

20. The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

During the period under review, the Council held eight meetings in connection with the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”. No decisions were adopted during the period under review. In 2021, during the meetings under this item, the Council continued its practice of holding monthly briefings and quarterly open debates.⁷³⁸ More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in table 1 below. Council members also held a total of four open videoconferences in connection with this item. More information on the open videoconferences is provided in table 2 below. In addition to the meetings and videoconferences, Council members held closed videoconferences and informal consultations of the whole.⁷³⁹ Under this item, whether in the context of meetings or videoconferences, Council members also considered developments in Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen and the Middle East region.⁷⁴⁰

During the year 2021, in most meetings and videoconferences, Council members heard briefings by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General to the Palestine Liberation Organization and the Palestinian Authority as well as his Deputy. In addition, Council members heard a briefing once by the Secretary-General, the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) and the Acting Director of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs’ Coordination Division, respectively. Two youth representatives from Palestine and Israel, respectively, briefed the Council members once at the same videoconference.⁷⁴¹ The Council also heard briefings by other civil society representatives, namely, the Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of Amal-Tikva, the Planning Manager of

⁷³⁸ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II sect. II.

⁷³⁹ See [A/76/2](#), part II, chap. 2.A. See also [S/2021/683](#), [S/2021/938](#), [S/2021/1032](#) and [S/2022/174](#). In 2021, informal consultations of the Council were also held in the form of closed videoconferences. For more details on the procedures developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, see part II of this Supplement as well as *Repertoire, Supplement 2020*, part II.

⁷⁴⁰ See also part I, sect. 19.

⁷⁴¹ The following youth representatives provided briefings to the Council: Mr. Oren Gian, Israeli student and Ms. Malak AbuSoud, Palestinian student, on 26 February 2021 ([S/2021/218](#)).

the Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights Center, the Executive Director of Ir Amim, an Israeli non-profit organization, and Ms. Hanan Ashrawi, a Palestinian political and civil society leader. The Council also heard the briefings by a Professor of Arab Studies at Columbia University, the President of the U.S./Middle East Project and the Interim Vice President and Program Director of the International Crisis Group.

During the period under review, the Special Coordinator provided regular briefings to the Council either in person or by videoconference. In the context of his monthly briefings held in February, May, August and November, the Special Coordinator reported to Council members on the escalation of violence and hostilities in Gaza, the situation in the occupied West Bank including East Jerusalem and cities across Israel as well as on its consequences, on the political situation and the status of the negotiations including engagements between Israeli and Palestinian officials.⁷⁴² In this regard, the Special Coordinator addressed the meetings of the Middle East Quartet and the Ad Hoc Liaison Committee for the Coordination of the International Assistance to Palestinians. The Special Coordinator also reported on the continued settlement activity, the violence throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, and the severe financial and economic crisis threatening the stability of Palestinian institutions. He further expressed concern at the lack of funding for UNRWA to sustain essential services and reiterated the Secretary-General's appeal to the international community to work with the United Nations to provide robust support for a swift recovery and sustainable rebuilding aimed at supporting the Palestinian people and strengthened institutions. In his monthly briefings, the Special Coordinator also covered developments in the Golan and Lebanon. During discussions, Council members urged all parties to observe relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions and condemned violations thereof including the increased hostilities between the two parties and the continued occupation of the Palestinian territory. They called for the resumption of negotiations based on a two-State solution and for international and unified support as well as for increased humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian civilian population, especially in Gaza. Questioning the Council's almost exclusive focus on Israel during its monthly meetings on the situation in the Middle East, the representative of the United States suggested that the Council's attention under this item

⁷⁴² See [S/2021/218](#), [S/PV.8782](#), [S/PV.8847](#) and [S/PV.8913](#).

reflect all areas which threatened international peace and security and proposed to hold meetings on Lebanon and Iran more regularly adding that Israel did not define the Middle East.⁷⁴³

