

Table 2  
**Videoconferences: peace and security in Africa**

<i>Videoconference date</i>	<i>Videoconference record</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Decision, vote (for-against-abstaining) and record of written procedure</i>
5 June 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/515</a>	Letter dated 9 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	
29 June 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/636</a>	Letter dated 1 July 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
16 November 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/1126</a>	Letter dated 18 November 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	

## 11. The situation in Libya

During the period under review, the Council held four meetings under the item entitled “The situation in Libya”.<sup>297</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in table 1 below. Council members also held seven open videoconferences in connection with the item.<sup>298</sup> More information on the videoconferences is provided in table 2 below. The Council adopted four resolutions, including two under Chapter VII of the Charter.<sup>299</sup> In addition to the meetings and videoconferences, Council members held closed videoconferences, informal consultations of the whole and an informal interactive dialogue to discuss the item.<sup>300</sup>

In 2020, the Council was briefed once by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), who resigned in early March. Subsequently, the regular briefings to the Council were provided by the Acting Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL. Briefings by the Special Representative and the Acting Special

Representative focused on the political, security, humanitarian and socioeconomic developments in Libya. Other briefers included the Secretary-General, the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya, who briefed the Council on the activities and developments relating to the work of the Committee and its Panel of Experts, and the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, whose briefings were focused mainly on the Court’s ongoing investigations regarding the situation in Libya.

In January, the Council heard the last briefing by the Special Representative, during which he provided updates on the Berlin Conference held on 19 January 2020, describing the conference as a serious effort to try to unify a discordant international community and to give hope to the beleaguered Libyans, in the form of a “protective international umbrella”. He urged the Council to adopt a resolution to endorse the conclusions of the Berlin Conference. The Special Representative further expressed concern that the recent truce held in name only and reported that foreign sponsors were providing the warring parties in Libya with equipment and fighters, in brazen violation of the arms embargo and the pledges made by representatives of those countries in Berlin. The Special Representative expressed “deep anger and disappointment” over the actions of “unscrupulous actors inside and outside Libya”.<sup>301</sup>

<sup>297</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. II.

<sup>298</sup> For more information on the procedures and working methods developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, see part II.

<sup>299</sup> Resolutions [2509 \(2020\)](#) (adopted under Chapter VII), [2510 \(2020\)](#), [2526 \(2020\)](#) (adopted under Chapter VII) and [2542 \(2020\)](#).

<sup>300</sup> See [A/75/2](#), part II, chap. 38. See also [S/2020/258](#), [S/2020/344](#), [S/2020/558](#), [S/2020/789](#), [S/2020/1102](#) and [S/2021/203](#).

<sup>301</sup> See [S/PV.8710](#). The Secretary-General had briefed the Council on the outcomes of the Berlin conference on 21 January 2020 (see [S/2020/258](#)).

Subsequently, on 12 February, the Council adopted resolution [2510 \(2020\)](#), in which it welcomed the Berlin Conference convened on 19 January 2020 and endorsed the Conference conclusions, as contained in a letter from the representative of Germany to the President of the Security Council.<sup>302</sup> In the resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to take forward as quickly as possible the tasks ascribed to UNSMIL in the operationalization paper annexed to the letter from the representative of Germany and to make recommendations to the Council on the options reflected in that paper.<sup>303</sup> The Council welcomed the nomination of representatives to the 5+5 Joint Military Commission and called for the meetings of the Commission to continue to take place with full participation and without further delay in order to agree on a permanent ceasefire.<sup>304</sup> The Council condemned the increase in levels of violence and demanded that the parties commit to a lasting ceasefire according to the terms agreed by the Joint Military Commission.<sup>305</sup> The Council recalled the commitments made at Berlin to abide by the arms embargo and demanded full compliance, including by all Member States, with the arms embargo imposed under resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) as modified by subsequent resolutions, including by ceasing all support for and withdrawing all armed mercenary personnel, and demanded that all Member States not intervene in the conflict or take measures that exacerbate the conflict.<sup>306</sup> Furthermore, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report on the progress regarding the work of the International Follow-Up Committee on Libya called for at the Berlin Conference.<sup>307</sup> After the vote, most Council members highlighted the importance of the resolution in signalling the Council's broad support for a political process that strived for unity and peace in Libya and would bring an end to hostilities and foreign interference.<sup>308</sup> The representative of the Russian Federation indicated that his delegation had abstained on the vote as the resolution was not viable since the consent of the

