35. Maintenance of international peace and security

During the period under review, the Security Council held eight meetings in connection with the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security". Four of the meetings took the form of briefings, three took the form of open debates and one was convened to adopt a decision of the Council. ¹²⁹² The Council adopted one resolution, under Chapter VII of the Charter. More information on the meetings, including on the participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. ¹²⁹³

In 2022, as in previous periods, a broad range of new and existing sub-items were discussed in connection with this item. ¹²⁹⁴ The thematic sub-items addressed during the period under review were the following: (a) implementation of resolutions 2532 (2020) and 2565 (2021); (b) conflict and food security; (c) technology and security; (d) strengthening accountability and justice for serious violations of international law; (e) promoting common security through dialogue and cooperation; and (f) a new orientation for reformed multilateralism. The meetings addressing the above sub-items are featured below in chronological order. The Council also adopted a decision in relation to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 2491 (2019) relating to the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons in the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Libya.

On 11 April, the Council held a briefing under the sub-item entitled "Implementation of resolutions <u>2532 (2020)</u> and <u>2565 (2021)</u>". ¹²⁹⁵ At the meeting, Council members heard briefings by the Global Lead Coordinator for the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) Vaccine Country Readiness and Delivery, the Senior Adviser to the Office of the Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Health and Nutrition Coordinator at CARE South Sudan.

The Global Lead Coordinator for COVID-19 Vaccine Country Readiness and Delivery asserted that the pandemic was still far from over and highlighted the urgency of raising COVID-

¹²⁹² For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

¹²⁹³ See <u>A/77/2</u>, part II, chap. 34.

¹²⁹⁴ For more information on new sub-items, see part II, sect. III.A.

¹²⁹⁵ See S/PV.9014.

19 vaccination rates in countries that did not have that opportunity in 2021. Noting that more than 11.1 billion doses of COVID-19 vaccines had been administered globally, he pointed out, however, that the vaccination rate in low-income countries was only 11 per cent. He added that with strong political leadership, country coordination and planning, and the implementation of mass vaccination campaigns, countries could quickly pick up their vaccination rates and coverage. To address the significant vaccine equity gap that continued to pose a threat to global health security, he called for continued strong support and actions to implement resolutions 2532 (2020) and 2565 (2021), with a particular focus on ensuring that countries continued to prioritize COVID-19 vaccinations. Secondly, he expressed appreciation for the \$4.8 billion in pledges made at the COVAX Advance Market Commitment Summit and stated that commitments had to be turned into tangible support for lower income countries with COVID-19 vaccination needs and a priority on a delivery system. Thirdly, he stressed the need to advocate for and help guarantee full, safe and unhindered access, and to ensure the safety of health and humanitarian personnel administering vaccines in humanitarian settings. Fourthly, he asked Member States to ensure strong national vaccination planning that addressed the needs of all populations living within the national territory, regardless of nationality, migration or refugee status. Finally, he emphasized the need to engage in the important conversations on the global health emergency architecture and to advocate for strong governance and investment in the basics of primary health care as a key element of future pandemic preparedness.

The Senior Adviser to the Office of the Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross stated that the successes in the development and production of vaccines meant that many countries were starting to regain a sense of normalcy. She noted, however, that to end the pandemic, vaccination needed to occur everywhere and that was not the case in conflict-affected areas. To achieve vaccination in conflict settings, she requested the international community to first ensure that international humanitarian law was respected, in particular the protection of hospitals and other medical facilities, as well as medical personnel from attacks. She also stressed the importance of integrating COVID-19 vaccinations into a broader health strategy and, in tandem, strengthening the health system to address renewed outbreaks of other highly contagious and lethal diseases. She advocated for the involvement of the community in

vaccination activities and to adequately resource community engagement. She further emphasized that equitable access to COVID-19 vaccination was a humanitarian imperative.

The Health and Nutrition Coordinator at CARE South Sudan described the work of his organization in providing humanitarian assistance to various parts of the country in multiple sectors, including health care, nutrition, gender and protection, food security and livelihoods. He urged Council members to call on the United Nations system, the international donor community and host Governments to take a number of actions, namely: to ensure safe and unhindered humanitarian access to all people in need and that COVID-19 vaccine costing models and budgets covered all aspects of delivery and reflected the real-world costs of rolling out the vaccines to the last mile; to ensure that non-governmental organizations(NGOs), women-led organizations and front-line health-care workers had meaningful roles in the COVID-19 vaccine roll-out; to invest in community-driven, bottom-up approaches including the meaningful and consistent participation of local NGOs, community groups and women's groups; and to make concrete investments to ensure an equitable COVID-19 vaccine roll-out that left no one behind.

