

<i>Videoconference date</i>	<i>Videoconference record</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Decision, vote (for-against-abstaining) and record of written procedure</i>
25 June 2020	S/2020/597	Letter dated 29 June 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
3 September 2020	S/2020/891	Letter dated 8 September 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
17 December 2020	S/2020/1274	Letter dated 22 December 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	

Europe

17. The situation in Cyprus

In 2020, the Council held three meetings, adopted two resolutions and issued one presidential statement concerning the situation in Cyprus. All three meetings were held for the adoption of a decision.⁴⁵⁴ More information on the meetings, including on outcomes, is given in the table below. Council members also held a private meeting and a closed videoconference with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#).⁴⁵⁵ In addition to meetings and videoconferences, Council members also held informal consultations of the whole to discuss the situation in Cyprus.⁴⁵⁶

On 30 January, in connection with the reports of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus,⁴⁵⁷ the Council held a meeting at which it unanimously adopted resolution [2506 \(2020\)](#), extending the mandate of UNFICYP for a period of six months until 31 July 2020.⁴⁵⁸ In that resolution, the Council expressed concern at the deterioration of the

law and order situation in Pyla, and urged both sides to continue to work with UNFICYP to establish effective measures to tackle criminal activities.⁴⁵⁹ The Council welcomed the trilateral meeting of the leaders and the Secretary-General held on 25 November 2019 in Berlin, at which both sides reaffirmed their commitment to a bicomunal, bizonal federation with political equality.⁴⁶⁰

Recalling its resolution [2483 \(2019\)](#), the Council called upon the two leaders to, inter alia, reaffirm their political support for all the technical committees and improve the Committees' performance.⁴⁶¹ The Council also called for the establishment of an effective mechanism for direct military contacts between the sides and the relevant involved parties and urged UNFICYP, as a facilitator through its liaison role, to submit proposals in that regard.⁴⁶² In addition, the Council expressed serious concern at the increased number of violations of the military status quo along the ceasefire lines and called on the sides and all involved parties to respect the mandated authority of UNFICYP in the buffer zone.⁴⁶³ The Council also requested the Secretary-General to submit by 10 July 2020 a report on his good offices, in particular on progress towards reaching a consensus starting point for meaningful results-oriented negotiations leading to

⁴⁵⁴ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. II.

⁴⁵⁵ The private meeting was held on 16 January and the closed videoconference was held on 16 July in connection with 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.8705](#) and [S/2021/9](#).

⁴⁵⁶ See [A/75/2](#), part II, chap. 1. See also [S/2020/258](#).

⁴⁵⁷ See [S/2019/883](#) and [S/2020/23](#).

⁴⁵⁸ Resolution [2506 \(2020\)](#), para. 10. For more information on the mandate of UNFICYP, see part X, sect. I.

⁴⁵⁹ Resolution [2506 \(2020\)](#), eighth preambular paragraph.

⁴⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 1.

⁴⁶¹ *Ibid.*, para. 5.

⁴⁶² *Ibid.*, para. 6.

⁴⁶³ *Ibid.*, para. 11.

a settlement and to also submit a report on the implementation of the resolution.⁴⁶⁴

On 28 July, in connection with the report of the Secretary-General,⁴⁶⁵ the Council adopted resolution [2537 \(2020\)](#), by which it extended the mandate of UNFICYP for a further period of six months until 31 January 2021.⁴⁶⁶ On the COVID-19 pandemic, the Council recognized the impact of the pandemic on the island and the efforts made by both communities to suppress the spread of the virus and mitigate its effects.⁴⁶⁷ The Council also recognized that the COVID-19 pandemic had restricted opportunities and capacity for negotiation, while expressing concern that the uncoordinated decisions to close the crossing points along the Green Line in response to the pandemic had prevented most bicomunal engagement and that the prolonged closure of the crossing points threatened to set back the progress made since 2003.⁴⁶⁸ Recalling its resolution [2506 \(2020\)](#), the Council called on the two leaders to ensure effective coordination and cooperation on health matters, including in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and other infectious diseases that had island-wide implications, including through the effective use of the expertise available in the bicomunal Technical Committees on Health, Crisis Management, Humanitarian Affairs and Economic and Commercial Matters.⁴⁶⁹ While noting that the opening of the crossings since 2003 had been an important confidence-building measure between both communities, and one that was essential for the settlement process, the Council called for the reopening of all the crossing points and the return to the operating status that existed prior to 29 February 2020 as soon as practically achievable, and for any continuing restrictions on movement across the island to prevent the spread of COVID-19 to be coordinated and not go beyond what was

necessary to protect public health.⁴⁷⁰ Furthermore, the Council requested the Secretary-General to submit by 10 January 2021 a report on his good offices, in particular on progress towards reaching a consensus starting point for meaningful results-oriented negotiations leading to a settlement and to also submit a report on the implementation of the resolution.⁴⁷¹