On 16 May 2021, Council members held an extraordinary open high-level videoconference to discuss the escalation of violence in Israel, Gaza, and East Jerusalem.⁷⁴⁴ The Secretary-General delivered opening remarks, followed by a briefing by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process. This was the third time in six days that Council members met to discuss the issue further to the briefings in closed videoconferences by the Special Coordinator on 10 and 12 May.⁷⁴⁵ The Secretary-General and the Special Coordinator called for an immediate de-escalation and urged a return to negotiations and the parties to observe and respect international law and international humanitarian law and end all violence against civilians.⁷⁴⁶ On 27 May, the Special Coordinator welcomed the cessation of hostilities between Palestinian militants in Gaza and Israel and commended Member States for supporting the ceasefire and urged them to focus on political solutions to the crisis and address the humanitarian needs of the people in Gaza.⁷⁴⁷ Council Members welcomed the then-week-old ceasefire and commended Member States' efforts to end the hostilities. Council Members also acknowledged the efforts of Tunisia, Norway, China and France leading to the 22 May press statement of the Council on the ceasefire.⁷⁴⁸ The representative of France explained that the ceasefire and subsequent press statement were the result of collective international pressure. He further noted that France had played its part in calling an immediate cessation of hostilities, coordinating closely with its Jordanian, Egyptian, United States and European partners, and being in contact with the Israeli authorities and the Palestinian Authority.⁷⁴⁹ The representative of the Russian Federation noted that active discussions on the Palestinian question over the previous two weeks in the Council as well as in the General Assembly had shown that the international community as a whole was unanimous in its understanding of the goal of a settlement and its legal framework, underscoring that it was important to preserve unity and translate it into action. In that regard, he urged the

⁷⁴³ See [S/PV.8913](#).

⁷⁴⁴ See [S/2021/480](#). For further details on high-level meetings and videoconferences, see part II.

⁷⁴⁵ See [A/76/2](#).

⁷⁴⁶ See [S/2021/480](#).

⁷⁴⁷ See [S/PV.8782](#).

⁷⁴⁸ See [SC/14527](#).

⁷⁴⁹ See [S/PV.8782](#).

Council to consider the proposal to hold a ministerial meeting of the Quartet, as well as one in an expanded format, with the participation of regional States and the Palestinians and Israelis themselves. While welcoming the fact that the Security Council had been finally able to adopt a press statement, the representative of Ireland said that there was no cause for self-congratulation. The inability of the Council to utter a single agreed word as the conflict raged for 11 days marked a sobering failure of collective diplomacy.

At a meeting held on 30 August, the Special Coordinator reported on the tensions along the Gaza perimeter reaching a peak on 21 August when hundreds of Palestinians attended a rally and threw rocks and allegedly improvised explosive devices, which Israeli forces fired on.⁷⁵⁰ On the same day, Palestinian security forces arrested participants in a planned demonstration in Ramallah, including well-known human rights defenders, lawyers, journalists and political activists. In this regard, several Council members called on the Palestinian Authority to uphold its human rights obligations, including respect for the freedom of expression and the freedom of assembly.⁷⁵¹ Encouraging further dialogue between Israel and the Palestinian Authority, several Council members also encouraged the parties concerned to maintain the momentum and secure progress across a wide variety of outstanding issues.⁷⁵² In support of the intra-Palestinian unity, reconciliation and encouraging Palestine and Israel to resume peace talks based on the two-State solution, the representative of China also called for the holding of a United Nations- led international peace conference to bring together the permanent members of the Council and all stakeholders in the Middle East peace process.

During a meeting held on 30 November, the Special Coordinator noted that the Israeli Ministry of Defence announced the designation of six Palestinian non-governmental organizations as terrorist organizations on 22 October, cautioning about the potentially wide-ranging legal implications which added to increasing pressures on civil society organizations across the occupied Palestinian territory.⁷⁵³ In her briefing, the Acting President of the International Crisis Group provided a series of recommendations, including a rescission of the order banning the six Palestinian civil society organizations. Several Council members expressed

⁷⁵⁰ See [S/PV.8847](#).

⁷⁵¹ United Kingdom, Norway, Mexico, Estonia and Ireland.

⁷⁵² United Kingdom, Norway, Viet Nam and France.