During the discussion, Council members expressed concern regarding the global vaccine equity gap, while stressing the need for a concerted effort by the international community to work on ensuring equitable access to COVID-19 vaccinations, especially in conflict-affected areas. In that context, they underscored the need to strengthen the capacity of national health systems and of safeguarding humanitarian access for vaccine distribution and called for continued support and actions to implement resolutions 2532 (2020) and 2565 (2021). Referring to the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility, many Council members underlined the need to strengthen and support the mechanism to ensure equitable access to vaccines. In that connection, some Council members expressed support for initiatives to waive intellectual property rights for COVID-19 vaccines. ¹²⁹⁶ Several Council members further discussed the vital role of the African Union in the distribution of vaccines to vulnerable countries. ¹²⁹⁷

On 19 May, at the initiative of the United States which held the presidency for the month, ¹²⁹⁸ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled "Conflict and

¹²⁹⁶ Ibid., China, Mexico, Gabon and India.

¹²⁹⁷ Ibid., United Kingdom, Ghana, Gabon and Kenya. For further details on the discussion regarding the cooperation with regional organizations, see part VIII, sect. I.

¹²⁹⁸ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 12 May 2022 (S/2022/391).

food security". ¹²⁹⁹ Council members heard opening remarks by the Secretary-General and briefings by the Executive Director of the World Food Programme, the Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Gro Intelligence.

In his opening remarks, the Secretary-General noted that 60 per cent of the world's undernourished people lived in areas affected by conflict. He emphasized that armed conflict created hunger, adding that the impact of conflicts was magnified by the climate crisis and economic insecurity, which had been compounded by the pandemic. Consequently, he said, decades of progress in combating hunger were being undone. He stated that 49 million people in 43 countries were at emergency levels of hunger, known as Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) 4, which was just one step away from famine, with women and girls being the worst affected. Addressing the situation in Ukraine, he stated that the war there was adding a frightening new dimension to that picture of global hunger. He suggested four actions that countries could take to break the deadly dynamic of conflict and hunger. First, to invest in political solutions to end conflicts, prevent new ones and build sustainable peace. Secondly, referring to international humanitarian law as reflected in resolution 2417 (2018), he emphasized that the Council had a critical role to play in demanding adherence to international humanitarian law and pursuing accountability when the law was breached. Thirdly, he called for greater coordination and leadership to address the interconnected risks of food insecurity, energy and financing. Fourthly, he urged donors to fund humanitarian appeals in full and to demonstrate the same generosity that had been shown to Ukraine to all other countries in need, while also underscoring that feeding the hungry was an investment in global peace and security.

Citing the crises in Ethiopia, Afghanistan and Ukraine, the Executive Director of the World Food Programme underscored that the world was facing an unprecedented storm, a perfect storm caused by conflict, climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic. He brought attention to the increasing number of people who were at the verge of starvation struggling to find food daily and living from hand to mouth every day. He also identified food prices as the number-one problem in 2022 and predicted that in 2023, it would be replaced by issues of food

¹²⁹⁹ See <u>S/PV.9036</u> and <u>S/PV.9036</u> (Resumption1).

availability. He urged the international community to help stabilize the food markets to prevent a further deterioration of the situation, by, inter alia, opening ports and increasing production around the world.

The Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) reported that there had been a spike in the global level of acute hunger over the past five years. He warned about the risk of famine in Yemen, Somalia, South Sudan and Afghanistan and asserted that conflict remained the single-greatest driver of hunger. He further described the steps that FAO had taken to strengthen agrifood systems, save lives and protect the agricultural livelihoods of the world's most vulnerable. He urged Member States to urgently transform their agrifood systems to be more efficient, inclusive, resilient and sustainable. Stating that technology, good policies, and management were solutions to alleviate the food crisis, he urged Member States to invest more in innovation and new technologies, especially water management, irrigation systems and high-quality agricultural inputs, including fertilizer, and in more transparent market information systems.

The Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Gro Intelligence provided insights from her organization's data on the state of the global food systems. She noted that the Russia-Ukraine conflict did not start the food security crisis, but simply added fuel to a fire that was long burning. She listed five major challenges occurring simultaneously that had already started to unravel decades of global economic progress, namely, lack of fertilizer, climate disruptions, record low inventories in cooking oils, record low inventories of grains and logistical bottlenecks. She underscored the need for substantial, immediate, and aggressive coordinated global actions to prevent further human suffering and economic damage.

Following the briefings, speakers discussed the challenges of conflict-driven global food insecurity, including ways to mitigate those impacts on the most vulnerable groups such as women and children, especially in developing countries. Recalling resolution 2417 (2018), which had established the link between armed conflict and violence and conflict-induced food insecurity and the threat of famine, participants urged the Council to ensure its implementation. Many speakers noted the grave consequences of conflict on food security, while citing the impact of the war in Ukraine, climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic among other factors contributing to the worsening global food crises. Notably, speakers brought attention to the

alarming food security situations in countries in Africa, Asia and the Middle East, highlighting the risk of famine posed by the blockade of Ukrainian ports, which had prevented shipments of grains from Ukraine. Participants also raised concerns about the rising food prices and the increasing number of people in need of assistance, particularly in developing countries.

On 23 May, the Council held a briefing under the sub-item entitled "Technology and security". ¹³⁰⁰ Council members heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the Director of Advox, the Digital Rights Project of Global Voices, and an Adjunct Professor at the McGill University Center for International Peace and Security Studies and non-resident Fellow at the International Peace Institute.

The Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs highlighted various benefits of digital technologies for the maintenance of international peace and security. She indicated that technological developments had improved the ability to detect crises, to better preposition humanitarian stocks and to design data-driven peacebuilding programming. She affirmed that the use of digital technologies could improve the safety and security of peacekeeping and civilian staff on the ground and noted that the launch of the Strategy for the Digital Transformation of United Nations Peacekeeping represented an essential step towards that goal as well as for a more effective mandate implementation, thereby increasing earlywarning capacities. She added that digital tools allowed to visualize information and convey data-rich analysis to support the Council's decision-making. The Under-Secretary-General indicated, however, that advances in technology had also created significant new risks that could affect conflict dynamics for the worse and expressed concern about the increasing number of State- and non-State-sponsored incidents of malicious use of digital technologies for political or military ends, in particular those targeting essential infrastructure. She also stated that digital technologies had raised major human rights concerns, from artificial intelligence systems that may be discriminatory to the widespread availability of surveillance technologies that could be deployed to target communities or individuals, as well as the increasing use of Internet shutdowns. She highlighted several actions that had been undertaken to mitigate those risks, driven by the United Nations Strategy and Plan of Action on Hate Speech, launched by the

¹³⁰⁰ See <u>S/PV.9039</u>.

Secretary-General. She urged Member States to fully embrace the opportunities offered by digital technologies to advance peace and to mitigate the risks that such technologies posed and promote their responsible use by all actors.

The Director of Advox, the Digital Rights Project of Global Voices, first cautioned against interpreting her remarks on digital technology in relation to peace and security as an invitation for the militarization and securitization of the Internet, and urged the Council to instead commit to preserving the Internet as a global public good. Recalling the Council's mandate to preserve peace and security, she urged for a multilateral, transnational and generational approach to addressing the challenges of human rights in the digital age. To achieve such an approach, she elaborated on three key principles that in her view would create opportunities for action to safeguard peace and security. First, she noted that digital rights were human rights, and any effort to address those challenges had to begin with the protection of the human from the excesses of the power of the State and private corporations. Secondly, she stated that the power of the Internet could and had to be harnessed for the greater good as a global public good, without allowing the interests of security or profit to drown out the interests of peace. Finally, she suggested that whatever actions the Council chose to take had to look beyond the moment to protect the aspirations of future generations.

The Adjunct Professor at the McGill University Center for International Peace and Security Studies and non-resident Fellow at the International Peace Institute shared his perspective on three interlinked topics concerning technology and security. First, he addressed how digital technologies were reshaping the conflicts on which the Security Council was engaged. In that context, he urged the Council to demand social media companies to apply their content moderation resources equally across their global reach. Secondly, he commented on how those technologies and their use by parties to conflict and the United Nations itself had impacted the Organization's efforts to prevent and resolve violence. Thirdly, he elaborated on how the United Nations peace and security toolkit, especially its peace operations, could adapt to the impacts of digital technologies on conflict, mitigate the negative impacts of those technologies on their own operations and use digital technologies to work more effectively and responsibly in those evolving contexts.