At its meeting on 9 October, the Council issued a presidential statement,⁴⁷² by which it reaffirmed the status of Varosha as set out in previous Council resolutions, including resolutions [550 \(1984\)](#) and [789 \(1992\)](#), and reiterated that no actions should be carried out in relation to Varosha that were not in accordance with those resolutions.⁴⁷³ The Council expressed its deep concern regarding the announcement in Ankara on 6 October on opening the coastline of Varosha and called for the reversal of that course of action and for the avoidance of any unilateral actions that could raise tensions on the island.⁴⁷⁴ The Council also stressed the importance of full respect and implementation of its resolutions, while reaffirming its commitment to an enduring, comprehensive and just settlement in accordance with the wishes of the Cypriot people and based on a bicomunal, bizonal federation with political equality, as set out in relevant Council resolutions. In that regard, the Council called on the Cypriot sides and the guarantor Powers to engage in dialogue constructively and with a sense of urgency following the electoral process in the Turkish Cypriot community.⁴⁷⁵ The Council further reiterated its support for the Secretary-General, including his intention to convene a meeting as agreed between the Turkish Cypriot and Greek Cypriot leaders in their meeting with the Secretary-General in November 2019.⁴⁷⁶

⁴⁶⁴ Ibid., para. 17.

⁴⁶⁵ See [S/2020/682](#).

⁴⁶⁶ Resolution [2537 \(2020\)](#), para. 11.

⁴⁶⁷ Ibid., eighth preambular paragraph.

⁴⁶⁸ Ibid., ninth preambular paragraph.

⁴⁶⁹ Ibid., para. 5 (c).

⁴⁷⁰ Ibid., para. 8.

⁴⁷¹ Ibid., para. 18.

⁴⁷² [S/PRST/2020/9](#).

⁴⁷³ Ibid., first paragraph.

⁴⁷⁴ Ibid., second paragraph.

⁴⁷⁵ Ibid., third and fourth paragraphs.

⁴⁷⁶ Ibid., fifth paragraph.

Meetings: the situation in Cyprus

<i>Meeting 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.8709 30 January 2020	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2020/23)	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom (S/2020/78)				Resolution 2506 (2020) 15-0-0

<i>Meeting 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.8751 28 July 2020	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2020/682)	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom (S/2020/741)				Resolution 2537 (2020) 15-0-0
	Report of the Secretary-General on his mission of good offices in Cyprus (S/2020/685)					
S/PV.8766 9 October 2020						S/PRST/2020/9

18. Items relating to the situation in the former Yugoslavia

A. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

In 2020, the members of the Council held two open videoconferences and adopted one resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter in connection with the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina.⁴⁷⁷ At the two open videoconferences, Council members heard briefings by the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, with the participation of the representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia, as well as the representative of the European Union. At the first open videoconference of the year, Council members heard a briefing by the Executive Director of Youth Initiative for Human Rights in Bosnia and Herzegovina. More information on the videoconferences is given in the table below.

In his briefings to the Council in 2020, the High Representative provided updates on developments on the basis of his two reports for the year.⁴⁷⁸ On 6 May,⁴⁷⁹ the High Representative reported that while both the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republika Srpska had taken early measures to address the COVID-19 pandemic, the country had ultimately

not succeeded in establishing a functional coordination mechanism to address the crisis and its economic consequences. The authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina had so far failed to reach a political agreement on the distribution of financial assistance from the International Monetary Fund and the greatest challenge for the country was to minimize the risk of corruption related to the management of international financial and material assistance. The High Representative acknowledged the latest actions taken by the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina regarding the country's application for European Union membership as a reaffirmation of its commitment and as a strategic foreign policy goal. He expressed concern that some political parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina would return to the pre-pandemic status quo, in which decision-making at the State level had been blocked by parties of the governing coalition in Republika Srpska. In that regard, he reported that while the Republika Srpska Government had been appointed quickly in 2018, the new Government of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina had not yet been appointed owing to one political party's continued conditioning of the establishment of the Government to changes to the election law. The High Representative reported on the several challenges the Central Election Commission was facing concerning the municipal elections scheduled for October 2020, owing to the lack of funding, pandemic restrictions and the refusal by some political parties to cooperate with the Commission. The ruling of the European Court of

⁴⁷⁷ For more information on the procedures and working methods developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, see part II.

⁴⁷⁸ See [S/2020/345](#) and [S/2020/1052](#).

⁴⁷⁹ See [S/2020/379](#).