Libyan parties had not been obtained and that the Council should have waited for the outcome of the Libyan consultations before adopting the resolution. The representative of the United States expressed disappointment that the resolution had not been adopted unanimously, despite commitments agreed to by leaders in Berlin, including the Russian Federation. The representative of the United Kingdom stressed that the Council was a sovereign body that did not act only when parties asked it to act and that "consensus should never mean, and has never meant, the lowest common denominator". Having taken note of the fact that the resolution had not been adopted unanimously, the representative of China said that the views of all sides should be fully respected during consultations. The representative of Libya said that the resolution had raised hopes, while questioning whether the Council would be able to put an end to the obstructionists and the flow of mercenaries.

Briefing Council members during her first open videoconference on 19 May,<sup>309</sup> the Acting Special Representative reported on the alarmingly high levels of violence and military build-up in the country, as well as the brokering by UNSMIL of a ceasefire agreement between the major parties to the conflict. In the wake of military developments, the Acting Special Representative observed that there could be a window to resume political activity. In that regard, she welcomed the constructive stance taken by the Prime Minister and the President of the House of Representatives. Noting with appreciation the support expressed by participants in the Berlin Conference, she also called for a halt to the inflow of military support from abroad in violation of the United Nations arms embargo. She stressed that, collectively, the Council could apply consistent and credible pressure on those regional and international actors that were fuelling the conflict.<sup>310</sup>

On 8 July, Council members held a high-level open videoconference<sup>311</sup> at which they were briefed by

<sup>302</sup> Resolution [2510 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 2. See also [S/2020/63](#). The result of the vote was as follows: *For*: Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States, Viet Nam; *against*: none; *abstaining*: Russian Federation.

<sup>303</sup> Resolution [2510 \(2020\)](#), para. 3.

<sup>304</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 4.

<sup>305</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 6.

<sup>306</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 10.

<sup>307</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 12.

<sup>308</sup> See [S/PV.8722](#) (Germany, Tunisia, China, Indonesia, Viet Nam, Estonia, United States and United Kingdom).

<sup>309</sup> See [S/2020/421](#).

<sup>310</sup> See also [S/2020/360](#).

<sup>311</sup> See [S/2020/686](#). China was represented by its State Councillor and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Germany was represented by its Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Niger was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, Cooperation, African Integration and Nigeriens Abroad; Tunisia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; South Africa was represented by its Minister for International Relations and Cooperation; and the United Kingdom was represented by its Minister of State for the Middle East and North Africa. Statements were delivered by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Qatar; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Algeria;

the Secretary-General. Noting that the meeting came six months after the Berlin Conference, the Secretary-General reported that the conflict had entered a new phase, where foreign interference had reached unprecedented levels, including the delivery of sophisticated equipment and in terms of the number of mercenaries involved in the fighting. The Secretary-General expressed concern about the alarming military build-up around Sirte and the high level of direct foreign interference in the conflict in violation of the United Nations arms embargo, Council resolutions and the commitments made by Member States in Berlin. He stressed the need to seize all opportunities to unblock the political stalemate and added that de-escalation efforts, including the creation of a possible demilitarized zone, were being undertaken by UNSMIL. The political situation in eastern Libya indicated renewed support for a political solution, however such openings were fragile given that the parties' positions continued to be determined by military developments and support from external backers. Meanwhile, developments on the ground had yielded an agreement to reconvene the 5+5 Joint Military Commission, which had held a third round of talks in June. Regarding the Berlin process, meetings of the plenary of the International Follow-up Committee continued to take place and the political, security and economic working groups were all operational and contributing to the ongoing efforts of UNSMIL to facilitate a Libyan-led and Libyan-owned dialogue.