Following the briefers, Council members outlined the benefits of digital technology in conflict management while also raising concerns about the risks posed by technology in exacerbating conflicts. Many Council members underscored the threat posed by digital technology when used for malicious purposes by both State and non-State actors, including through misinformation and the suppression of human rights. In that context, some Council members expressed concern about the increasing use of Internet shutdowns to prevent freedom of expression and political participation, while noting that such practice was a violation of human rights. ¹³⁰¹ Several Council members also specifically emphasized the need to combat misinformation and disinformation campaigns on social media platforms, including in the context of peace operations and humanitarian activities. ¹³⁰²

On 2 June, at the initiative of Albania which held the presidency for the month, ¹³⁰³ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled "Strengthening accountability and justice for serious violations of international law". ¹³⁰⁴ Council members heard briefings by the President of the International Court of Justice, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and a professor of Public International Law at the University of Oxford.

The President of the International Court of Justice highlighted the special role played by the Court in strengthening the accountability of States in the context of armed conflict and widespread abuses of human rights. She recalled that the Court's judgments and orders on the indication of provisional measures were legally binding on the parties to a case. She explained also that before addressing the merits of any contentious case brought before it, the Court had to satisfy itself that it had the jurisdiction to do so. She reminded Member States that the Court could promote accountability only to the extent that Member States accorded it the jurisdiction to do so. The President of the Court said that the adoption of a convention on crimes against humanity would be one way to promote accountability for violations of some of the most fundamental obligations found in international law, while pledging that the Court would be ready to decide any disputes over which it would have jurisdiction based on such a convention.

¹³⁰¹ Ibid., United States, Albania, France and Norway.

¹³⁰² Ibid., United States, Mexico, United Arab Emirates, Brazil, Norway and United Kingdom.

¹³⁰³ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 24 May 2022 (S/2022/418/Rev.1).

¹³⁰⁴ See S/PV.9052 and S/PV.9052(Resumption1).

Focusing her briefing on three key initiatives by her organization, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, first underlined that the Human Rights Council had stepped up its response to serious human rights violations that may also amount to international crimes, including by creating mechanisms with mandates to establish the facts and circumstances of violations; collecting, consolidating, preserving and analysing information and evidence; identifying those responsible; and making recommendations towards establishing future accountability. Secondly, she informed that together with the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and the wider United Nations system, her Office had been working to enhance the Organization's support for national transitional justice mechanisms, including truth commissions and reparations programmes. Thirdly, she stated that her Office had been strengthening its focus on gender sensitivity in all phases of justice and accountability processes. Addressing the issue of accountability, she asserted that the adoption of a convention on the prevention and punishment of crimes against humanity would fill a significant gap and would facilitate international cooperation in that area. She also emphasized that the support of the Council towards efforts promoting independent and impartial investigations, justice and accountability was essential. Lastly, she underlined that placing victims at the centre of accountability strategies would contribute to the sustainability of accountability and justice efforts.

Mr. Dapo Akande, Professor of Public International Law at the University of Oxford stated that to strengthen accountability and bring about justice for international crimes progress was needed on two levels. First, he underlined the importance to develop some of the rules that underpinned the prevention, investigation and punishment of such crimes. In that context, he stated that although crimes against humanity were clearly prohibited under customary international law, there was no corresponding treaty that established obligations of prevention and punishment regarding that category of international crime and urged States to begin negotiations to adopt such a treaty. Secondly, he emphasized the need to strengthen the institutional mechanisms for delivering accountability for international crimes. He suggested that the Council had a special role to play in strengthening accountability, given its primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. He stressed that, beyond issuing referrals to the International Criminal Court, the Council could, inter alia, promote cooperation by States and consider imposing targeted sanctions on individuals wanted by the Court. In the

case of situations that had not been referred to the International Criminal Court, he emphasized the need to ensure that credible investigations of international crimes were conducted in a way that provided future opportunities for prosecution at either the international or the domestic levels, including through the creation of United Nations investigative support mechanisms.