⁷⁵³ See [S/PV.8913](#).

concern about the listing of the six Palestinian non-governmental organizations as terrorist organizations by the Israeli authorities.⁷⁵⁴ The representative of the United Kingdom noted while her country maintained its own criteria for designation and engagement with a number of those organizations on human rights issues, the decision was ultimately a matter for the Government of Israel. In view of the resumption of the peace process, Council members encouraged all efforts to create favorable conditions, including strengthening the Quartet's role and taking the thirtieth anniversary of the Madrid Peace Conference as an opportunity.⁷⁵⁵

On a quarterly basis, monthly briefings, whether in the form of meetings or videoconferences, were also used to report on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#). Consistent with prior practice, in 2021, the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) were submitted in writing twice, the eighteenth report in June and the twentieth report in December.⁷⁵⁶ During the briefings that took place in March, June, September and December, the Special Coordinator continued to report on the lack of progress in the implementation of the main provisions of the resolution, namely, those relating to: the Israeli settlement activities; the violence against civilians including acts of terror, incitement, provocation and inflammatory rhetoric; steps and efforts to advance the peace process; and actions by all States to distinguish in their relevant dealings between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967.⁷⁵⁷ At the videoconference held on 25 March, the Special Coordinator reported that the International Criminal Court Pre-Trial Chamber decided that the Court's jurisdiction extended to the occupied Palestinian territory on 5 February, and that subsequently the Court's Prosecutor confirmed that her Office had initiated an investigation with respect to the situation in Palestine covering crimes within the jurisdiction of the Court alleged to have been committed since 13 June 2014.⁷⁵⁸ During the discussion, the representative of Niger welcomed the decision taken by the Court to launch investigations into the allegations of crimes committed in Gaza, the West Bank and East Jerusalem since June 2014, stating that accountability was essential to fight impunity and pave the way for reconciliation

⁷⁵⁴ France, Ireland, Tunisia and Mexico.

⁷⁵⁵ Estonia, Kenya, Viet Nam, China, France, Niger, Ireland, Tunisia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and India.

⁷⁵⁶ See [S/2021/584](#) and [S/2021/1047](#).

⁷⁵⁷ See [S/2021/302](#), [S/PV.8782](#), [S/PV.8847](#) and [S/PV.8913](#).

⁷⁵⁸ See [S/2021/302](#).

between the parties to the conflict. The representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines also affirmed support to the Court. During the meeting held on 24 June 2021, the Special Coordinator provided a briefing on the eighteenth report.⁷⁵⁹ He also acknowledged the formation of the new Israeli coalition government and noted with regret the postponement of the Palestinian elections.⁷⁶⁰ While several Council members congratulated the new coalition government in Israel,⁷⁶¹ a few members urged the new government to take steps to end the expansion of illegal settlements, demolitions and the threat of forced evictions and allowing for legal construction for Palestinians.⁷⁶² During the meeting held on 29 September, the Special Coordinator devoted his briefing to presenting the nineteenth report on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#).⁷⁶³ He encouraged Israel and Palestine to take urgent steps to stabilize the Palestinian economy and strengthen Palestinian institutions, and specifically the Palestinian Authority to resume the election process as soon as possible. Council members condemned all acts of violence and other breaches of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#), and reiterated their call for the full implementation of the resolution including an end to Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian territories, as well as to any actions that limited the Palestinian population's access to safe drinking water.⁷⁶⁴ The representative of the United Kingdom urged Israel to allow for more legal avenues for Palestinian construction. Several Council members also stressed that it was incumbent on the Council and the international community, in particular the Middle East Quartet and partners in the region, to make efforts including de-escalation and a resumption of negotiations to resolve the conflict.⁷⁶⁵

During the meeting held on 21 December, the Special Coordinator expressed continued concern that if left unchecked, the dynamics of the unilateral actions and the severe economic crisis in the occupied Palestinian territories could also impact the security situation in Gaza and undermine the cessation of hostilities in place since 21 May.⁷⁶⁶ On the occasion of the fifth

⁷⁵⁹ See [S/2021/584](#).

⁷⁶⁰ See [S/PV.8804](#).

⁷⁶¹ United States, Kenya, Ireland and Mexico.

⁷⁶² Kenya and Ireland.

⁷⁶³ See [S/PV.8869](#).

⁷⁶⁴ Tunisia, India, Mexico, China, Kenya, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Niger and Ireland.

⁷⁶⁵ Tunisia, India, Niger and Ireland.