On 2 September,<sup>312</sup> Council members held an open videoconference at which the Acting Special Representative briefed them on the Secretary-General's report on UNSMIL.<sup>313</sup> She reiterated that Libya was at a decisive turning point and that the Council's support would help to determine the future of the country.

---

the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt; the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece; the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy; the Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of Morocco; the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Vice-President of the European Commission; the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States; the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates; the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, African Integration, International Cooperation and the Diaspora of Chad; the Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Turkey; and by the representatives of the Congo, Libya, the Netherlands, the Sudan and Switzerland. For further details on the discussion, see part III, sect. III.

<sup>312</sup> See [S/2020/879](#).

<sup>313</sup> See [S/2020/832](#).

Describing military developments, including the situation around Sirte, she noted that continued foreign interference in the conflict constituted an alarming breach of Libya's sovereignty and a blatant violation of the United Nations arms embargo, not to mention of the commitments undertaken by the participants at the Berlin Conference. The partial lifting of the oil blockade on 18 August, which had been in place since January 2020, had had a minimal impact on the severe energy crisis faced by Libya. The situation in the country had produced fertile ground for social unrest and she confirmed once more that the status quo was unsustainable. Stressing the need to press for immediate de-escalation and a return to the political process, she reported that some glimmers of hope had appeared from within the country. On 21 August, the President of the Presidency Council and the Speaker of the House of Representatives had issued simultaneous, yet separate, statements calling for an immediate ceasefire, the lifting of the oil blockade and a return to the political process under United Nations auspices. The Acting Special Representative noted that those statements had been met with overwhelming expressions of support from all political affiliations in the country and international partners alike. She remained optimistic that there was a chance to move forward with intra-Libyan political and security discussions. On the military front, UNSMIL had continued discussions with delegations of both sides under the auspices of the 5+5 Joint Military Commission.

At an open videoconference on 19 November,<sup>314</sup> the Acting Special Representative reported that efforts by UNSMIL, with the support of the Council and the International Follow-up Committee, to facilitate dialogue among the Libyan parties had resulted in the signing of a countrywide permanent ceasefire agreement in Geneva on 23 October by the 5+5 Joint Military Commission.<sup>315</sup> She noted that the historic agreement provided for the withdrawal of all military units and armed groups from the front lines and the departure of all mercenaries and foreign fighters from the entire Libyan territory within a period of 90 days. To expedite the operationalization of the agreement, two subsequent rounds of discussions had taken place on Libyan soil. Tangible progress had been achieved as part of the package of confidence-building measures agreed in Geneva, and following arrangements to remove foreign forces from the oil installations, the National Oil Corporation had lifted the force majeure status on oil installations, ending the oil blockade that

<sup>314</sup> See [S/2020/1129](#).

<sup>315</sup> See [S/2020/1043](#).

had been imposed on the country for more than nine months. The Acting Special Representative reported that on 9 November she had convened in Tunis the first in-person session of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum, on the basis of the Berlin Conference conclusions endorsed by the Council in resolution 2510 (2020). On 15 November, the 75 participants in the Political Dialogue Forum had adopted a political road map to presidential and parliamentary elections to be held on 24 December 2021. The Acting Special Representative expressed particular gratitude to the women participants, who had played a critical role in the Political Dialogue Forum and made important contributions as bridge-builders. Furthermore, she stressed the need to respect the principle of non-interference in Libya's internal affairs and the full implementation of the United Nations arms embargo on Libya and called upon the Council to use the tools at its disposal to do so, including to prevent obstructionists from jeopardizing the rare opportunity to restore peace in Libya. In conclusion, the Acting Special Representative expressed optimism about the way forward in Libya, while acknowledging the many challenges ahead, and stated that she had witnessed in the preceding months "the potential for a paradigm shift".

In addition, the Acting Special Representative reported in her various briefings<sup>316</sup> on the situation of migrants and asylum seekers in Libya, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law and the economic and institutional challenges in Libya.