During the discussion, Council Members and other participants reaffirmed the need to strengthen and further develop accountability mechanisms for the most serious violations of international law at the national, regional and international levels, including by urging states to take collective measures in the maintenance of international peace and security and by enhancing efforts by the Council to ensure accountability and justice for serious violations of international law in conflict situations under its consideration. Several speakers welcomed and highlighted the importance of the adoption of General Assembly resolution 76/262, which had provided for the convening of the General Assembly following the exercise of the right of veto in the Security Council. ¹³⁰⁵ In that context, the representatives of Mexico and France made reference to their declaration providing for the suspension of the veto in situations of mass atrocities. Some speakers also underlined the important role of the International Court of Justice in issuing advisory opinions on legal questions referred to it by authorized United Nations organs and specialized agencies. ¹³⁰⁶

On 22 August, at the initiative of China which held the presidency for the month, ¹³⁰⁷ the Council held a briefing under the sub-item entitled "Promote common security through dialogue and cooperation". ¹³⁰⁸ Council members heard briefings by the Secretary-General and the President of the Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.

During his briefing, the Secretary-General informed of his trip to Ukraine, Türkiye and Moldova, where he had witnessed the Black Sea Grain Initiative in action. Together with the agreement to facilitate the unimpeded access to global markets for food and fertilizers

¹³⁰⁵ See <u>S/PV.9052</u>, Ireland, Kenya and Malaysia; <u>S/PV.9052(Resumption1)</u>, Switzerland, Denmark, Latvia, Bulgaria, European Union, Estonia and Türkiye. For further details on the discussion, see part II, sect. IX. ¹³⁰⁶ See <u>S/PV.9052</u>, India, Mexico and Luxembourg; <u>S/PV.9052 (Resumption 1)</u>, Philippines. For discussions concerning the relationship between the Council and the International Court of Justice, see part IV, sect. III. ¹³⁰⁷ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 12 August 2022 (<u>S/2022/617</u>). ¹³⁰⁸ See S/PV.9112.

originating from the Russian Federation, the initiative was a concrete example of how dialogue and cooperation could deliver hope, even in the midst of conflict. He added that the same commitment to dialogue and results had to be applied to the critical situation at the Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant. He also stressed the need to reforge a global consensus around the cooperation required to ensure collective security, including the work of the United Nations. He also renewed his call on all States parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons to demonstrate flexibility and a willingness to compromise across all negotiations during the Tenth Review Conference.

The President of the Tenth Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons stated that, since its entry into force in 1970, the Treaty had proven to be a bulwark of international peace and security and a key facilitator of the benefits of nuclear energy and nuclear applications. He indicated that despite the challenges facing the Treaty due to the geopolitical turmoil that had begun on February 2022, State parties had come together resolved to strengthen the global regime that spanned its three pillars, namely, nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy. He said that for the States parties to be able to make progress and strengthen the implementation of all three pillars, they needed to reach agreement on several key areas, namely: action on nuclear disarmament, confidence building and de-escalation; risk reduction and strengthening security assurances; and strengthening the non-proliferation regime against emerging challenges.

Following the briefers, Council members presented ideas on how the multilateral system should evolve to meet present and future challenges to international peace and security through dialogue and cooperation. In that regard, Council members discussed the tools at the Council's disposal to exercise its mandate. In the context of the final week of the Review Conference, most Council members emphasized the importance of nuclear non-proliferation. Several Council members also stressed the importance of comprehensive approaches that addressed the root causes of conflict. ¹³⁰⁹ Collaboration with regional organizations in prevention of conflicts was also highlighted by some Council Members. ¹³¹⁰

¹³⁰⁹ Ibid., Brazil and Ireland.

¹³¹⁰ Ibid., United Arab Emirates, Brazil, Gabon, Kenya and Norway. For further details on the discussion regarding the pacific settlement of disputes and cooperation with regional organizations, see part VI, sect. IV and part VIII, sect. I.

On 26 October, the Council held a briefing with the participation of the Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel further to a request to brief the Council on Article 100 of the Charter of the United Nations in connection with the work performed by the Secretary-General and the Secretariat with respect to resolution 2231 (2015). ¹³¹¹ The Under-Secretary-General explained that Article 100 of the Charter set out obligations for the Secretary-General and the staff of the Secretariat in the conduct of their work and corresponding obligations on the part of Member States vis-à-vis the Secretariat. In this regard, he added that paragraph 2 of Article 100 set out two corresponding obligations on the part of Member States, namely: to respect the exclusively international character of the responsibilities of the Secretary-General and the staff and not to seek to influence them in the discharge of their responsibilities. With respect to resolution 2231 (2015), he recalled that the President of the Council issued a note dated 16 January 2016 under the symbol \$\frac{S}{2016}/44\$ that set forth practical arrangements and procedures for the Security Council for carrying out tasks related to the implementation of resolution 2231 (2015). He further clarified that the same note requested the Secretary-General to appoint the Security Council Affairs Division as a point of contact and support the work of the Security Council and of its facilitator and, as envisaged by annex B to resolution 2231 (2015), to report to the Council every six months on the implementation of the resolution. He further informed that since the first report pursuant to the resolution had reported on the implementation of the restrictive measures in annex B in force during the reporting period concerned, including on information voluntarily brought to its attention by Member States in writing and through meetings at United Nations Headquarters or in capitals He noted that the Secretary-General had not received any request, pursuant to paragraph 6 (g) of the note or otherwise, that supplemented or modified the nature and scope of the work done by the Security Council Affairs Division in the preparation of the Secretary-General's six-monthly reports to the Council. Therefore, absent further guidance by the Security Council, the Secretary-General would continue to prepare those reports in the manner in which they had been prepared to date.