⁷⁶⁶ See [S/PV.8940](#).

anniversary of the adoption of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#), Council members expressed concern at the lack of implementation.⁷⁶⁷ In this regard, the representative of Kenya said that it was necessary to have updates on the actual efforts and operationalization mechanisms, or lack thereof, to address all violations of the provisions of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#). Moreover, in view of paragraph 11 of the resolution, he also urged a deeper analysis that also focused on the correlation and contextualization of incidents and their short- and long-term implications for the implementation of the Middle East peace process normative framework. In addition, the representative of Niger recalled that the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) continued to be a true test of the Council's authority and its capacity to enforce its own resolutions on Israel.

In 2021, the practice of holding quarterly open debates continued to be impacted by the pandemic and the inability to hold them in the Security Council Chamber. As a result, open videoconferences were held on 26 January and 22 April. Later in the year, quarterly open debates resumed and were held in person on 28 July and 29 October. In the context of the quarterly open debates and open videoconferences, Council members delivered statements and so did the representatives of Israel and Palestine.⁷⁶⁸ In addition, in accordance with the written understanding reached among Council members on the working methods during the COVID-19 pandemic,⁷⁶⁹ written statements were also submitted by Member States and other entities, later compiled in letters by the President of the Security Council.⁷⁷⁰ In his briefings during the quarterly open debates and videoconferences, the Special Coordinator focused on the efforts to advance the Middle East peace process, the prospect of annexation by Israel of parts of the occupied Palestinian territory, the preparations for the Palestinian elections, the continued violence between Israelis and Palestinians, the humanitarian situation in Gaza as well as the dynamics created on the ground by the COVID-19 pandemic.⁷⁷¹ During his briefings, he also touched upon the situations in Lebanon, the Golan, and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF). In addition to the Special Coordinator, other briefers addressed

⁷⁶⁷ Kenya, France, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Viet Nam, Ireland, Tunisia, Norway, India, China, Mexico and Niger.

⁷⁶⁸ See [S/2021/91](#) and [S/2021/404](#).

⁷⁶⁹ For more information on the procedures and working methods developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, see part II.

⁷⁷⁰ See [S/2021/685](#) (in relation to [S/PV.8826](#)) and [S/2021/884](#) (in relation to [S/PV.8883](#)).

⁷⁷¹ See [S/2021/91](#), [S/2021/404](#), [S/PV. 8826](#) and [S/PV. 8883](#).

Council members in the context of videoconferences and meetings. In January 2021, during the first open videoconference in connection with this item, the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States provided a briefing to Council members expressing hope for the new United States Administration to correct the measures and policies of the former Administration, and to work with the support of the international community and regional actors to get the political process back on track.⁷⁷² At the videoconference held on 22 April, the Acting Director of the Coordination Division, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, provided a briefing on the humanitarian situation in the occupied Palestinian territory, including East Jerusalem, on behalf of Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator.⁷⁷³ During the open debate held under this item on 28 July, the Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and the United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory noted that the economic impact of the escalation in May had further exacerbated the existing humanitarian crisis and severely weakened Gaza's economy.⁷⁷⁴ Concerning the wider region, she also addressed the role of UNDOF in monitoring the ceasefire between Israel and Syria in the occupied Golan,⁷⁷⁵ as well as the situation in Lebanon at the first anniversary of the Beirut port explosion on 4 August 2020 and the tense situation in the area of operations of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).⁷⁷⁶ During the open debate held on 29 October, the President of the U.S./ Middle East Project focused on three core concepts, namely, a legitimacy deficit in Palestinian politics, an accountability deficit concerning Israel's actions, and a symmetry deficit given the fundamental asymmetry between an occupying State and an occupied people.⁷⁷⁷ He observed that these concepts could help guide actions and create the new building blocks for new thinking and peace. He also underscored that the Council had to be open to the possibility that there could be no off-the-shelf solution and that, at some stage, it could be forced to revisit its partition vote of 1947 and its historic endorsement of the two States.

⁷⁷² See [S/2021/91](#).

⁷⁷³ See [S/2021/404](#).

⁷⁷⁴ See [S/PV.8826](#).

⁷⁷⁵ For further information on the situation in the Middle East, see part I, sect. 19 and on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, see part X, sect I.

⁷⁷⁶ For further information on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, see part X, sect I.

⁷⁷⁷ See [S/PV.8883](#).