During the period under review, the Council was briefed by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya on 30 January, 19 May and 2 September. Thereafter, until the end of the year, there were no further briefings by the Chair. During a videoconference on 19 November, the representative of Germany explained that the presentation of the Committee's activities planned for that meeting had to be cancelled owing to the blockade of one member of the Committee.<sup>317</sup> During the briefings,<sup>318</sup> the Chair reported on the activities and developments relating to the work of the Committee and its Panel of Experts. The Chair's briefings highlighted the violations of the sanctions

regime, in particular the arms embargo, exemption requests with respect to the travel ban and arms embargo, the implementation of the assets freeze and the illicit exports of petroleum from Libya. The Chair also recalled that the primary responsibility to implement sanctions measures rested with Member States and encouraged them to continue supporting the work of the Panel of Experts.

The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court briefed the Council twice to report on the progress and challenges relating to the Court's ongoing investigations regarding the situation in Libya. During a videoconference on 5 May,<sup>319</sup> the Prosecutor informed Council members that despite the limitations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, her team was forging ahead with its judicial work and investigations. She highlighted the issues of arbitrary detention and the increasing number of enforced disappearances and use of hate speech. Regarding the disappearance of parliamentarian Siham Sergewa, the Prosecutor reported that her Office had obtained and was verifying information that could point to those responsible. She also informed Council members on the status of the Court's efforts to arrest three Libyan suspects who remained at large, namely, Saif al-Islam al-Qadhafi, Al-Tuhamy Mohamed Khaled and Mahmoud al-Werfalli. With regard to Saif al-Islam al-Qadhafi, the Appeals Chamber had unanimously ruled that his case was admissible before the Court and she noted that his arrest warrant therefore remained enforceable. During the second videoconference, on 10 November,<sup>320</sup> the Prosecutor noted that her Office's request for General Khalifa Haftar to arrest and surrender Mr. Al-Werfalli to the Court had gone unheeded. Noting that Al-Tuhamy Khaled was still alleged to be in Egypt, she urged all relevant States, including Egypt, to ensure that fugitives wanted by the Court were surrendered without delay. The Prosecutor further reported that there had been significant progress in the investigations since May 2020. She stated that multiple mass graves had been discovered in the city of Tarhunah and south of Tripoli and that her Office continued to receive information on attacks and crimes against civilians.

In their deliberations in 2020, Council members expressed deep concern about the escalating violence in Libya.<sup>321</sup> In response to violations of the sanctions

<sup>316</sup> See S/2020/421, S/2020/879 and S/2020/1129.

<sup>317</sup> See S/2020/1129.

<sup>318</sup> See S/PV.8710, S/2020/421 and S/2020/879. For further details on the sanctions measures concerning Libya, see part VII, sect. III. For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya and its Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I.

<sup>319</sup> See S/2020/371.

<sup>320</sup> See S/2020/1108.

<sup>321</sup> See S/PV.8710 (United Kingdom, United States, France, Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Indonesia, Russian Federation, China, Belgium, South Africa, Germany, Estonia, Niger, Tunisia and Viet Nam).



regime, particularly the arms embargo, Council members called on all parties to fully respect, strictly implement and comply with the obligations established by the arms embargo, particularly in view of the endorsement of the Berlin Conference conclusions.<sup>322</sup> They welcomed the 23 October 2020 ceasefire agreement and urged all actors, both inside and outside Libya, to support its full implementation, including through the immediate withdrawal of all foreign forces and mercenaries from that country.<sup>323</sup> Council members welcomed the progress made on the political track and expressed their full support for the UNSMIL-facilitated Libyan Political Dialogue Forum,<sup>324</sup> with some particularly emphasizing the need for the participation of women.<sup>325</sup>