¹³¹¹ See S/PV.9167.

Following the briefing, Council members discussed the interpretation and application of Article 100 of the Charter. 1312 The discussion centred specifically on the mandate of the Secretariat and the Secretary-General in relation to the implementation of resolution 2231 (2015) concerning the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action on the Iranian nuclear issue, in the context of the reported transfer from Iran to the Russian Federation of unmanned aerial vehicles being used in the conflict in Ukraine. Representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and Ukraine also participated in the meeting and delivered statements. Against the backdrop of this meeting, the representatives of France, Germany, United Kingdom and United States, by letters dated 21 October, ¹³¹³ expressed concern with respect to the transfer of unmanned aerial vehicles from Iran to Russia in violation of Security Council resolution 2231 (2015). They requested for an investigation of this issue by the United Nations Secretariat team responsible for monitoring the implementation of resolution 2231 (2015). In response, by a letter also dated 21 October, ¹³¹⁴ the representative of the Russian Federation expressed concerns regarding the attempts of certain Member States to give instructions to the United Nations Secretariat in violation of Article 100 of the Charter of the United Nations. In his view, the United Nations Secretariat had no authority to conduct an "investigation" with regard to claims of an alleged breach of resolution 2231 (2015) and requested the Secretariat to abstain from any engagement in any form in any "investigation" relating to the matter.

On 14 December, at the initiative of India which held the presidency for the month, ¹³¹⁵ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled "New orientation for reformed multilateralism" at which Council members heard briefings by the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly. ¹³¹⁶

The Secretary-General informed that his report "Our Common Agenda" had initiated a process aimed at reinvigorating multilateralism to deal with current interconnected threats. ¹³¹⁷ He emphasized that, notwithstanding the important progress achieved since the inception of the

¹³¹² For further details on the discussion, see part II, sect. VI and part VI, sect. IV.

¹³¹³ S/2022/781 and S/2022/782.

¹³¹⁴ S/2022/783.

¹³¹⁵ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 25 November 2022 (S/2022/880).

¹³¹⁶See <u>S/PV.9220</u>. For discussions concerning the relationship between the Council and the General Assembly, see part IV, sect. I.

¹³¹⁷ See S/PV.9220. For the Secretary-Generals' report, see A/75/982.

United Nations in maintaining collective security, the international community was still grappling with many of the same challenges, notably: inter-State wars, limits to peacekeeping ability, terrorism, a divided collective security system and evolving conflicts including the climate crisis and the negative implications of digital technologies. The Secretary-General informed that his New Agenda for Peace would address the full range of new and old security challenges, local, national, regional and international and would examine ways to update existing tools for mediation, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and counter-terrorism. He added that the New Agenda for Peace would articulate a vision for the United Nations work in peace and security; set out a comprehensive approach to prevention, linking peace, sustainable development, climate action and food security; consider how the United Nations adapted its peace and security instruments to an era of cyberthreats, information warfare and other forms of conflict; and look to Member States for new frameworks to reinforce multilateral solutions and manage intense geopolitical competition. Pointing out that many Member States were aware that the Council should be reformed to reflect contemporary geopolitical realities, the Secretary-General expressed hope that regional groups and Member States would work together to achieve greater consensus on the way forward and on the terms of the reform and noted that the Secretariat was ready to provide the necessary support. He also noted the calls of Member States for the revitalization of the work of the General Assembly and the strengthening of the Economic and Social Council in the framework of a reformed multilateralism. To that end, he stated that regarding any decision by Member States to streamline the practices of the General Assembly, the Secretariat was also ready to provide support.