During the open debates and videoconferences, Council members condemned the violence and escalation between Israel and Palestine and called on them both to protect civilians, including children. Council members also called on Israel to cease the new construction plans as well as continued demolition and eviction. Council members also reiterated their call on the international community to increase financial support for UNRWA to provide necessary humanitarian assistance, highlighting factors such as the need to address the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. Some Council members also underscored the need to enhance building and reconstruction efforts as well as the economic recovery in Gaza, including to secure unimpeded humanitarian access throughout the Strip.⁷⁷⁸ Many Council members welcomed the positive signals for dialogue, including the resumption of direct contact between Israeli and Palestinian leaders in July 2021 and expressed support for meaningful negotiations. Some Council members also supported the call of President Abbas of the Palestinian Authority to convene an international peace conference.⁷⁷⁹ Welcoming President Abbas's decree to hold legislative, presidential and Palestinian National Council elections in 2021, some Council members called on the international community as well as the United Nations to assist the Palestinian elections.⁷⁸⁰ Several Council members also addressed Israel, urging the country to facilitate the elections as well as the deployment of an European mission to support it.⁷⁸¹

Table 1
Meetings: The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

<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.8782 27 May 2021			Israel	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief	All Council members, all invitees ^a	

⁷⁷⁸ See [S/PV.8826](#) (India, Mexico, Viet Nam, Niger, Estonia, Ireland, United Kingdom and France); and [S/PV.8883](#), (France, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Ireland, Estonia, Mexico, China, United Kingdom, Tunisia, India and Viet Nam).

⁷⁷⁹ See [S/2021/91](#) (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Ireland, Russian Federation, Tunisia, China, India, Niger); and [S/2021/404](#) (Russian Federation and Viet Nam).

⁷⁸⁰ See [S/2021/91](#) (Mexico, Estonia, France, Niger and Viet Nam); and [S/2021/404](#) (China, France, Ireland, Niger, Tunisia and Viet Nam).

⁷⁸¹ See [S/2021/91](#) (Estonia, France and Viet Nam); and [S/2021/404](#) (France, Ireland, Norway, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, United Kingdom and Viet Nam).

			and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, Professor of Arab Studies at Columbia University	
S/PV.8804 24 June 2021	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2334 (2016) (S/2021/584)		Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	11 Council members, ^b invitee ^c
S/PV.8826 28 July 2021	Letter dated 30 July 2021 addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of Security Council members by the President of the Security Council (S/2021/685)	Israel	Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, Executive Director of Ir Amim	All Council members, all invitees ^d
S/PV.8847 30 August 2021			Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	All Council members, ^e invitee ^c
S/PV.8869 29 September 2021			Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Planning Manager of Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Amal-Tikva	All Council members, all invitees ^f
S/PV.8883 19 October 2021	Letter dated 21 October 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security	Israel	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, President of the U.S./Middle East Project, Ms. Hanan Ashrawi, Political and civil society leader	All Council members, ^g all invitees ^h

Council
([S/2021/884](#))

[S/PV.8913](#)
30 November 2021

Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process,
Interim Vice President and Program Director of the International Crisis Group

All Council members, all invitees

[S/PV.8940](#)
21 December 2021

Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process

All Council members, invitee^c

^a The Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, and Professor of Arab Studies at Columbia University joined the meeting via videoconference.

^b China, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Niger, Russian Federation, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia, United States and Viet Nam.

^c The Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General joined the meeting via videoconference.

^d The Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Executive Director of Ir Amim joined the meeting via videoconference.

^e India was represented by its Foreign Secretary.

^f The Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, Planning Manager of Jerusalem Legal Aid and Human Rights, Co-Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Amal-Tikva joined the meeting via videoconference.

^g Kenya was represented by its Foreign Affairs Principal Secretary.

^h The Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, President of the U.S./Middle East Project and the political and civil society leader joined the meeting by videoconference.

Table 2
Videoconferences: The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

<i>Videoconference date</i>	<i>Videoconference record</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining) and record of written procedure</i>
26 January 2021	S/2021/91	Letter dated 28 January 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
26 February 2021	S/2021/218	Letter dated 2 March 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
25 March 2021	S/2021/302	Letter dated 29 March 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
22 April 2021	S/2021/404	Letter dated 26 April 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	

16 May 2021

[S/2021/480](#)

Letter dated 18 May 2021 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council
