the entire United Nations system, adding that the Organization’s role in transition processes had to be comprehensive and coherent and work in an integrated way to address the interlinked and often stubborn drivers of conflict. He highlighted the need for strong partnerships between the United Nations and other organizations, including regional and subregional organizations and international financial institutions, and noted the convening power and advisory role of the Peacebuilding Commission. Following the briefing by the Secretary-General, the Senior Director of the Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group of the World Bank and the Director of the Transition States Coordination Office of the African Development Bank focused on the importance of partnerships to address the challenges posed by fragility and conflict in countries around the world. The Minister

<sup>661</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>662</sup> The Council had before it a concept note annexed to a letter dated 27 June 2019 ([S/2019/540](#)).

<sup>663</sup> See [S/PV.8579](#).

for Foreign Affairs of Colombia, speaking in his capacity as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission, gave the Council a briefing on the principal purposes of the Commission, which included filling the vacuum of institutional and structural capacity and supporting countries in transition in the light of the growing risk of the resumption of conflict. He said that the Commission's sessions had become opportunities to gain a better understanding of the multidimensional challenges being faced in peace operations, offering a more holistic approach to the challenges faced by countries affected by conflict extending beyond the imperatives of peace and security. In that regard, he noted that the Council could take advantage of the capacity of the Commission as a platform for promoting coherence between the peacebuilding efforts of the United Nations and other organizations.

In the ensuing discussion, Council members commended the role of the Peacebuilding Commission and its increased engagement with the Council. The majority of Council members emphasized the importance of transition planning and management, with the representatives of the United Kingdom and Indonesia proposing changes to the content of the reports of the Secretary-General in mission contexts. In addition, Council members spoke in favour of partnerships to support countries affected by conflict, while taking into account their particular circumstances, needs and priorities. They also emphasized the importance of national ownership. The representative of the Russian Federation cautioned that the provision of assistance to States in the area of peacebuilding and peacekeeping in the United Nations system required both proper coordination of efforts and appropriate division of labour, adding that specialized United Nations bodies and international mechanisms already existed to meet those objectives. After most Council members had spoken, the representative of Côte d'Ivoire (a Council member), as well as the representatives of Haiti and Timor-Leste, invited under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure, spoke to share their countries' experiences in regard to nationally owned transitions.

On 19 November 2019, at the initiative of the United Kingdom, which held the Presidency for the month,<sup>664</sup> the Council convened an open debate under the sub-item entitled "The role of reconciliation in maintaining international peace and security".<sup>665</sup> At the meeting, the Council heard briefings by the Secretary-General and representatives of academia, civil society and a regional organization, invited under rule 39 of the

provisional rules of procedure.<sup>666</sup> The Secretary-General affirmed that successful reconciliation contributed to preventing a recurrence of conflict and to building more peaceful, resilient and prosperous societies. He made reference to the wave of protests around the world and urged Governments to respond to those protests with respect for freedom of expression and peaceful assembly and to address people's grievances through dialogue and reconciliation to counter deep polarization. He indicated that the United Nations was working to integrate reconciliation frameworks into peacemaking and peacebuilding activities in countries throughout the world and noted that successful reconciliation was both a goal and a process. The Dean of the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University focused on the importance of reconciliation for achieving lasting peace. Echoing the Secretary-General, he said that reconciliation was not only an outcome but a tailor-made process, agile enough to adapt to changing socioeconomic and political post-conflict dynamics. He affirmed that reconciliation needed to happen all the time and everywhere – sometimes even as the first option to achieve peace – and that designing effective reconciliation required the involvement of relevant local actors, in particular women and young people. The representative of the Elman Peace and Human Rights Centre in Somalia focused on the experience of her country, which was a State that had collapsed devastatingly in 1991 and remained trapped in a spiral of prolonged violent anarchy and warfare. She said that successful strategies for peacebuilding and national reconciliation needed to involve as many sectors of the population as possible. In that regard, she denounced the fact that women-led civil society groups all over the world that were able to speak to the underlying drivers of violence and significantly influence the reconciliation process were systematically excluded, and urged the Council to utilize resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) to advance the inclusion of women in adjusting the challenges to reconciliation and to mandate inclusive gender decision-making in the design, implementation and monitoring of reconciliation strategies. She also called on the Council to work with the existing mechanisms of the United Nations family, including the Peacebuilding Fund.

During the discussion, several Council members shared the experience of their countries' national reconciliation processes,<sup>667</sup> while others agreed on the importance of national ownership and the involvement

<sup>664</sup> The Council had before it a concept note annexed to a letter dated 11 November 2019 ([S/2019/871](#)).

<sup>665</sup> See [S/PV.8668](#).

<sup>666</sup> For more information on participation in meetings of the Council, see part II, sect. VII.

<sup>667</sup> See [S/PV.8668](#) (South Africa, Belgium and Côte d'Ivoire).

of women and young people throughout the reconciliation process.<sup>668</sup> Council members also highlighted the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in providing advice and integrated strategic recommendations for peacebuilding and post-conflict recovery, in particular in the case of country-specific configurations.<sup>669</sup> Speakers focused on the importance

<sup>668</sup> Ibid., (Dominican Republic, Germany, Belgium, France, Indonesia, Equatorial Guinea, United States and Poland).

<sup>669</sup> Ibid., (Kuwait, Germany, Indonesia and Equatorial Guinea).

of reconciliation for lasting peace, the close association between reconciliation and transitional justice, and the need to ensure that reconciliation processes were inclusive of women, young people and religious leaders. Speakers also addressed the need for the Council to focus on transitions from conflict to post-conflict situations to achieve sustainable peace and security, including by considering the use of special political missions.<sup>670</sup>

<sup>670</sup> For further details on the discussion, see part VI, sect. IV.

## Meetings: peacebuilding and sustaining peace

<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.8579</a> 18 July 2019	Strengthening partnerships for successful nationally-owned transitions  Letter dated 27 June 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2019/540</a> )		Haiti and Timor-Leste <sup>a</sup>	Senior Director of the Fragility, Conflict and Violence Group of the World Bank, Director of the Transition States Coordination Office of the African Development Bank, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Colombia (Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission)	Secretary-General, all Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8668</a> <a href="#">S/PV.8668 (Resumption 1)</a> 19 November 2019	The role of reconciliation in maintaining international peace and security  Letter dated 11 November 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2019/871</a> )		39 Member States <sup>c</sup>	Dean of the School for Conflict Analysis and Resolution at George Mason University, Director of Programmes and Development at the Elman Peace and Human Rights Centre, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members, <sup>d</sup> all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> Haiti was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship; and Timor-Leste was represented by its Minister for Legal Reforms and Parliamentary Affairs.

<sup>b</sup> Peru was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>c</sup> Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Turkey, United Arab Emirates and Viet Nam.

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