The President of the General Assembly underlined that the international rules, norms, instruments and institutions that had guided inter-State relations for over 75 years were facing deep and existential questions of relevance at a time when the world needed them most. Stating that global challenges such as coronavirus disease pandemic, the climate crisis, protracted debt, and food and energy emergencies were far too great for any one nation to handle alone, he expressed hope that the international community would find a multilateral solution, designed in line with the Charter of the United Nations and international law to address those issues. He added that just as the actions taken in the United Nations had profound effects across the globe, so did inaction in the Assembly or the Council. He recalled that the 193 Member States of the

General Assembly had placed their trust in the 15 Security Council members and emphasized that each Council member was expected to act for the good of all and to uphold the Charter. While Council members had done so on countless occasions, he maintained that there had also been examples of failed collective action, citing specifically the lack of consensus in adopting any resolutions concerning the war in Ukraine to mitigate the exact type of crisis the United Nations was created to prevent. In that regard, he underlined that the so-called veto initiative had opened an important door for a new form of collaboration and accountability between the two bodies. He added that Member States were participating in 15 negotiating processes on a range of issues, including the ongoing intergovernmental negotiations on Security Council reform, and noted that despite having been a mandated duty of the Assembly for many years, the outcome was still less than what had been expected. He finally urged the Council to prioritize dialogue and diplomacy and to trade political differences for genuine political will.

During the discussion, speakers focused on the need to strengthen the multilateral system as well as on the reform of the Security Council, to effectively address evolving threats to international peace and security. In that connection, many participants expressed support for Council reform while highlighting the important role of the intergovernmental negotiations at the General Assembly on the reform of the Security Council. Participants also exchanged views on the Council's primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and on the impact of the use of the veto on the ability of the Council to discharge its functions. Numerous participants addressed the question of limiting the use of the veto and enhancing accountability and transparency regarding its use. 1319 In that context, some Member States welcomed the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution 76/262. While many speakers welcomed the Secretary-General's report on "Our Common Agenda", including his proposal for the New Agenda for Peace, the representatives of Brazil and Kenya expressed the view that the New Agenda for Peace had to include Security Council reform if it was to truly offer a new chapter for multilateralism. Some Council members also stressed the importance of

¹³¹⁸ For further details on the discussion, see part V, sect. I.

¹³¹⁹ For further details on the discussion, see part II, sect. IX.

¹³²⁰ See <u>S/PV.9220</u>, Ireland, Japan and Poland; <u>S/PV.9220 (Resumption 1)</u>, Switzerland, Singapore, Estonia, Bulgaria, Malta, Liechtenstein, Lebanon and Romania.

strengthening partnerships between the Council and regional organizations and of leveraging the key role of regional organizations in preventing conflict and addressing crises. ¹³²¹

In 2022, the Council adopted one resolution in connection with this item. On 29 September, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2652 (2022), welcoming the Secretary-General's report of 30 August 2022, including its observations on the plight of migrants and refugees in Libya and condemning all acts of migrant smuggling and human trafficking into, through and from the Libyan territory and off the coast of Libya. ¹³²² Acting under Chapter VII, the Council renewed the authorizations regarding acts of migrant smuggling and human trafficking in Libya's territorial sea as set out in paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10 of resolution 2240 (2015), for a further period of twelve months. The Council further renewed the reporting requests set out in paragraph 17 of its resolution 2240 (2015) and requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council eleven months after the adoption of the resolution on its implementation, in particular with regard to the implementation of paragraphs 7 to 10 of its resolution 2240 (2015). ¹³²³

Meetings: Maintenance of international peace and security

Meeting record and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against-
						abstaining)
S/PV.9014 11 April 2022	Implementation of resolutions 2532 (2020) and 2565 (2021)			Global Lead Coordinator for COVID-19 Vaccine Country-Readiness and Delivery; Senior Advisor to the Office of the Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross; Health and Nutrition Coordinator, CARE South Sudan	All Council members ^a , all invitees ^b	

¹³²¹ S/PV.9220, China and Albania; and S/PV.9220 (Resumption 1), Philippines, Egypt, South Africa, European Union, Indonesia, Spain, Thailand, Chile, Viet Nam, Kazakhstan and Portugal. For further details on the discussion regarding the cooperation with regional organizations, see part VIII, sect. I.

Resolution <u>2652 (2022)</u>, third preambular paragraph and para. 1. For the Secretary-General's report, see S/2022/655.