In deliberations following the briefing by the Prosecutor, several Council members expressed their support for the International Criminal Court as an important pillar of the rules-based international order, with some noting that the Prosecutor and her team must be able to exercise their functions without obstruction.<sup>326</sup> In contrast, the representative of the Russian Federation contended that the activities of the Court in Libya were becoming increasingly irrelevant and suggested that when peace was firmly established, Libyans would be able to decide for themselves how to address the issue of justice.<sup>327</sup> He also suggested that the Court had chosen a strategy of discriminate justice

and not to take real steps to investigate the acts committed by all sides in the Libyan conflict.<sup>328</sup> Other Council members highlighted the principle of complementarity of the Court to Libya's national jurisdiction.<sup>329</sup> While reiterating his country's long-standing and principled objection to any assertion of jurisdiction by the Court over nationals of States that are not party to the Rome Statute, absent a Council referral or the consent of such States, the representative of the United States affirmed that his country continued to be a strong supporter of meaningful accountability and justice for victims of atrocities through appropriate mechanisms. Other Council members stressed that ending impunity for grave crimes was necessary to achieve a lasting peaceful solution for the crisis in Libya and called on all parties to cooperate with the Court and faithfully carry out their obligations to execute the outstanding arrest warrants.<sup>330</sup> Furthermore, several Council members called for the enforcement of the arms embargo.<sup>331</sup>

In his statements, the representative of Libya highlighted the suffering and frustration of the people of Libya. He reminded the Council of its responsibility towards Libya, in particular with regard to holding accountable those responsible for foreign interference and war crimes in the conflict.<sup>332</sup> He noted that the launch of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum was a "ray of hope" for Libyans, while underscoring that the role of the Libyan parties in the dialogue was crucial for the process to succeed. He also called on the Council to adopt a binding resolution supporting the consensus reached by Libyans in the various dialogues, including a road map and a constitutional provision on holding elections on 24 December 2021, and to grant UNSMIL a mandate to provide technical and logistical support for the electoral process.<sup>333</sup>

The matters outlined above were also addressed by the Council in the resolutions adopted during the period under review. In addition to resolution 2510

<sup>322</sup> See [S/PV.8710](#) (United Kingdom, United States, France, Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Indonesia, Russian Federation, China, Belgium, South Africa, Germany, Estonia, Niger, Tunisia and Viet Nam); and [S/2020/686](#) (China, Germany, Niger, Tunisia, South Africa, United Kingdom, Belgium, Dominican Republic, France, Indonesia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, United States and Viet Nam). For more information, see part VII, sect. III.

<sup>323</sup> See [S/2020/1129](#) (Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Viet Nam, Niger, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom and United States).

<sup>324</sup> See [S/2020/879](#) (Belgium, Estonia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Niger, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom and United States); and [S/2020/1108](#) (Belgium, France, Germany, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States and Viet Nam).

<sup>325</sup> See [S/2020/686](#) (Viet Nam); [S/2020/879](#) (United Kingdom); and [S/2020/1129](#) (Belgium, Dominican Republic, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and United Kingdom).

<sup>326</sup> See [S/2020/371](#) (Belgium, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia and United Kingdom); and [S/2020/1108](#) (Belgium, China, Estonia, France, Germany, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and Tunisia).

<sup>327</sup> See [S/2020/371](#).

<sup>328</sup> See [S/2020/1108](#).

<sup>329</sup> See [S/2020/371](#) (Dominican Republic, Indonesia, South Africa, Tunisia and Viet Nam); and [S/2020/1108](#) (France, Indonesia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa and Tunisia).

<sup>330</sup> See [S/2020/371](#) (Belgium, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Niger, South Africa and United Kingdom); and [S/2020/1108](#) (Belgium, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa and United Kingdom).

<sup>331</sup> See [S/2020/371](#) (China, Niger and Viet Nam); and [S/2020/1108](#) (China, Germany, Niger, South Africa, Tunisia and Viet Nam).

<sup>332</sup> See [S/2020/371](#), [S/2020/1108](#) and [S/2020/1129](#).

<sup>333</sup> See [S/2020/1129](#).

(2020) described above, on 11 February the Council adopted, not unanimously, resolution 2509 (2020) under Chapter VII of the Charter. In that resolution, the Council decided to extend until 30 April 2021 the authorizations provided and measures imposed by resolutions 2146 (2014) and 2441 (2018) and to modify the period for designating vessels for some or all of the measures contained in resolution 2146 (2014) to one year, renewable by the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011).<sup>334</sup> The Council also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts established by resolution 1973 (2011) until 15 May 2021, and requested that the Panel closely follow and report to the Committee any information relating to the illicit export from or illicit import to Libya of petroleum, including crude oil and refined petroleum products.<sup>335</sup> The Council also called on all Member States to comply fully with the arms embargo and not to intervene in the conflict or take measures that exacerbated the conflict.<sup>336</sup> In his statement after the vote, the representative of the Russian Federation noted that his country had abstained as the resolution had included new language on the illicit importation of oil products into Libya. He noted that the Council should not forget about the oil needs of the Libyans living in the east of the country.<sup>337</sup>

On 5 June, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2526 (2020), by which it extended for 12 months the authorizations set out in resolution 2473 (2019), by which it had authorized Member States, acting nationally or through regional organizations, to inspect vessels they had reasonable grounds to believe were carrying arms or related materiel to or from Libya in order to ensure strict implementation of the arms embargo on the high seas off the coast of Libya, and to use all measures commensurate to the specific circumstances to carry out such inspections.<sup>338</sup>

On 15 September, the Council adopted, not unanimously, resolution 2542 (2020), by which it

extended the mandate of UNSMIL until 15 September 2021.<sup>339</sup> Among other tasks, the Council requested UNSMIL, in full accordance with the principles of national ownership, to further the implementation of the Libyan Political Agreement; support efforts by the Government of National Accord to stabilize post-conflict zones; monitor and report violations of human rights and humanitarian law, including sexual violence in conflict; and support the provision of essential services and delivery of humanitarian assistance, including in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>340</sup> By the resolution, the Council also decided that UNSMIL would be led by a Special Envoy of the Secretary-General who would exercise overall leadership of UNSMIL with a particular focus on good offices and mediation with Libyan and international actors to end the conflict and that, under the authority of the Special Envoy, an UNSMIL Coordinator would be in charge of the day-to-day operations and management of UNSMIL, and requested the Secretary-General to appoint his Special Envoy without delay.<sup>341</sup> The Council further requested the Secretary-General to assess the steps required to reach a ceasefire and the possible role of UNSMIL in providing scalable ceasefire support, as well as to conduct an independent strategic review of UNSMIL.<sup>342</sup> Following the vote,<sup>343</sup> several Council members expressed support for UNSMIL and welcomed the collaboration between UNSMIL, regional organizations and Libya's neighbours.<sup>344</sup> The representative of the Russian Federation stated that his country had abstained in the vote as not all of its amendments had been reflected in the text and that monitoring by UNSMIL of a cessation of hostilities in Libya should only be carried out at the request of and with the agreement of the Libyan parties. The representative of China noted that issues relating to human rights, gender and ceasefire monitoring had not been properly resolved in the resolution. Responding to the concerns raised by the Russian Federation and China, the representative of the United Kingdom, as penholder, noted that the new language added to the resolution in response to the Russian Federation's concerns made it clear that UNSMIL would only be involved in implementing a ceasefire once it was agreed by the Libyan parties. He further stated that a number of references supporting

<sup>334</sup> Resolution 2509 (2020), para. 2. See also resolution 2441 (2018), para. 2, and resolution 2146 (2014), para. 11.

<sup>335</sup> Resolution 2509 (2020), paras. 3 and 11.

<sup>336</sup> Resolution 2509 (2020), para. 6. For more information on the sanctions measures concerning Libya, see part VII, sect. III. For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya and its Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I.

<sup>337</sup> See S/PV.8719.

<sup>338</sup> Resolution 2526 (2020), para. 1. See also resolution 2292 (2016), para. 3. For more information concerning the decisions of the Council relating to Article 42 of the Charter during the period under review, see part VII, sect. IV.A.

<sup>339</sup> Resolution 2542 (2020), para. 1. For further details on the mandate of UNSMIL, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>340</sup> Resolution 2542 (2020), para. 1.

<sup>341</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 2. For further details on the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Libya, see part IX, sect. VI.

<sup>342</sup> Resolution 2542 (2020), paras. 4 and 5.

<sup>343</sup> See S/PV.8758.

<sup>344</sup> South Africa, Viet Nam, Russian Federation, China, Indonesia and Tunisia.

the human rights agenda and on conflict-related sexual violence had been removed at China's request so as to reach a compromise with other members of the Council, who felt that they were important issues.

Developments in Libya were also considered under the item "Maintenance of international peace and security".<sup>345</sup>

<sup>345</sup> For further details, see part I, sect. 35.

Table 1  
Meetings: the situation in Libya

<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.8710</a> 30 January 2020	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) ( <a href="#">S/2020/41</a> )		Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL	All Council members, <sup>a</sup> all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8719</a> 11 February 2020		Draft resolution submitted by Germany and United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2020/111</a> )			2 Council members (China, Russian Federation)	Resolution <a href="#">2509 (2020)</a> 14-0-1 <sup>c</sup> (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8722</a> 12 February 2020		Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2020/113</a> )	Libya		9 Council members, <sup>d</sup> Libya	Resolution <a href="#">2510 (2020)</a> 14-0-1 <sup>e</sup>
<a href="#">S/PV.8758</a> 15 September 2020	Report of the Secretary-General on UNSMIL ( <a href="#">S/2020/832</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2020/896</a> )			7 Council members <sup>f</sup>	Resolution <a href="#">2542 (2020)</a> 13-0-2 <sup>g</sup>

<sup>a</sup> The representative of Germany briefed the Council in his capacity as the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya.

<sup>b</sup> The Special Representative participated in the meeting by videoconference from Brazzaville.

<sup>c</sup> *For*: Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States, Viet Nam; *against*: none; *abstaining*: Russian Federation.

<sup>d</sup> China, Estonia, Germany, Indonesia, Russian Federation, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States and Viet Nam. The Niger associated itself with the statement by Tunisia.

<sup>e</sup> *For*: Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States, Viet Nam; *against*: none; *abstaining*: Russian Federation.

<sup>f</sup> China, Indonesia, Russian Federation, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom and Viet Nam.

<sup>g</sup> *For*: Belgium, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States, Viet Nam; *against*: none; *abstaining*: China, Russian Federation.

Table 2  
**Videoconferences: the situation in Libya**

<i>Videoconference date</i>	<i>Videoconference record</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Decision, vote (for-against-abstaining) and record of written procedure</i>
5 May 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/371</a>	Letter dated 7 May from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
19 May 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/421</a>	Letter dated 21 May from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
5 June 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/509</a>	Letter dated 5 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	Resolution <a href="#">2526 (2020)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII) <a href="#">S/2020/504</a>
8 July 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/686</a>	Letter dated 10 July 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
2 September 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/879</a>	Letter dated 4 September from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
10 November 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/1108</a>	Letter dated 13 November from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
19 November 2020	<a href="#">S/2020/1129</a>	Letter dated 23 November from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	

## 12. The situation in Mali

During the period under review, the Council held four meetings in connection with the item entitled “The situation in Mali”. Three of the meetings took the form of briefings and one was convened for the adoption of decisions.<sup>346</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in table 1 below. Council members also held four open videoconferences in connection with the item, two of which were devoted to the announcement of the adoption of resolutions.<sup>347</sup> More

information on the videoconferences is provided in table 2 below. In 2020, the Council adopted two resolutions under Chapter VII of the Charter and issued one presidential statement. In addition to the meetings and open videoconferences, Council members also held informal consultations of the whole and closed videoconferences,<sup>348</sup> including a closed videoconference with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations

<sup>346</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. II.

<sup>347</sup> For more information on the procedures and working methods developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, see part II.

<sup>348</sup> See [A/75/2](#), part II, chap. 39. See also [S/2021/9](#).