¹³²³ Resolution 2652 (2022), paras. 2 and 3.

Meeting record and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)
S/PV.9036 and S/PV.9036 (Resumption1) 19 May 2022	Conflict and food security Letter dated 12 May 2022 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2022/391)		56 Member States ^c	Executive Director, World Food Programme; Director General, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations; Founder and Chief Executive Officer, Gro Intelligence; Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations; Observer State of the Holy See to the United Nations	Secretary- General, all Council members ^d , all invitees	
S/PV.9039 23 May 2022	Technology and security			Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs; Director of Advox, the Digital Rights Project of Global Voices; Adjunct Professor at the McGill University Center for International Peace and Security Studies and Nonresident Fellow at the International Peace Institute	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.9052 and S/PV.9052(Resumption1) 2 June 2022	Strengthening accountability and justice for serious violations of international law Letter dated 24 May 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (\$\frac{S}{2022}/418/\text{Rev.1})\$		48 Member States ^e	President of the International Court of Justice; United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; Professor of Public International Law, University of Oxford; Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations; Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine to the United Nations	All Council members ^f , all invitees ^g	

Meeting record and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)
S/PV.9112 22 August 2022	Promote common security through dialogue and cooperation			President of the Tenth Review Conference of the Treaty on the Non- Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons	Secretary- General, all Council members, invitee	
	Letter dated 12 August 2022 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2022/617)					
<u>S/PV.9140</u> 29 September 2022	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2598 (2021) (S/2022/655)	Draft resolution submitted by 29 Member States ⁱ (<u>S/2022/718</u>)	25 Member States ^j			Resolution 2652 (2022) 15-0-0 Chapter VII
<u>S/PV.9167</u> 26 October 2022			Islamic Republic of Iran, Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.9220 and S/PV.9220(Resumption) 14 December 2022	New orientation for reformed multilateralism Letter dated 25 November 2022 from the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/880)		48 Member States ^k	President of the General Assembly, Head of Delegation of the European Union	Secretary- General, all Council members, i invitees	

^a The United Kingdom (President of the Council) was represented by its Minister of State for South and Central Asia, North Africa, UN and the Commonwealth, and the Prime Minister's Special Representative on Preventing Sexual Violence in Conflict; The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of State for Advanced Technology; the United States was represented by its Permanent Representative and Member of President Biden's Cabinet.

^b All rule 39 invitees participated via video teleconference.

^c Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cyprus, Dominican Republic (also on behalf of: Group of Friends of Action on Conflict and Hunger), Ecuador, Egypt, Ethiopia, Fiji (also on behalf of: Pacific Islands Forum), Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania (also on behalf of the Baltic Countries), Luxembourg, Malta, Maldives, Mauritius, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

- ^d The United States (President of the Council) was represented by its Secretary of State. Ghana was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration. Kenya was represented by its Cabinet Secretary for Foreign Affairs. Gabon was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Albania was represented by its Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs. Norway was represented by its Minister of International Development. The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Permanent Representative and Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Political Affairs. India was represented by its Minister of State for External Affairs. Ireland was represented by its Minister of State for Overseas Development Aid and Diaspora.
- e Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Australia, Australia (also on behalf of Group of Friends of the Rule of Law), Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark (also on behalf of: Nordic Countries), Ecuador, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, the Marshall Islands (also on behalf of: Group of Friends of Accountability following the aggression against Ukraine), Morocco, Myanmar, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). The representative of Pakistan spoke twice.
- f Albania (President of the Council) was represented by its Prime Minister. India was represented by its Minister of State for External Affairs. Ireland was represented by its Attorney-General. The United States of America was represented by its Under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy, and Human Rights. The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Permanent Representative and Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Political Affairs. The representatives of India and China spoke twice.
- g The President of the International Court of Justice and United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights participated in the meeting via video teleconference.
- ⁱ Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.
- j Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden k Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bulgaria, Chile, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malta, Morocco, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine and Viet Nam.
- ¹ India (President of the Council) was represented by its External Affairs Minister. The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of Culture and Youth and Cabinet Member. The United States was represented by its Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet. Ghana was represented by its Permanent Secretary.
- ^m Armenia, Japan, Pakistan and Poland were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs. Azerbaijan was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. Kuwait was represented by its Assistant Foreign Minister for International Organizations. The representative of Saint Lucia spoke on behalf of the Group of like-minded countries. Viet Nam spoke on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations.