



*Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*

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## **Part I**

# **Consideration of questions under the responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security**

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## **Introductory note**

Part I of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* provides an overview of the proceedings of the Security Council in respect of the items on its agenda that relate to its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Part I gives the immediate political context in which consideration by the Council of these items evolved during the year 2018.<sup>1</sup> It also constitutes a framework within which the deliberations of the Council expressly related to the provisions of the Charter and its provisional rules of procedures can be considered. Part I also examines the substantive aspects of the Council's practice that are not covered in other Parts of the *Repertoire*.

For ease of reference, the items are grouped by region, with an additional category of thematic issues. Within each region, items are listed in the order in which they were first included in the list of matters of which the Council is seized.

Individual studies highlight significant developments in the Council's consideration of an item that are considered important for contextualising the decisions taken by the Council.

Each section is followed by a table comprising all procedural information relating to the item, including meetings, sub-items, documents referred to, and speakers, listed in chronological order. To illustrate the mainstreaming of thematic issues in items specific to a country or region, an additional table is included setting out the relevant provisions of decisions of the Council.

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<sup>1</sup> The *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* covers formal meetings and documents of the Council. Some of the questions considered in part I were also discussed in informal consultations among the members of the Council.

## AFRICA

### 1. The situation concerning Western Sahara

During 2018, the Security Council held two meetings and adopted two resolutions on the situation concerning Western Sahara. The two meetings under this item were convened to adopt a resolution.<sup>2</sup> The Council also met twice, in 2018, with countries contributing troops to the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO).<sup>3</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

On 27 April, the Council adopted resolution [2414 \(2018\)](#) renewing the mandate of MINURSO for six months with 12 votes in favour and three abstentions. By resolution [2414 \(2018\)](#), the Council emphasized the need to make progress toward a realistic, practicable and enduring political solution to the question of Western Sahara, based on a compromise and the importance of aligning the strategic focus of MINURSO and orienting the resources of the United Nations to this end.<sup>4</sup>

As the penholder of the resolution, the representative of the United States explained that his country had taken a different approach to the renewal of the mandate of MINURSO with the goal of sending two messages; that there could be no more “business as usual” with MINURSO and Western Sahara and that it was the time for the Council to lend its full support to the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara.<sup>5</sup> He also explained that the renewal of the mandate of MINURSO from one year to six months was due to his country’s desire to see progress in the political process to resolve the conflict.<sup>6</sup> Council members who had abstained in the vote expressed dissatisfaction with the conduct of the negotiations and with the failure to achieve consensus on the text.<sup>7</sup> The representative of the Russian Federation

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<sup>2</sup> For further information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>3</sup> Held on 5 April 2018 and 9 October 2018, under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B”; see [S/PV.8222](#) and [S/PV.8367](#).

<sup>4</sup> Resolution [2414 \(2018\)](#), para. 2.

<sup>5</sup> [S/PV.8246](#), p. 2.

<sup>6</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 2.

<sup>7</sup> [S/PV.8246](#), p. 3 (Ethiopia), pp. 3-4 (Russian Federation) and p. 6 (China).

cautioned that attempts to accelerate the political process could backfire and added that a review of MINURSO's mandate was unacceptable. Furthermore, he opposed efforts to include human rights monitoring in the mission's mandate.<sup>8</sup> Other Council members commented on the conduct of the negotiations as well as on the lack of balance of the text of the resolution.<sup>9</sup>

On 31 October 2018, the Council held a meeting at which it adopted resolution [2440 \(2018\)](#), renewing for six months the mandate of MINURSO. While not all members cast the same vote, the result of the vote was identical to that of resolution [2414 \(2018\)](#), with 12 votes in favour and three abstentions. By resolution [2440 \(2018\)](#), the Council expressed its full support for the intention of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy to relaunch negotiations before the end of 2018. In this regard, the Council noted the invitations to an initial roundtable meeting in Geneva on 5 and 6 December 2018, and welcomed the positive responses from Morocco, the Frente Polisario, Algeria, and Mauritania.<sup>10</sup>

As the penholder of the resolution, the representative of the United States again repeated the explanations in favour of the new resolution and expressed encouragement by the progress made in the past six months.<sup>11</sup> Whilst acknowledging that some of the members of the Council would have preferred a 12-month mandate,<sup>12</sup> he argued that the political process required the Security Council's close attention and support and that a shorter mandate signalled the Council's determination to accelerate the political process and move beyond the status quo.<sup>13</sup> The representative of the Russian Federation stated that the Council's efforts should be based on parameters previously agreed, which identified the parties to the Western Sahara conflict, were based on the principle of a mutually acceptable definitive solution; and stipulated the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the framework of procedures consistent with the Charter. In this regard, he regretted that resolution [2440 \(2018\)](#) amplified the ambiguity of the aforementioned parameters. He further noted that the process had been once again "neither transparent nor consultative".<sup>14</sup> The other members of the Council abstaining explained that fundamental principles for finding a political solution raised during

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<sup>8</sup> Ibid., p. 4.

<sup>9</sup> Ibid., p. 5 (Sweden), p. 8 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)).

<sup>10</sup> Resolution [2440 \(2018\)](#), para. 3.

<sup>11</sup> [S/PV.8387](#), p. 2.

<sup>12</sup> The report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara ([S/2018/889](#)) recommended that the Council extended the mandate of MINURSO for one year, see para. 86.

<sup>13</sup> [S/PV.8387](#), p. 3.

<sup>14</sup> [S/PV.8387](#), p. 5.

the negotiations were not taken into consideration,<sup>15</sup> and that the issue of the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara was not sufficiently reflected in the final text.<sup>16</sup>

By resolutions [2414 \(2018\)](#) and [2440 \(2018\)](#), the Council requested the Secretary-General to brief on a regular basis, and at any time he deemed appropriate.<sup>17</sup> Additionally, by resolution [2440 \(2018\)](#), the Council requested the Secretary-General to brief within three months from the latest mandate renewal and again prior to its expiration.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>15</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5 (Ethiopia).

<sup>16</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 8 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)).

<sup>17</sup> Resolutions [2414 \(2018\)](#), para. 14, and [2440 \(2018\)](#), para. 11.

<sup>18</sup> Resolution [2440 \(2018\)](#), para. 11.

**Meetings: The situation concerning Western Sahara**

<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.8246</a> 27 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara ( <a href="#">S/2018/277</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/394</a> )			All Council members	Resolution <a href="#">2414 (2018)</a> 12-0-3 <sup>a</sup>
<a href="#">S/PV.8387</a> 31 October 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation concerning Western Sahara ( <a href="#">S/2018/889</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/970</a> )			14 Council members <sup>b</sup>	Resolution <a href="#">2440 (2018)</a> 12-0-3 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup> *For:* Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States. *against:* None. *abstaining:* China, Ethiopia, Russian Federation.

<sup>b</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States.

<sup>c</sup> *For:* China, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States. *against:* None. *abstaining:* Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Ethiopia, Russian Federation.



## 2. The situation in Liberia

During the period under review, the Council held one meeting in connection with the situation in Liberia and issued one presidential statement. The meeting took the form of a briefing.<sup>19</sup> More information on the meeting, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

On 19 April 2018, at the only meeting held under this agenda item in 2018, the Council was briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, the Chair of the Liberia configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Chief Executive Officer of Liberty and Justice.<sup>20</sup>

Against the backdrop of the final report of the Secretary-General and the drawdown and closure of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions focused on the political situation and economic prospect in Liberia as well as on the impact and legacy of the Mission in the country. The Chair of the Liberia configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission focused on the future of the country and on the need to address the remaining root causes of the conflict and the key structural reforms set out in the peacebuilding plan. The Chief Executive Officer of Liberty and Justice briefed the Council on the role of civil society groups in achieving peace in Liberia and emphasized the need to strengthen the private sector and to encourage investment in the country.

At the meeting, the Council also heard the statement of the representative of Liberia, invited under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure. In his statement, he expressed gratitude to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union, the European Union and all organs of the United Nations, as well as the Peacebuilding Commission. He assured that the challenges still looming would remain “front and centre” for the Government. He also remarked that Liberia, once a beneficiary of a peacekeeping mission,

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<sup>19</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>20</sup> [S/PV.8239](#), pp. 2-7.

had become a contributing nation to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.<sup>21</sup>

At the meeting, Council members commended the work performed by UNMIL during its presence in Liberia and noted the need for continued engagement by the United Nations and the international community after its closure. Council members noted the difficulties faced by the Government of Liberia in addressing the remaining root causes of conflict, praised its efforts in establishing state institutions aiming to implement the peacebuilding plan following the closure of UNMIL and expressed their appreciation for the efforts of the Liberian authorities in prioritizing the Sustainable Development Goals in the country's national development plans.

At the meeting, the Council issued a presidential statement, by which the Council commended the remarkable achievements and notable progress made by the people and Government of Liberia to consolidate lasting peace and stability since 2003 and their continued commitment to respect and develop democratic processes and institutions. The Council also commended the Government for its preparation and execution of the 2017 legislative and presidential elections and expressed its appreciation to ECOWAS, the African Union and all international, regional and domestic election observation missions for their contributions to the electoral process.<sup>22</sup> The Council also expressed its appreciation for the important contribution of UNMIL throughout its more than 14 years of operation in Liberia and requested the Secretary-General to undertake a study on the role of UNMIL in the resolution of conflicts and challenges in Liberia that allowed for the successful completion of UNMIL's mandate and transition to the United Nations country team.<sup>23</sup>

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<sup>21</sup> Ibid., pp. 21-22.

<sup>22</sup> [S/PRST/2018/8](#), first and second paragraphs.

<sup>23</sup> Ibid., third and fourth paragraphs.

**Meetings: The situation in Liberia**

<i>Meeting record and Sub-item date</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.8239</a> 19 April 2018	Final progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Liberia ( <a href="#">S/2018/344</a> )	Liberia	Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Chief Executive Officer of Liberty and Justice	All Council members, <sup>a</sup> all invitees	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/8</a>

<sup>a</sup>The representative of Sweden also spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Liberia configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission.

### 3. The situation in Somalia

In 2018, the Security Council held ten meetings, adopted five resolutions, four of which were under Chapter VII of the Charter and issued one presidential statement on the situation in Somalia. Six meetings under the item were convened to adopt a decision; all others took the form of briefings.<sup>24</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During the period under review, the Council was regularly briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General as well as the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and Head of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). In his three briefings in 2018,<sup>25</sup> the Special Representative of the Secretary-General emphasized the structural challenges facing Somalia, including abuse and deprivation of human rights, disputes over borders, a weak rule of law and systemic corruption. He also cautioned against a series of risks affecting the country relating to the threat of Al Shabaab, the political differences and power distribution in the country, the fragmentation of the international community and the risk of a humanitarian catastrophe. The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission focused in his three briefings on the political developments in the country and the support by AMISOM to the Federal Government in connection with the transition plan and its fight against Al-Shabaab. The Council was also briefed once by the Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UNWomen).<sup>26</sup> In her briefing, she focused on the progress and barriers to the achievement of gender equality in Somalia and affirmed that the country would not have long-lasting peace and deep reconciliation without the far-reaching contribution, involvement and recognition of women.

During 2018, the Council's discussions focused on Somalia's security transition plan, national reconciliation efforts and the newly-elected Federal Government's commitment to

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<sup>24</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>25</sup> [S/PV.8165](#), [S/PV.8259](#), [S/PV.8352](#).

<sup>26</sup> [S/PV.8352](#).

implement political and socioeconomic reforms. Council members also addressed the continued need for humanitarian assistance in response to the persistent threats posed by Al-Shabaab and the ongoing risks of severe famine and drought. Some Council members also noted the significance of economic recovery and meaningful participation of women in all efforts towards the maintenance and promotion of sustainable peace and political settlement process.<sup>27</sup>

As in previous years, Council members continued to deliberate on the role of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS) and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and their respective mandates.<sup>28</sup> The deliberations at the Council underlined the importance of UNSOM and UNSOS's support to the Federal Government on the electoral process, conflict resolution and the implementation of the national security architecture as well as the need to maintain AMISOM's deployment and build the capacity of the Somali security forces, given the protracted instability in the country. In this regard, speakers condemned the increasing terrorist attacks by Al-Shabaab against civilians and military targets, including AMISOM personnel and base, underscoring the need for unity among Somalis, the African Union, troop-contributing countries and principal security partners.<sup>29</sup>

In addition, further to the Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship reached between Ethiopia and Eritrea on 9 July, discussions at the Council also focused on the adjustment of the sanctions measures concerning Eritrea. In this regard, on 30 July 2018, the Council was briefed once by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolutions [751 \(1992\)](#) and [1907 \(2009\)](#) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, specifically on his visit to the region in May 2018.<sup>30</sup> With respect to Somalia, he noted that in the view of the Committee, the arms embargo should not be completely lifted until Somalia underwent political and security reforms,

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<sup>27</sup> See, for example, [S/PV.8352](#), p. 9 (United Kingdom), p. 14 (Peru), p. 16 (Sweden), p. 17 (France), p. 18 (Netherlands), p. 19 (Kazakhstan), p. 22 (Poland), and p. 23 (Russia Federation).

<sup>28</sup> For more information on UNSOM, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>29</sup> See, for example, [S/PV.8259](#), p. 7 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 8 (Bolivia, Plurinational State of), p. 9 (Peru), p. 10 (Côte d'Ivoire), and p. 11 (Kazakhstan).

<sup>30</sup> For more information on the Committee pursuant to resolutions [751 \(1992\)](#) and [1907 \(2009\)](#) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, see part IX, sect. I.

and created strong institutions capable of securing an adequate level of weapons and ammunition management.<sup>31</sup>

During 2018, the decisions of the Council focused on the same issues dealt with in the context of its discussions. Insofar as it concerned the political situation, on 7 June 2018, the Council issued a presidential statement, welcoming the resumption of high-level dialogue between the Federal Government of Somalia and the Federal Member States to make further progress on key priorities, including power- and resource- sharing, the constitutional review, fiscal federalism, preparations for one- person-one-vote elections in 2020/2021, support for regional security forces, and finalising the justice and corrections federal model.<sup>32</sup> The Council also welcomed the progress achieved on developing a conditions-based transition plan for the progressive transfer of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the Somali security institutions and noted AMISOM's critical role in enabling the transition to Somali-led security.<sup>33</sup>

Concerning UNSOM, on 27 March 2018, by resolution [2408 \(2018\)](#), the Council extended UNSOM's mandate until 31 March 2019, as set out in paragraph 1 of resolution [2158 \(2014\)](#).<sup>34</sup> In the preamble of the resolution, the Council recognised the adverse effects of climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters among other factors on the stability of Somalia, and emphasised the need for adequate risk assessments and risk management strategies by governments and the United Nations relating to these factors.<sup>35</sup> Moreover, in the resolution, the Council underscored the importance of UNSOM's support to the Federal Government of Somalia on preparations for the delivery of an inclusive, credible and transparent one person, one vote elections in 2020/2021.

In the resolution, the Council also encouraged UNSOM to help ensure that the views of civil society were incorporated into the various Somali-led, inclusive political processes.<sup>36</sup> Regarding AMISOM, the Council adopted two successive resolutions, under Chapter VII of the Charter extending twice the authorisation for the African Union to maintain the deployment of

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<sup>31</sup> [S/PV.8322](#), p. 3 (Kazakhstan).

<sup>32</sup> [S/PRST/2018/13](#), third paragraph.

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, sixth and eight paragraphs.

<sup>34</sup> Resolution [2408 \(2018\)](#), para 1. For more information on UNSOM, see part X, sect. II, "Special political missions".

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*, eighteenth preambular paragraph.

<sup>36</sup> Resolution [2408 \(2018\)](#), paras. 4 and 5.

AMISOM. On 15 May, by resolution [2415 \(2018\)](#), the Council proceeded to a technical rollover of the authorization for AMISOM, extending it until 31 July 2018, awaiting the report of the joint assessment of the Mission by 15 June 2018.<sup>37</sup> Thereafter, on 30 July, further to the letter of the Secretary-General dated 5 July 2018,<sup>38</sup> the Council adopted resolution [2431 \(2018\)](#), extending the authorisation until 31 May 2019.<sup>39</sup> Against the backdrop of the discussions in the Council concerning the composition of AMISOM, by resolution [2431 \(2018\)](#), the Council decided to reduce the level of uniformed personnel to a maximum level of 20,626 by 28 February 2019, delayed from 30 October 2018, as envisaged in resolution [2372 \(2017\)](#) and [2415 \(2018\)](#).<sup>40</sup> The Council stressed that there would be no further delay in the reduction beyond that date.<sup>41</sup> The Council also set out AMISOM's strategic objectives to enable the gradual handover of security responsibilities to Somali security forces by December 2021.<sup>42</sup>

On 6 November 2018, the Council adopted resolution [2442 \(2018\)](#), under Chapter VII of the Charter, renewing, for a further period of 13 months, the authorizations as set out in paragraph 14 of resolution [2383 \(2017\)](#) granted to States and regional organizations cooperating with Somali authorities in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, including the use of all necessary means to repress such acts.<sup>43</sup>

Concerning the sanctions measures, on 14 November, the Council adopted resolution [2444 \(2018\)](#), under Chapter VII of the Charter. In the resolution, the Council recognised that during the course of the mandate of the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group no conclusive evidence had been found that Eritrea supported Al-Shabaab. Moreover, the Council made reference to the meeting between the Government of Eritrea and the Chair of the Committee as well as the meeting between the Presidents of Eritrea and Djibouti and decided to lift the arms embargo, travel ban, asset freeze, and other targeted sanctions imposed on Eritrea and terminated

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<sup>37</sup> Resolution [2415 \(2018\)](#), second preambular paragraph and para. 1.

<sup>38</sup> [S/2018/674](#).

<sup>39</sup> Resolution [2431 \(2018\)](#), para. 5.

<sup>40</sup> Resolutions [2372 \(2017\)](#), para. 5 [2415 \(2018\)](#), para. 1, and [2431 \(2018\)](#), para. 5.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 7(a).

<sup>43</sup> Resolution [2442 \(2018\)](#), para. 14. See also resolutions [1846 \(2008\)](#), para. 10, and [2246 \(2015\)](#), para. 14.

the mandate of the Monitoring Group with effect from 16 December 2018.<sup>44</sup> In the resolution, the Council adjusted the mandate of the Committee and established the Panel of Experts on Somalia. The Council also renewed the arms embargo on Somalia, reiterating the exemption on deliveries of weapons, ammunition or military equipment or the provision of advice, assistance or training for the development of the Somali National Security Forces.<sup>45</sup>

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<sup>44</sup> Resolution [2444 \(2018\)](#), paras. 1 to 5 and 10. For more information on sanctions measures concerning Somalia, see part VII, sect. III. For more information on the Committee pursuant to resolutions [751 \(1992\)](#) and [1907 \(2009\)](#) concerning Somalia and Eritrea and the Monitoring Group, see part IX, sect. I.

<sup>45</sup> Resolution [2444 \(2018\)](#), paras. 11 and 13 to 16.



**Meetings: The situation in Somalia**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8165</a> 24 January 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2017/1109</a> )		Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), Special invitees <sup>a</sup>	Two Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Peru); all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8215</a> 27 March 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/257</a> )	Somalia		Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2408 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8257</a> 15 May 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2018/411</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/437</a> )				<a href="#">Resolution 2415 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8259</a> 15 May 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2018/411</a> )		Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia	Five Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Peru); all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8280</a> 7 June 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/13</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8321</a> 30 July 2018	Letter dated 5 July 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/674</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/742</a> )	Somalia		One Council member (Ethiopia), Somalia	<a href="#">Resolution 2431 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8322</a> 30 July 2018			Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia		Two Council members (Kazakhstan, Ethiopia) <sup>c</sup> ; all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8352</a> 13 September 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2018/800</a> )		Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia; Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	All Council members, all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8391</a> 6 November 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation with respect to piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2018/903</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/990</a> )				<a href="#">Resolution 2442 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8398</a> 14 November 2018	Letter dated 7 November 2018 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">751 (1992)</a> and <a href="#">1907 (2009)</a> concerning Somalia and Eritrea addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1002</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/1010</a> )	Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia		14 Council members <sup>e</sup> , all invitees	<a href="#">Resolution 2444 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
	Letter dated 7 November 2018 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">751 (1992)</a> and <a href="#">1907 (2009)</a> concerning Somalia and Eritrea addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1003</a> )					

<sup>a</sup> The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia and Head of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) participated in the meeting via videoconference from Addis Ababa.

<sup>b</sup> The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia participated in the meeting via videoconference from Mogadishu.

<sup>c</sup> The representative of Kazakhstan spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolutions [751 \(1992\)](#) and [1907 \(2009\)](#) concerning Somalia and Eritrea.

<sup>d</sup> The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia participated in the meeting via videoconference from Mogadishu.

<sup>e</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States.

## 4. The situation in Burundi

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings in connection with the situation in Burundi and issued one presidential statement. Except for one meeting convened to adopt a decision of the Council, all other meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>46</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, the briefings under this item were delivered by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi and the Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, both invited under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure. Invitations to those meetings under rule 37 were limited to Burundi.<sup>47</sup> The briefings during this period focused on three main aspects, namely, the political, security and humanitarian situation in the country.

In regard to the political situation, the deliberations in the Council focused on the impact of the Government's decision to amend the constitution following the referendum held on 17 May and, in particular, on the effects of that decision on the inter-Burundian dialogue process and the implementation of the Arusha Peace and Reconciliation Agreement for Burundi. During his briefing in August, the Special Envoy informed the Council of the President's 7 June promulgation of the new Constitution, adopted by more than 73 per cent of the Burundian people, as well as the official announcement of the end of his mandate in 2020 and his commitment to give full support to the new President to be elected.<sup>48</sup> The Council's discussions thereafter centred on the activities of the Office of the Special Envoy in support of the fifth session of the inter-Burundian dialogue despite the lack of participation by the Government as well as the obstacles posed by the decision of the Government to temporarily suspend the work of international non-governmental organizations. Council members also focused on the new political environment and the road map towards the 2020 elections. Council members further

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<sup>46</sup> For further information on format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>47</sup> For further information on participation in meetings of the Council, see part II, sect. VII.

<sup>48</sup> [S/PV.8325](#), p. 2.

discussed the role of the United Nations in the context of the referendum on the constitutional amendment.<sup>49</sup>

In his briefing, the Special Envoy informed the Council that the security situation in the country remained relatively calm. Nonetheless, he indicated that violations of human rights and other abuses such as arbitrary arrests, forced disappearances, hate speech against opposition actors and other acts of intimidation continued.

Concerning the humanitarian situation, the Council was briefed three times by the Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission including on his two visits to Burundi as well as on the activities of the Burundi configuration.<sup>50</sup> He briefed on the country's socioeconomic challenges and on humanitarian issues relating to the return of refugees from Tanzania and the influx of refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as on the newly launched national development plan for the period 2018-2027. During the meetings, speakers affirmed that the humanitarian situation was a cause of concern, particularly in view of the deterioration of the country's socioeconomic situation and the threat of food insecurity.

In addition, Council members continued to discuss the standing issue of the Status of Mission Agreement for the Office of the Special Envoy and the Memorandum of Understanding with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

The issues outlined above were also addressed by the Council in its decisions during the reporting period. In a presidential statement issued on 5 April 2018 the Council expressed concern about the slow progress of the inter-Burundian dialogue led by the East African Community and the Government's lack of engagement.<sup>51</sup> The Council also expressed deep concern regarding the continued worsening of the humanitarian situation.<sup>52</sup> In the presidential statement, the Council also welcomed and supported the renewed commitment of the African Union and the East African Community to a peaceful resolution of the political situation in Burundi through an inclusive dialogue on the basis of the Arusha Agreement and urged the Guarantors of the Agreement to meet their obligations and ensure that the entirety of the

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<sup>49</sup> For further information, see part III, section, IV.B.

<sup>50</sup> [S/PV.8189](#), [S/PV.8268](#) and [S/PV.8408](#).

<sup>51</sup> [S/PRST/2018/7](#), first paragraph.

<sup>52</sup> *Ibid.*, eighth paragraph.

Agreement was adhered to.<sup>53</sup> The Council further called for the Government and the Secretary-General to finalize and implement the Status of Mission Agreement for the Office of the Special Envoy with a view to supporting the inter-Burundian dialogue and, in the areas of security and rule of law, to engaging with all stakeholders to the crisis to improve the human rights and security situation and foster an environment conducive to political dialogue.<sup>54</sup>

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<sup>53</sup> Ibid., second and third paragraphs.

<sup>54</sup> Ibid., sixteenth paragraph.

**Meetings: The situation in Burundi**

<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>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8189</a> 26 February 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Burundi ( <a href="#">S/2018/89</a> )		Burundi	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi, Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission	Six Council <sup>a</sup> members and all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8223</a> 5 April 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/7</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8268</a> 24 May 2018			Burundi	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi, Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission	All Council members and all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8325</a> 9 August 2018			Burundi	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi	All Council members and all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8408</a> 21 November 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Burundi ( <a href="#">S/2018/1028</a> )		Burundi	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi, Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission	All Council members and all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and Peru.

## 5. The situation in the Great Lakes region

During the period under review, the Security Council held one meeting in connection with the situation in the Great Lakes region. The meeting took the form of a briefing.<sup>55</sup> The Council did not adopt any decision on this item in 2018. More information about the meeting, including invitees and speakers is given in the table below.

On 10 April 2018, further to the most recent report of the Secretary-General,<sup>56</sup> the Council was briefed by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes region on the activities of his office in support of the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the region. The Special Envoy indicated that the office had focused on several critical areas, inter alia, addressing the activities of armed groups in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, supporting the peaceful dialogue and electoral processes in Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, tackling the root causes of conflict, including the continued illicit exploitation and trade of natural resources from the Democratic Republic of the Congo and on the human rights violations, and the humanitarian situation in the region. The Special Envoy also informed about the efforts to dispel mistrust among the countries of the region and to find sustainable and regional solutions to the ongoing humanitarian crisis.<sup>57</sup>

The representative of the Republic of the Congo also briefed the Council in his capacity as Chair of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework Regional Oversight Mechanism on the conclusions of the most recent summit of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and high-level meeting of the Regional Oversight Mechanism, held in Brazzaville, Republic of the Congo, on 19 October 2017. In that regard, he informed the Council on the priorities identified. He emphasized the need to help stabilize the Democratic Republic of the Congo so that it could serve as a vector for peace in the region and called on the international

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<sup>55</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>56</sup> [S/2018/209](#).

<sup>57</sup> [S/PV.8227](#), pp. 2-4.



community to mobilize around the efforts of the countries of the region—for the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework Agreement—with strengthened and coordinated cooperation.<sup>58</sup>

During the discussion that ensued, Council members reflected on the status of the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework Agreement on the fifth anniversary of its signing and emphasized its importance for peace and stability in the region. Council members also discussed the upcoming elections in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the lack of progress in the inter-Burundian dialogue and the constitutional reform process in Burundi, the challenges posed by armed groups, particularly in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the humanitarian situation in the region and the illicit trafficking in natural resources.

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<sup>58</sup> Ibid., pp. 4-7.

**Meetings: The situation in the Great Lakes region**

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<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>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8227</a> 10 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region ( <a href="#">S/2018/209</a> )		Republic of the Congo	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to the Great Lakes Region	All Council members, all invitees	

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## **6. The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

During the period under review, the Security Council held nine meetings and adopted two resolutions under Chapter VII of the Charter in relation to the situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Except for two meetings convened to adopt a decision of the Council, all meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>59</sup> The Council also met once with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#).<sup>60</sup> More information on meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. The Council also conducted a mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo from 5 to 7 October.<sup>61</sup>

The Council was regularly briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of MONUSCO. Other briefers included the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region, representatives of the National Episcopal Conference of the Congo, and representatives of civil society organizations. In addition, the Council was also briefed by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1533 \(2004\)](#).

In 2018, the briefings and deliberations during Council meetings focused mainly on the electoral process and the implementation of the Comprehensive and Inclusive Political Agreement of 31 December 2016 as well as on the continued occurrence of human rights violations in the context of a deteriorating security situation, and the humanitarian situation in the country.

Regarding the electoral process and the implementation of the Comprehensive and Inclusive Political Agreement, Council members discussed and followed closely the

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<sup>59</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>60</sup> Held on 6 March 2018 under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B”; see [S/PV.8196](#).

<sup>61</sup> For more information on the Council’s mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, see part I, sect. 33.

preparations leading up to the presidential and national and provincial legislative elections scheduled for 23 December and later postponed until 30 December 2018,<sup>62</sup> including the issuance of the electoral calendar and the voter and candidate registration processes as well as the provision of election security in areas of the country where armed groups were active. The readiness of MONUSCO to provide logistical support to the elections was also discussed.

During 2018, the Council also considered the overall deteriorating security situation, in particular the situation in the Kasai province and in the eastern side of the country, due to inter-community violence and the activities of armed groups, including the 7 December 2017 Allied Democratic Forces attack in Semuliki against civilians, the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) and MONUSCO, to which the Secretary-General responded with the appointment, on 5 January 2018, of a former Assistant Secretary-General to lead a special investigation into the incident.<sup>63</sup> The Council discussed the incidence of violence and human rights violations in those areas of the country where armed groups were active, including incidents of sexual and gender-based violence and other violent attacks against civilians. In 2018, the deliberations in the Council also concerned human rights violations relating to political rights, namely the continued restrictions on the political space, the suppression of peaceful demonstrations and arbitrary arrests, and the slow progress in the implementation of the confidence-building measures foreseen in the 31 December 2016 Political Agreement.

Regarding the humanitarian crisis affecting the country, Council members specifically addressed the issue of the 4.5 million internally displaced persons in need of humanitarian assistance and the more than 7.7 million people suffering from severe food insecurity. On 19 March, the Council held a meeting dedicated to the humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including an “epidemic” of sexual violence in the country and the security and humanitarian situation of women.<sup>64</sup> At that meeting, the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Coordinator of the Encadrement des Femmes Indigènes et des Ménages Vulnérables and

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<sup>62</sup> On 22 December 2018, the Council issued a press statement ([SC/13648](#)) in which Council members took note of the decision by the National Independent Electoral Commission of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to delay the elections.

<sup>63</sup> [S/PV. 8153](#), p. 4.

<sup>64</sup> [S/PV.8207](#).

the Secretary-General of the Conférence Episcopale Nationale du Congo. During 2018, Council members also discussed the two Ebola outbreaks that were declared in May and August in different parts of the country and their impact on the elections, on the security situation vis-à-vis the activities of armed groups in affected areas, and on the delivery of humanitarian assistance. The humanitarian situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo caused by the Ebola outbreak was also considered by the Council elsewhere under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”.<sup>65</sup>

Moreover, Council members discussed the adjustment of the configuration of MONUSCO and its activities in line with the Mission’s priority mandates of protecting civilians and supporting the implementation of the 31 December 2016 Political Agreement and the electoral process as well as the protection of United Nations personnel. At the meetings, reference was made to the Mission’s “protection through projection” strategy for carrying out its protection mandates in accordance with the 2017 Secretary-General’s strategic review of MONUSCO ([S/2017/826](#)). In that regard, by resolution [2409 \(2018\)](#) the Council extended the mandate of MONUSCO for a period of one year until 31 March 2019.<sup>66</sup> In the resolution, the Council also renewed the authorization to MONUSCO to take all necessary measures to carry out its mandate.<sup>67</sup>

Additionally, during 2018, the Council focused on the work of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1533 \(2004\)](#). On 20 May 2018, the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo submitted, for the Council’s attention, its final report concluding that the security situation had not improved and raising two major factors of concern, namely, peacekeepers facing serious attacks and armed actors continuously using the delay in the electoral process to promote acts of violence.<sup>68</sup> In that connection, the Council extended the sanctions measures as well as the mandate of the Group of Experts concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, by resolution [2424 \(2018\)](#).<sup>69</sup> At a meeting

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<sup>65</sup> For more information, see part I, sect. 12.

<sup>66</sup> Resolution [2409 \(2018\)](#), para. 29. For more information on the mandate of MONUSCO, see part X, sect. I.

<sup>67</sup> Resolution [2409 \(2018\)](#), paras. 35. For more information concerning to decisions of the Council relating to Article 42 of the Charter during the period under review, see part VII, sect. IV.A.

<sup>68</sup> [S/2018/531](#).

<sup>69</sup> Resolution [2424 \(2018\)](#), paras 1 and 3. For more information on the sanction measures concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, see part VII, sect. III. For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1533 \(2004\)](#) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the mandate of the Group of Experts; see part IX, sect. I.B.

in July, the Chair of the Committee briefed the Council on its activities during the first six months of 2018, including the addition of four individuals' names to its sanctions list.<sup>70</sup>

Further to its mandate renewal, on 18 December 2018, the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo transmitted to the Council its midterm report pursuant to resolution [2424 \(2018\)](#), confirming that the overall security situation in the country remained volatile and focusing on the four territories in the North and South Kivu provinces where it documented findings relevant to its mandate.<sup>71</sup>

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<sup>70</sup> [S/PV.8318](#), p. 4.

<sup>71</sup> [S/2018/1133](#).

**Meetings: The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8153</a> 9 January 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <a href="#">S/2018/16</a> )		Democratic Republic of the Congo	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	Nine Council members, <sup>a</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8198</a> 7 March 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the 31 December 2016 political agreement ( <a href="#">S/2018/128</a> )  Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <a href="#">S/2018/174</a> )		Democratic Republic of the Congo	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8207</a> 19 March 2018			Democratic Republic of the Congo	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; Coordinator of the Encadrement des Femmes Indigènes et des Ménages Vulnérables; Secretary-General of the Conférence Episcopale Nationale du Congo	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8216</a> 27 March 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on progress in the implementation of the 31 December 2016 political agreement ( <a href="#">S/2018/128</a> )  Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <a href="#">S/2018/174</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2018/260</a> )	Democratic Republic of the Congo		Seven Council members <sup>c</sup> , all invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8300</a> 29 June 2018	Letter dated 20 May 2018 from the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/531</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2018/643</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2424 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8318</a> 26 July 2018	Letter dated 1 June 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/528</a> )		Democratic Republic of the Congo	Special Representative of the Secretary-General; President of the Board of Directors of the Synergy of Women for Victims of Sexual Violence	All Council members <sup>d</sup> , all invitees <sup>e</sup>	
	Letter dated 20 May 2018 from the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/531</a> )					
	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <a href="#">S/2018/655</a> )					
	Letter dated 18 July 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/727</a> )					
<a href="#">S/PV.8331</a> 27 August 2018	Letter dated 7 August 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/762</a> )		Democratic Republic of the Congo	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, President of the Conférence épiscopale nationale du Congo; spokesperson for Rien Sans Les Femmes	13 Council members, <sup>f</sup> all invitees <sup>g</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8370</a> 11 October 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the		Democratic Republic of the Congo	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region	All Council members, all invitees <sup>h</sup>	



<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decisions and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
	Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <a href="#">S/2018/882</a> )					
	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the Peace, Security and Cooperation Framework for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Region ( <a href="#">S/2018/886</a> )					
<a href="#">S/PV.8397</a> 13 November 2018		Democratic Republic of the Congo		Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Representative of the Congolese Association for Access to Justice	All Council members, all invitees <sup>1</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland and Sweden.

<sup>b</sup> The Democratic Republic of the Congo was represented by its Vice-Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration.

<sup>c</sup> China, France, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. The Netherlands (President of the Council) was represented by its Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>d</sup> The representative of Kuwait spoke twice, once in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1533 \(2004\)](#) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo and once in his national capacity.

<sup>e</sup> The Special Representative and Head of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo participated in the meeting via videoconference from Kinshasa.

<sup>f</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States. Equatorial Guinea spoke on behalf of three African countries represented on the Council Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea and Ethiopia.

<sup>g</sup> The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the spokesperson for Rien Sans Les Femmes participated in the meeting via videoconference from Kinshasa and the president of the Conférence épiscopale nationale du Congo from Kisangani.

<sup>h</sup> The Special Representative of the Secretary-General participated in the meeting via videoconference from Kinshasa and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region from Addis Ababa.

<sup>i</sup> The representative of the Congolese Association for Access to Justice participated in the meeting via videoconference from Kinshasa.

## 7. The situation in the Central African Republic

During the period under review, the Security Council held seven meetings, adopted three resolutions under Chapter VII of the Charter, and issued one presidential statement in connection with the situation in the Central African Republic. Except for three meetings convened to adopt a decision of the Council, all meetings held in 2018 took the form of briefings.<sup>72</sup> The Council also held one meeting with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#).<sup>73</sup> More information on meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During 2018, the Council heard regular briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA, consistent with the four-month reporting schedule established by resolution [2387 \(2017\)](#). The Council was also briefed by the Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic, the Force Commander of the European Union Military Training Mission in the Central African Republic (EUTM-RCA) and the Managing Director for Africa of the European External Action Service.

The briefings focused on the security situation in the country and the extension and consolidation of state authority beyond Bangui, the priorities for MINUSCA, including enhanced protection of civilians, and the training and deployment of the *Forces armées centrafricaines* by the EUTM-RCA in cooperation with MINUSCA. The briefings also focused on the political situation and the progress of the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic as well as on the strengthening of national judicial institutions and the preparations for the establishment of the Special Criminal Court. The Council was also briefed on the persistently dire humanitarian situation in the country, including the population displacement and the continued attacks on peacekeepers and humanitarian workers. In addition, the Council heard briefings by the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission on its work and initiatives in support of the Government of the Central African Republic, including the assistance

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<sup>72</sup> For more information on format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>73</sup> Held on 17 October 2018 under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B”, see [S/PV.8374](#).

provided to the establishment of the Special Criminal Court,<sup>74</sup> and the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) concerning the Central African Republic, who reported on the implementation of the sanctions measures and his visit to the country from 2 to 5 October 2018.<sup>75</sup>

These issues were also addressed by the Council in its decisions during the reporting period. By resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council extended the arms embargo as well as the asset freeze and travel ban imposed against individuals and entities designated by the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) until 31 January 2019.<sup>76</sup> The Council further introduced for the first time “incitement and support to incitement to violence, especially if based on religious or ethnic grounds”, as criteria for the designation of individuals or entities by the Committee.<sup>77</sup> The Council also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 28 February 2019.<sup>78</sup>

In a presidential statement issued on 13 July 2018, the Council expressed concern regarding the persistent violence against civilians, United Nations peacekeepers and humanitarian workers and condemned the rise of incitement to violence and hostility towards MINUSCA.<sup>79</sup> In the presidential statement, the Council also reaffirmed its support to the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic and its roadmap; stressed the need to operationalize the Special Criminal Court, establish the Truth, Justice Reparations and Reconciliation Commission and bolster national accountability mechanisms. The Council welcomed the ongoing good collaboration between Central African Republic authorities and international partners, including MINUSCA and EUTM-RCA for the progressive and sustainable redeployment of the CAR armed forces trained by the EUTM-RCA, expressed its deep concern for the humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic, noting the number of internally displaced persons and refugees in need of humanitarian assistance and encouraged Member States to scale up funding to respond to the humanitarian needs identified in the 2018 Humanitarian Response Plan.<sup>80</sup>

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<sup>74</sup> [S/PV.8187](#), pp. 6-8.

<sup>75</sup> [S/PV.8187](#), pp. 8-10; [S/PV.8378](#), pp. 7-9.

<sup>76</sup> Resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), paras. 1, 9 and 16.

<sup>77</sup> Resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), para. 22. For more information on the sanctions measures concerning the Central African Republic, see part VII, sect. III.

<sup>78</sup> Resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), para. 31. For information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) and the Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I.

<sup>79</sup> [S/PRST/2018/14](#), first paragraph.

<sup>80</sup> *Ibid.*, third, fourth, tenth and eleventh paragraphs.

During the period under review, the Council renewed the mandate of MINUSCA twice. On 15 November 2018, by resolution [2446 \(2018\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of the Mission for one month, until 15 December 2018, in the context of mandate renewal negotiations.<sup>81</sup> On 13 December 2018, the Council adopted – albeit non-unanimously – resolution [2448 \(2018\)](#), by which it extended the mandate of MINUSCA until 15 November 2019. The Council decided that the Mission’s mandate would include four main priority tasks, namely, the protection of civilians, the provision of good offices and support to the peace process, the facilitation with the creation of a secure environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance, and the protection of United Nations personnel, installations, equipment and goods.<sup>82</sup> By this resolution, the Council also reaffirmed its support to the Government of the Central African Republic and the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic, and commended the concrete steps toward the full operationalization of the Special Criminal Court.<sup>83</sup> The Council further welcomed the intent to appoint a United Nations-African Union Joint Special Envoy to support the peace process and called for the reactivation of joint bilateral commissions between the countries of the region to tackle cross-border issues while encouraging continued coordination with the Peacebuilding Commission and other partners in support of long-term peacebuilding needs.<sup>84</sup> Further to the adoption of the resolution, the representatives of the Russian Federation and China explained in detail their abstention.<sup>85</sup>

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<sup>81</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 1.

<sup>82</sup> Resolution [2448 \(2018\)](#), paras. 34 and 39. For more information on the mandate of MINUSCA, see part X, sect. I.

<sup>83</sup> Resolution [2448 \(2018\)](#), paras. 1-2 and 20.

<sup>84</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 4, 6 and 25.

<sup>85</sup> [S/PV.8422](#), pp. 4-6 (Russian Federation), p. 6 (China).

**Meetings: the situation in the Central African Republic**

<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.8169</a> 30 January 2018	Letter dated 6 December 2017 from the Panel of Experts on the Central African Republic extended pursuant to resolution <a href="#">2339 (2017)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2017/1023</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2018/73</a> )	Central African Republic		Three Council members (Côte d'Ivoire, France, Netherlands)	Resolution <a href="#">2399 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8187</a> 22 February 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2018/125</a> )		Central African Republic	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic, Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic, Commander of the European Union Military Training Mission in the Central African Republic, Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (Morocco)	Four Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, <sup>a</sup> Equatorial Guinea, Peru), all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8291</a> 21 June 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2018/611</a> )		Central African Republic	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic, Force Commander of the European Union Military Training Mission in the Central African Republic	All Council members, all invitees <sup>c</sup>	

<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.8309</a> 13 July 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/14</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8378</a> 23 October 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2018/922</a> )			Special Representative of the Secretary-General, <sup>d</sup> Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic, Managing Director for Africa, European External Action Service	All Council members <sup>d</sup> , all invitees <sup>e</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8401</a> 15 November 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2018/922</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2018/1025</a> )	Central African Republic		Seven Council members <sup>f</sup>	Resolution <a href="#">2446 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8422</a> 13 December 2018		Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2018/1016</a> )	Central African Republic		Eight Council members, <sup>g</sup> all invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a> 13-0-2 <sup>h</sup> (adopted under Chapter VII)

<sup>a</sup> The representative of Côte d'Ivoire spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) concerning the Central African Republic.

<sup>b</sup> The Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic and the Commander of the European Union Military Training Mission in the Central African Republic participated in the meeting via videoconference from Bouar and Brussels respectively.

<sup>c</sup> The Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic and the Force Commander of the European Union Military Training Mission in the Central African Republic participated in the meeting via videoconference from Bangui.

<sup>d</sup> The representative of Côte d'Ivoire spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) concerning the Central African Republic.

<sup>e</sup> The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic participated in the meeting via videoconference from Bangui. The Managing Director for Africa for the European External Action Service participated in the meeting via videoconference from Brussels.

<sup>f</sup> China, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Netherlands, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States.

<sup>g</sup> China, Côte d'Ivoire, France, Netherlands, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden United States, and. The representative of Côte d'Ivoire spoke on behalf of the three African members of the Council (Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea and Ethiopia). Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>h</sup> *For*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States; *against*: None; *Abstaining*: China, Russian Federation.

## 8. The situation in Guinea-Bissau

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings and adopted one resolution in connection with the situation in Guinea-Bissau. Except for one meeting convened for the adoption of a decision, all other meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>86</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During 2018, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) and the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs on the evolving political situation in Guinea-Bissau and the steps undertaken to implement the Conakry Agreement and the Economic Commission for West African States (ECOWAS) Roadmap for the Resolution of the Political Crisis in Guinea-Bissau. The briefings also dwelled on the preparations for legislative elections scheduled for November 2018 and later postponed until March 2019.

Under this item, the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission also briefed the Council. He focused on his visit to Bissau and Portugal from 24 to 27 July 2018 and apprised of the Peacebuilding Commission's continued engagement in Guinea-Bissau, including the support of the justice sector and national reconciliation efforts, the implementation of the Peacebuilding Commission's portfolio for Guinea-Bissau, the engagement with regional and international partners to assist in the solution of the political impasse in the country as well as the preparations for legislative and presidential elections.

The Council was also briefed by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2048 \(2012\)](#) concerning Guinea-Bissau on his visit to Bissau and Conakry from 25 to 29 June 2018. The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) briefed on the work conducted to combat drug trafficking and transnational organized crime in Guinea-Bissau.<sup>87</sup> The Spokesperson for the Economic Community of West African States Women Peace and Security Network focused

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<sup>86</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>87</sup> [S/PV.8261](#).



during her briefing on the engagement of civil society, especially women, in the political and peace processes in Guinea-Bissau.<sup>88</sup>

The issues outlined above were also addressed by the Council in its decision on the situation in Guinea-Bissau in 2018. On 28 February 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2404 \(2018\)](#), extending the mandate of UNIOGBIS for 12 months, until 28 February 2019.<sup>89</sup> In the resolution, the Council called for the implementation of the recommendations of the strategic review mission regarding the need of UNIOGBIS to refocus its existing efforts towards political capacities in support of the Special Representative's good offices and to streamline its management structure and encouraged UNIOGBIS to operate in a more effective and efficient manner.<sup>90</sup> In this regard, the Council requested UNIOGBIS to focus in particular on a series of priorities, including to support the implementation of the Conakry Agreement and the ECOWAS Roadmap, as well as to support, through good offices, the electoral process to ensure free and credible elections. The Council also included as a priority to provide support to national authorities in expediting and completing the review of Guinea-Bissau's Constitution.<sup>91</sup> In addition to these priorities, the Council affirmed that UNIOGBIS and the Special Representative would continue to assist, coordinate and lead international efforts to ensure lasting peace and stability in broad range of other issues, including strengthening democratic institutions and enhancing the capacity of state organs.<sup>92</sup>

In its decision, the Council also supported the efforts of ECOWAS to ensure a swift resolution of the crisis and took note of its decision to impose sanctions against those obstructing the implementation of the Conakry Agreement whilst calling upon the Bissau-Guinean stakeholders to strictly respect and comply with the Agreement and the ECOWAS Roadmap.<sup>93</sup> The Council also welcomed the joint efforts undertaken by international partners, assisted by the Peacebuilding Commission, to enhance cooperation and support the

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<sup>88</sup> [S/PV.8337](#).

<sup>89</sup> Resolution [2404 \(2018\)](#), para. 1. For more information on the mandate of UNIOGBIS, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>90</sup> Resolution [2404 \(2018\)](#), para. 2.

<sup>91</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 3.

<sup>92</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 4.

<sup>93</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 5 and 6.

long-term peacebuilding priorities of Guinea-Bissau, in accordance with the priority structural reforms established by the Government.<sup>94</sup>

In the resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to provide an oral update within three months on the political and security situation, to submit regular reports every six months on the implementation of the resolution, and to submit his assessment of UNIOGBIS within nine months, including options for a possible reconfiguration of the United Nations presence in the country and re-prioritization of tasks.<sup>95</sup>

On 6 December 2018, the Secretary-General submitted a special report on the strategic assessment in which he outlined a three-phased approach to the exit of the Mission by no later than 31 December 2020, including the establishment of a streamlined good offices special political mission in Bissau led by a special representative and focused on facilitating the political process.<sup>96</sup>

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<sup>94</sup> Ibid., para. 16.

<sup>95</sup> Ibid., para. 28.

<sup>96</sup> [S/2018/1086](https://www.un.org/securitycouncil/content/repertoire/structure).

**Meetings: The situation in Guinea-Bissau**

<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>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8182</a> 14 February 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau ( <a href="#">S/2018/110</a> )		Guinea-Bissau, Togo	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8194</a> 28 February 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau ( <a href="#">S/2018/110</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by Côte d'Ivoire ( <a href="#">S/2018/164</a> )			Five Council members (Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Netherlands, Russian Federation, United States)	Resolution <a href="#">2404 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8261</a> 16 May 2018			Guinea-Bissau	Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8337</a> 30 August 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Integrated		Guinea-Bissau	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding	All Council members <sup>d</sup> , all invitees <sup>e</sup>	

	Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau ( <a href="#">S/2018/771</a> )		Commission; Spokesperson for the Economic Community of West African States Women, Peace and Security Network	
<a href="#">S/PV.8438</a> 21 December 2018	Special report of the Secretary-General on the strategic assessment of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau ( <a href="#">S/2018/1086</a> )	Guinea-Bissau	Assistant Secretary- General for Political Affairs; Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission	All Council members, all invitees

<sup>a</sup> The representative of Togo spoke in his capacity as Coordinator of the Ambassadors of the member countries of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNIOGBIS participated in the meeting via videoconference from Bissau.

<sup>b</sup> The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime briefed the Council via video-teleconference from Vienna.

<sup>c</sup> Guinea-Bissau was represented by its Prime Minister.

<sup>d</sup> The representative of Equatorial Guinea spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2048 \(2012\)](#) concerning Guinea-Bissau.

<sup>e</sup> The Spokesperson for the Economic Community of West African States Women, Peace and Security Network participated via video-teleconference from Bissau.

## 9. Central African region

During the period under review, the Security Council held three meetings and issued one presidential statement under the item entitled “Central African region”. Except for one meeting convened for the adoption of a decision of the Council, all other meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>97</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes is given in the table below.

During the period under review, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa and Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) on the activities of UNOCA, its continued cooperation with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), and its activities as the Secretariat for the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC). The Special Representative apprised the Council of the serious threats to political, security and socioeconomic stability of the Central African region, especially in the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo due to their long-standing armed conflicts, the effect of terrorism and violent extremism in the Central African region, notably the continued attacks and human rights abuses committed by Boko Haram and the Lord’s Resistance Army. The Special Representative also briefed the Council on the continued violence in the North-West and South-West regions of Cameroon and its effect in neighbouring Nigeria, as well as the electoral processes under way in the region during 2018, especially in Sao Tomé and Príncipe, Gabon, Chad and Burundi.

The Council also heard a briefing from the Secretary General of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) on its participation in the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic peace process, the development, with support of UNOCA, of a subregional strategy for combatting terrorism and the inauguration of the Interregional Coordination Centre for Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea.<sup>98</sup> The Director for Operations and Advocacy of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs also briefed the Council in 2018, noting the

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<sup>97</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>98</sup> [S/PV.8284](#), pp. 4-6.

intensification of the humanitarian crises in the Central African region, highlighting issues with the funding of the humanitarian response plans in the region and the increase of the number of persons in need of humanitarian assistance by 2019.<sup>99</sup>

These issues were also addressed by the Council in the only decision under this item for 2018. In the presidential statement issued on 10 August 2018, the Council expressed deep concern at the grave security situation in parts of Central Africa, the persistent violence perpetrated by armed groups in the Central African Republic, the ongoing violence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the increase in violence in the north-west and south-west regions of Cameroon. The Council also expressed its continuing concern regarding maritime insecurity in the Gulf of Guinea, the illegal wildlife trade and transnational organised crime, including the threat of mercenary activities.<sup>100</sup>

In addition, the Council requested the Secretary-General to conduct a strategic review of the scope of the mandate and activities of UNOCA by 1 August 2019.<sup>101</sup> With respect to the mandate of UNOCA, the Council noted that the priorities would include, inter alia, to perform good offices on behalf of the Secretary-General, to assist in consolidating peace and resolving tensions from the various elections in the period 2015-2018, to work with ECCAS and its members states on the structural prevention of election related violence and to enhance the capacity of ECCAS in conflict prevention and early warning, and other areas.<sup>102</sup> The Council also encouraged UNOCA to take fully into account gender considerations as a cross-cutting issue in its activities and to take into consideration information relating to the adverse effects of climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters on the stability of the Central African region.<sup>103</sup>

The Council also remained concerned at the security and humanitarian situation in the Lake Chad Basin region, noting in particular the continued use by Boko Haram of women and girls as suicide bombers. The Council welcomed the support provided by UNOCA for the development of a joint regional strategy to address the root causes of the crisis through regular contact with regional leaders and encouraged partners to increase their security assistance to the Lake Chad Basin Commission countries, as well as humanitarian and

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<sup>99</sup> [S/PV.8421](#), pp. 4-6.

<sup>100</sup> [S/PRST/2018/17](#), fourth paragraph.

<sup>101</sup> *Ibid.*, fifth paragraph.

<sup>102</sup> *Ibid.*, sixth paragraph. For more information regarding the mandate of UNOCA, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>103</sup> *Ibid.*, eighth and ninth paragraphs.

development support to the region.<sup>104</sup> The Council also took note of the elections planned throughout the region between 2018 and 2021 and emphasised the need for the facilitation of timely, peaceful, transparent and credible elections.<sup>105</sup>

During the reporting period, by an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council dated 24 and 28 August 2018, the Council extended UNOCA's mandate for three years, until 31 August 2021.<sup>106</sup>

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<sup>104</sup> Ibid., twelfth and thirteenth paragraphs.

<sup>105</sup> Ibid., fifteenth paragraph.

<sup>106</sup> [S/2018/789](#) and [S/2018/790](#).

**Meetings: Central African region**

<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.8284</a> 13 June 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Central Africa and the activities of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa ( <a href="#">S/2018/521</a> )			Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOCA, Secretary-General of the Economic Community of Central African States <sup>a</sup>	10 Council Members <sup>b</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8328</a> 10 August 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/17</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8421</a> 13 December 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Central Africa and the activities of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa ( <a href="#">S/2018/1065</a> )			Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOCA, Director for Operations and Advocacy of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	All Council Members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup>The Secretary-General of the Economic Community of Central African States participated in the meeting via videoconference from Manhasset, New York.

<sup>b</sup>Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States.



## 10. Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan

During the period under review, the Security Council held 30 meetings, adopted 11 resolutions, nine under Chapter VII of the Charter, and issued two presidential statements under the item entitled, “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”. Except for those meetings convened to adopt a decision of the Council, most meetings under this item took the form of briefings.<sup>107</sup> In addition, the Council held two closed meetings with countries contributing troops and police to the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#).<sup>108</sup> Council members also continued to hold, on a regular basis, informal consultations of the whole on the situation in the Sudan and South Sudan. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes is given in the tables below.

Consistent with prior practice, in the context of these meetings, the Council considered several distinct topics, principally the situation in Darfur and the mandate of UNAMID; the relations between the Sudan and South Sudan, the situation in the Abyei Area and the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA); and the situation in South Sudan and the mandate of UNMISS.<sup>109</sup> The Council also considered the work of the Panels of Experts on the Sudan and South Sudan, as well as the implementation of resolution [1593 \(2005\)](#), by which the Council referred the situation in Darfur to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court.<sup>110</sup>

Concerning the situation in Darfur, the Council heard briefings by the African Union-United Nations Joint Special Representative for Darfur and Head of UNAMID at 60-day

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<sup>107</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>108</sup> Held on 6 March 2018, under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B – South Sudan”, see [S/PV.8197](#); and on 6 June 2018, under the item entitled, “Meetings of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B – Darfur”, see [S/PV.8279](#).

<sup>109</sup> For more information on the mandates of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei and the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan, see part X, sect. I.

<sup>110</sup> For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) concerning the Sudan and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan and their respective Panels of Experts, see part IX, sect. I. B “Committees established under Chapter VII of the Charter”.

intervals on the progress made in the implementation of the Mission's reconfiguration and drawdown, the absence of significant impact on the security and protection situation, as well as on the proposed benchmarked exit strategy for the Mission. The Joint Special Representative highlighted the absence of major fighting between the Government of the Sudan and the non-signatory armed movements, except limited and sporadic clashes with the Sudan Liberation Army/Abdul Wahid in Jebel Marra, decreased levels of inter-communal violence, and persistent insecurity and land occupation issues faced by displaced persons preventing their sustainable return. He noted limited progress in the peace process with the agreement by the Justice and Equality Movement and the Sudan Liberation Army/Minni Minawi to accept the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur as the basis for further negotiations with the Government in June 2018 and the signing of a pre-negotiation framework in December 2018. The Council was also briefed on two occasions by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on the findings and recommendations of the joint African Union-United Nations assessment conducted in 2017 and strategic review in 2018 which served as the basis for the further reconfiguration of UNAMID.

By resolutions [2425 \(2018\)](#) of 29 June 2018 and [2429 \(2018\)](#) of 13 July 2018, the Council renewed the mandate of UNAMID twice for periods of two weeks and one year, the latter being until 30 June 2019.<sup>111</sup> By the latter resolution, further to the outcome of the joint African Union-United Nations strategic review of UNAMID, the Council modified the priorities and mandate of UNAMID and decreased the authorized troop ceiling.<sup>112</sup>

In a presidential statement issued on 31 January 2018, the Council welcomed the improvements in the security situation.<sup>113</sup> The Council reiterated its concern about the considerable challenges that remained, particularly that of ensuring sustainable solutions for 2.7 million internally displaced persons of Darfur and stressed that funding for consolidation of peacebuilding efforts should be treated by Member States as a political issue of high priority to avoid a relapse into conflict.<sup>114</sup> The Council commended the conclusion of the first phase of the reconfiguration of UNAMID and noted the assessment's findings that the

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<sup>111</sup> Resolution [2429 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>112</sup> Ibid., paras. 2-3 and 5. See Special report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the strategic review of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur dated 1 June 2018 ([S/2018/530](#)). For more information on the mandate and composition of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, see part X, sect. I<sup>o</sup>.

<sup>113</sup> [S/PRST/2018/4](#), first paragraph.

<sup>114</sup> Ibid., second and sixth paragraphs.

closure of team sites had limited the Mission's early warning, capacity-building and human rights investigation capacity.<sup>115</sup> Subsequently, in a presidential statement issued on 11 December 2018, the Council again welcomed the continued improvements on security outside of Jebel Marra, aided by the Government's arms collection campaign and its joint efforts with UNAMID to address inter-communal disputes.<sup>116</sup> Taking note of the benchmarks proposed by the Secretary-General, the Council acknowledged that progress towards achieving benchmarks and indicators would contribute towards the successful transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding in Darfur.<sup>117</sup>

The Council also heard three briefings by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#). The Chair highlighted the recommendations of the final report of the Panel of Experts of 28 December 2017, including for the Panel to continue to monitor the activities of Darfuri armed groups in Libya and to cooperate with relevant committees for this purpose. The Chair also made reference to the findings of the interim report discussed with the Committee on 17 August 2018, as well as the work of the Committee, including its meeting with the Sudan and States of the region on 2 February 2018 and her visit to the Sudan in April 2018 to obtain information on the state of implementation of the sanctions measures.<sup>118</sup> The Council renewed the mandate of the Panel of Experts for a period of one year until 12 March 2019.<sup>119</sup>

Pursuant to resolution [1593 \(2005\)](#) and consistent with established practice, the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court briefed the Council twice in 2018.<sup>120</sup> The Prosecutor reiterated her call to the Council to take concrete action in response to the non-compliance with the resolution by the Sudan and other Member States in the execution of arrest warrants issued by the Court. She also noted some progress in the situation in Darfur, while also expressing concern with reports of continued violence against civilians, updated the Council on the status of her office's investigations into the Darfur situation and requested its support including through the provision of United Nations funding.

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<sup>115</sup> *Ibid.*, fifth paragraph.

<sup>116</sup> [S/PRST/2018/19](#), second paragraph.

<sup>117</sup> *Ibid.*, sixth paragraph. See also [S/2018/912](#).

<sup>118</sup> See [S/2017/1125](#).

<sup>119</sup> Resolution [2400 \(2018\)](#), para. 2. For more information on the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#), see part IX, sect. I. B.

<sup>120</sup> [S/PV.8290](#) and [S/PV.8425](#).

With respect to the Abyei Area and the border between the Sudan and South Sudan, on 20 September 2018, the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on the status of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism and on the recommendations of the Secretary-General for the reconfiguration of UNISFA. During 2018, the Council first authorized a technical roll-over of the border security agreement mandate for a period of ten days by resolution [2411 \(2018\)](#) of 13 April 2018.<sup>121</sup> Subsequently, as per its practice since 2017, the Council separately extended the mandates of UNISFA in support of the Border Mechanism and with respect to the Abyei Area twice for periods of six months each, the second time until 15 April and 15 May 2019, respectively.<sup>122</sup> With respect to the Abyei Area, the Council also renewed its decision acting under Chapter VII to extend the protection and security tasks of UNISFA as set out in paragraph 3 of resolution [1990 \(2011\)](#).<sup>123</sup> While not modifying the mandate of UNISFA during the period under review, the Council twice reduced the Mission's authorized troop ceiling and increased the level of police personnel.<sup>124</sup>

Regarding the Border Mechanism, by resolution [2412 \(2018\)](#) of 23 April 2018, the Council determined that the parties should demonstrate measured progress on several conditions, including maintaining standing clearance for the air and ground patrols of UNISFA, operationalizing Border Mechanism team sites, convening the Joint Political and Security Mechanism and withdrawing their forces from the Safe Demilitarized Border Zone, opening additional border crossings, and resuming border demarcation discussions including negotiations on the disputed areas.<sup>125</sup> On 11 October 2018, by resolution [2438 \(2018\)](#), the Council updated these conditions to include the establishment by the Government of South Sudan of a high-level team to undertake community sensitization and enable ground movement by UNISFA from Gok Machar into the Border Zone, and for both parties to develop a timeline for verifying the functioning of the border crossings, and to establish customs and migration offices.<sup>126</sup>

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<sup>121</sup> Resolution [2411 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>122</sup> Resolutions [2412 \(2018\)](#), para. 1 and [2438 \(2018\)](#), para. 1 (extending the mandate in support of the border security agreement); and [2416 \(2018\)](#), para. 1 and [2445 \(2018\)](#), para. 1 (extending the mandate in the Abyei Area).

<sup>123</sup> Resolutions [2416 \(2018\)](#), para. 1 and [2445 \(2018\)](#), para. 1. For more information on the authorization of the use of force, see part VII, sect. IV.

<sup>124</sup> Resolutions [2416 \(2018\)](#), para. 3 and [2445 \(2018\)](#), paras. 2 and 3. For more information on the mandate and composition of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei, see part X, sect. I.

<sup>125</sup> Resolution [2412 \(2018\)](#), para. 3.

<sup>126</sup> Resolution [2438 \(2018\)](#), para. 3.

Regarding the Abyei Area, by resolution [2416 \(2018\)](#) of 15 May 2018, the Council expressed disappointment that the parties had taken few steps to implement the Temporary Agreement for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area and to achieve a political resolution to the status of the territory and requested them to update the Council, through the African Union High-level Implementation Panel (AUHIP), on steps taken, inter alia, to resolve the final status by considering the 2012 proposal by the AUHIP, to implement the decisions and ensuring the functioning of the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee, and to promote reconciliation and engagement of the Misseriya and Ngok Dinka communities.<sup>127</sup> The Council also urged continued progress toward the establishment of the Abyei Area interim institutions.<sup>128</sup> By resolution [2445 \(2018\)](#) of 15 November 2018, the Council also requested an update on the steps the African Union Commission had taken to submit to the African Union Peace and Security Council the findings and recommendations of the Abyei Area Joint Investigation and Inquiry Committee.<sup>129</sup> The Council further encouraged UNISFA to coordinate with the AUHIP and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on reconciliation, community sensitization, and political peace processes, and invited the Mission to coordinate with the Juba-appointed administration in Abyei and the Misseriya administration in Muglad.<sup>130</sup>

Concerning South Sudan, the Council was briefed at 90-day intervals, as well as on three additional occasions, by the Under-Secretary-General and the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on the mandate implementation of UNMISS, including the deployment of the Regional Protection Force, the Mission's efforts to extend its protection of civilians activities to different parts of the country, and the possible future reconfiguration of the Mission to support the "Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan" signed by several of the parties in Addis Ababa on 12 September 2018. The Council was also briefed by representatives of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations as well as the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan, the Chairperson of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) Special Envoy for South Sudan on the continued fighting and violations of the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities,

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<sup>127</sup> Resolution [2416 \(2018\)](#), para. 6.

<sup>128</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 7.

<sup>129</sup> Resolution [2445 \(2018\)](#), para. 7.

<sup>130</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 11 and 16.

Protection of Civilians and Humanitarian access of 21 December 2017. They noted the progress made in the efforts led by IGAD to ensure a permanent ceasefire and to revitalize the peace process with the signing of the 27 June 2018 “Khartoum Declaration”.

The Under-Secretary-General and Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, together with the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, also briefed on the difficult humanitarian conditions in South Sudan, highlighting approximately four million displaced persons, six million in need of life-saving aid and protection, and an estimated over five million food insecure persons, as well as highly complex and unpredictable levels of humanitarian access. They also highlighted the high rates of human rights violations and abuses and conflict-related sexual violence. In this context, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict briefed the Council once on the alarming increase in sexual violence in 2018, the highest in the previous three years, including the reports of mass rapes of women and girls in Bentiu in November 2018. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General urged the Government to ensure accountability for these acts and the Council to consistently apply sanctions in this regard as a critical aspect of deterrence and prevention.

On 16 November 2018, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, the African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security and the Executive Director of UN Women updated the Council on the joint United Nations-African Union visit to South Sudan in October 2018 to strengthen the partnership between the two organizations to achieve inclusive and gender-responsive peace and security. During 2018, the Council also heard briefings from two representatives of South Sudanese civil society organizations regarding the impact of the conflict on civilians, including women and children. They emphasized the need for, inter alia, a gender-sensitive approach to the implementation of the ceasefire, governance reform and transitional justice, called on the Council to pressure the parties to uphold the ceasefire and ensure the meaningful participation of women in the peace process and for the Council to support and engage with women’s and civil society organizations.<sup>131</sup>

By resolution [2406 \(2018\)](#) of 15 March 2018, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council extended the mandate of UNMISS for a period of one year until 15 March 2019,

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<sup>131</sup> [S/PV.8249](#), pp. 5-6 and [S/PV.8356](#), pp. 5-6.

introducing some modifications to its mandate while maintaining its overall composition.<sup>132</sup>

The Council demanded that all parties immediately end the fighting and implement the ceasefire declared in the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan of 2015 and the Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities of 2017.<sup>133</sup> On 13 July 2018, by resolution [2428 \(2018\)](#), acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council expressed deep concern at the failures of South Sudan's leaders to bring an end to the hostilities and demanded that they fully and immediately adhere to their ceasefire agreements and allow full, safe and unhindered humanitarian access.<sup>134</sup>

The Council heard two briefings by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) on the recommendations of the Panel of Experts in its final report of 12 April 2018 and interim report of 26 November 2018 regarding the implementation of the sanctions on South Sudan.<sup>135</sup> The Chair also updated the Council on the work of the Committee, including a briefing to the Committee by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict on 11 April 2018, and the visit of the Chair to South Sudan, Ethiopia, Uganda and Kenya in June 2018 in order to strengthen and engage with the States concerned on the implementation of the sanctions measures.<sup>136</sup>

By resolution [2406 \(2018\)](#), acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council expressed its intention to consider all measures, including an arms embargo, as appropriate, to deprive the parties of the means to continue fighting and to prevent the violations of the 2017 Agreement on the Cessation of Hostilities.<sup>137</sup> During 2018, the Council adopted two additional resolutions concerning the sanctions in South Sudan, namely, resolutions [2418 \(2018\)](#) of 31 May 2018, and [2428 \(2018\)](#) of 13 July 2018 by which it renewed the travel ban and asset freeze in South Sudan, and extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts twice for

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<sup>132</sup> Resolution [2406 \(2018\)](#), para. 5. For more information on the mandate and composition of the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan, see part X, sect. I, "Peacekeeping operations."

<sup>133</sup> Resolution [2406 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>134</sup> Resolution [2428 \(2018\)](#), paras. 1 and 2.

<sup>135</sup> In its final report submitted to the Council further to resolution [2353 \(2017\)](#) on 12 April 2018 ([S/2018/292](#)), the Panel of Experts reiterated its recommendations to the Council to, inter alia, designate additional persons responsible for actions that threaten the peace, security, stability of South Sudan and to impose an arms embargo. See also interim report of the Panel of Experts submitted to the Council further to resolution [2428 \(2018\)](#) of 26 November 2018 ([S/2018/1049](#)).

<sup>136</sup> For more information on the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) and the mandate of its Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I. B.

<sup>137</sup> Resolution [2406 \(2018\)](#), para. 3.

periods of two and a half and 11 and a half months, respectively.<sup>138</sup> In addition, by resolution [2428 \(2018\)](#) and further to paragraph 3 of resolution [2418 \(2018\)](#), the Council imposed an arms embargo on South Sudan until 31 May 2019, broadened the sanctions listing criteria to include persons and entities involved in planning, directing or committing acts involving sexual and gender-based violence, and added two individuals to its sanctions list.<sup>139</sup> Both resolutions [2418 \(2018\)](#) and [2428 \(2018\)](#) were adopted with nine votes in favour and six abstentions.<sup>140</sup> In both instances, abstaining Council members questioned the timing and utility of the arms embargo and the listing of additional individuals at a critical juncture for the South Sudanese peace process and the lack of coordination by the Council with IGAD and the African Union.<sup>141</sup> Those members supporting the adoption of the resolutions emphasized the continued violations by the parties of both the 2015 and 2017 agreements and the need for concrete action to ensure accountability and increasing pressure on the parties to compromise to achieve a political solution.<sup>142</sup>

For the purposes of facilitating the coverage of this item, the meetings are set out below under three separate headings concerning Darfur, the relations between Sudan and South Sudan and Abyei, and South Sudan.

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<sup>138</sup> Resolutions [2418 \(2018\)](#), paras. 1 and 2 and [2428 \(2018\)](#), paras. 12 and 19. For more information on the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) and the mandate of its Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I.

<sup>139</sup> Resolution [2428 \(2018\)](#), paras. 4-6, 12 and 17. For more information on the sanctions measures concerning South Sudan, see part VII, sect. III.

<sup>140</sup> [S/PV.8273](#), p. 4 and [S/PV.8310](#), p. 5.

<sup>141</sup> [S/PV.8273](#), p. 3 (Ethiopia); p. 4 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 6 (Russian Federation); p. 6 (China); p. 7 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)) and p. 7 (Kazakhstan); [S/PV.8310](#), pp. 3-4 (Ethiopia), pp. 4-5 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 6 (China), p. 7 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)), pp. 7-8 (Russian Federation), p. 8 (Kazakhstan),

<sup>142</sup> [S/PV.8273](#), p. 2 (United States); pp. 4-5 (United Kingdom); p. 5 (Netherlands); p. 5 (Sweden); p. 7 (France); [S/PV.8310](#), p. 2 (United States); p. 5 (France), pp. 5-6 (Poland), p. 6 (Netherlands), p. 9 (United Kingdom), pp. 9-10 (Sweden).



**Meetings: Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan – Darfur**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8155</a> 10 January 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur <a href="#">(S/2017/1113)</a>  Assessment by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General of phase one of the reconfiguration of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur <a href="#">(S/2018/12)</a>		Sudan	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	Seven Council members <sup>a</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8172</a> 31 January 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/4</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8177</a> 8 February 2018	Letter dated 28 December 2017 from the Panel of Experts on the Sudan established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1591 (2005)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council <a href="#">(S/2017/1125)</a>	Draft resolution submitted by the United States <a href="#">(S/2018/95)</a>	Sudan		Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2400 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8202</a> 14 March 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur <a href="#">(S/2018/154)</a>		Sudan	Joint Special Representative for Darfur and Head of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur <sup>b</sup>	Six Council members <sup>cd</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8252</a> 10 May 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur <a href="#">(S/2018/389)</a>		Sudan	Joint Special Representative for Darfur and Head of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur <sup>e</sup>	Six Council members <sup>f</sup> , all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8283</a> 11 June 2018	Special Report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the strategic review of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur ( <a href="#">S/2018/530</a> )		Sudan	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	Seven Council members <sup>g</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8287</a> 14 June 2018					One Council member (Poland) <sup>h</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8290</a> 20 June 2018			Sudan	Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8302</a> 29 June 2018	Special report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the strategic review of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur ( <a href="#">S/2018/530</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/640</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2425 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8311</a> 13 July 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/693</a> )	Sudan		Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8366</a> 3 October 2018					One Council member (Poland) <sup>i</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8377</a> 22 October 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur ( <a href="#">S/2018/912</a> )		Sudan	Joint Special Representative for Darfur and Head of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation for Darfur <sup>j</sup>	Seven Council members <sup>k</sup> , all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8415</a> 11 December 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/19</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8425</a> 14 December 2018			Sudan	Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait and Peru.

<sup>b</sup> The Joint Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from El Fasher.

<sup>c</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Peru and Poland.

<sup>d</sup> The representative of Poland spoke as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#).

<sup>e</sup> The Joint Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from El Fasher.

<sup>f</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Kuwait and Peru.

<sup>g</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait and Peru.

<sup>h</sup> The representative of Poland spoke as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#).

<sup>i</sup> The representative of Poland spoke as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#).

<sup>j</sup> The Joint Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from Johannesburg.

<sup>k</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Kuwait and Peru.

**Meetings: Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan – the Sudan, South Sudan and Abyei**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8232</a> 13 April 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/341</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2411 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8240</a> 23 April 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/380</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2412 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8258</a> 15 May 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/455</a> )	Sudan		Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8357</a> 20 September 2018	Letter dated 20 August 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/778</a> )		Sudan, South Sudan	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8371</a> 11 October 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/909</a> )	Sudan, South Sudan		All invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2438 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8400</a> 15 November 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/1021</a> )	Sudan, South Sudan		All invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2445 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)

**Meetings: Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan – South Sudan**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8166</a> 24 January 2018				Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Chairperson of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission <sup>a</sup> , Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8192</a> 27 February 2018	Special report of the Secretary-General on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan ( <a href="#">S/2018/143</a> )		South Sudan	Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Intergovernmental Authority on Development Special Envoy for South Sudan	Five Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan and Peru), all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8204</a> 15 March 2018	Special report of the Secretary-General on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan ( <a href="#">S/2018/143</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/221</a> )	South Sudan		South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
	Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan (covering the period from 15 November 2017 to 16 February 2018) ( <a href="#">S/2018/163</a> )					

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8249</a> 8 May 2018			South Sudan	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Intergovernmental Authority on Development Special Envoy for South Sudan, Centre for Inclusive Governance, Peace and Justice <sup>b</sup>	Four Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea and Poland <sup>c</sup> ), all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8273</a> 31 May 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/515</a> )	South Sudan		Eleven Council members <sup>d</sup> , South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2418 (2018)</a> 9-0-6 <sup>e</sup> (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8299</a> 28 June 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan (covering the period from 17 February to 3 June 2018) ( <a href="#">S/2018/609</a> )		South Sudan	Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	Six Council members <sup>f</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8310</a> 13 July 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/691</a> )	South Sudan		Thirteen Council members <sup>g</sup> , South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2428 (2018)</a> 9-0-6 <sup>h</sup> (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8356</a> 18 September 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan (covering the period from 4 June to 1 September 2018) ( <a href="#">S/2018/831</a> )		South Sudan	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan, Intergovernmental Authority on Development Special Envoy for South Sudan <sup>i</sup> , Governance and Peace Manager for Community Empowerment for Progress Organization <sup>j</sup>	All Council members, all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8403</a> 16 November 2018			South Sudan		Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security <sup>k</sup> , Executive Director of UN Women	All Council members, all invitees
<a href="#">S/PV.8431</a> 18 December 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on South Sudan (covering the period from 2 September to 30 November 2018) ( <a href="#">S/2018/1103</a> )		South Sudan		Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict <sup>l</sup>	All Council members <sup>m</sup> , all invitees

<sup>a</sup> The Chairperson of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission participated in the meeting via videoconference from Juba.

<sup>b</sup> The Special Envoy and Ms. Nasiwa participated in the meeting via videoconference from Addis Ababa and Juba, respectively.

<sup>c</sup> The representative of Poland briefed as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#).

<sup>d</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Sweden United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>e</sup> *For*: Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States; *abstaining*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and Russian Federation.

<sup>f</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, and Peru.

<sup>g</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>h</sup> *For*: Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States; *abstaining*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and Russian Federation.

<sup>ij</sup> IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan and Governance and Peace Manager participated in the meeting via videoconference from Addis Ababa and Kampala, respectively.

<sup>k</sup> The African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security participated in the meeting via videoconference from Addis Ababa.

<sup>l</sup> The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict participated in the meeting via videoconference from London.

<sup>m</sup> Poland spoke as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#).

## 11. Peace consolidation in West Africa

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings and issued two presidential statements under the item “Peace consolidation in West Africa”. Two of the meetings took the form of briefings and the other two were convened for the adoption of decisions of the Council.<sup>143</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During its meetings under this item, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS). During his briefings, he presented the succeeding reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of UNOWAS. He focused on the multifaceted security challenges affecting West Africa and the Sahel, including the increase and complexity of terrorist attacks and the expansion of extremist activities such as those undertaken by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin. He also referred to the violence between farmers and herders as “increasingly a major security threat in the region”, which risked morphing into the terrorist attacks that had defined the security landscape, as well as to the threat posed by maritime piracy and transnational organized crime.<sup>144</sup> Whilst observing an upsurge in popular discontent in the region, manifested through demonstrations calling for political and economic reform, he reported on the “positive trajectory” of the democratic elections in the region, namely in Guinea, the Gambia, Côte d’Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone.<sup>145</sup> In his briefings, he emphasized the importance of the respect for human rights and the rule of law for advancing peace, security and development as well as democracy and good governance in the region. He also briefed on the work by the United Nations on sustaining peace in the Gambia and Burkina Faso, cautioning that attention needed to be paid to the challenges facing the two countries in the areas of security-sector reform, national reconciliation and the justice sector.

In his briefings, the Special Representative also reported on the challenges faced on the demarcation of the Cameroon-Nigeria border and the pillar construction process, as well

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<sup>143</sup> For more information on format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>144</sup> [S/PV.8313](#), p. 2.

<sup>145</sup> *Ibid.*, p 3.



as on the efforts to reinvigorate the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel. The Council was also briefed on the progress of the operationalization of the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel and the efforts of the Multinational Joint Task Force against Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin.

In its deliberations, Council members focused on the political, socioeconomic, security and humanitarian trends in the region during the reporting period. Discussions centered around the progress on democratic transitions and governance in the region, highlighting the political progress achieved in Liberia, the Gambia, and Burkina Faso, and the gains achieved in sustaining inclusive economic development in the region. Discussions also focused on the security situation in West Africa and the Sahel, with Council members expressing concern over the persistence of multifaceted and complex challenges across the region, such as transnational organized crime, the proliferation of cross-border armed groups and the insecurity caused by terrorist groups such as Boko Haram, and the efforts to combat security challenges, such as the deployment of the Joint Force and the work of the Multinational Joint Task Force against Boko Haram, as well as the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel. Council members also expressed concern about the dire humanitarian situation in the Lake Chad Basin region.

Most of these issues were also addressed by the Council in its decisions under this item in 2018. In its presidential statement of 30 January 2018, the Council expressed full support to the Special Representative and looked forward to ongoing activities undertaken by UNOWAS in the areas of conflict prevention, mediation and good offices. The Council further welcomed the efforts to give renewed impetus to the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel.<sup>146</sup> In the presidential statement, the Council emphasized the importance of women in prevention and resolution of conflicts, in peacebuilding as well as in post-conflict situations and urged national stakeholders to work towards increased participation of women, including with a view to increase the number of women appointed to senior government positions.<sup>147</sup>

The Council also welcomed the peaceful general elections held in Liberia while expressing various levels of concern with regard to the situation in Guinea-Bissau, Togo and more broadly West Africa and the Sahel.<sup>148</sup> The Council expressed concern over the threats

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<sup>146</sup> [S/PRST/2018/3](#), third paragraph.

<sup>147</sup> *Ibid.*, fifth and sixth paragraphs.

<sup>148</sup> *Ibid.*, seventh, ninth and tenth paragraphs.

of terrorism and about the attacks on civilians and welcomed the leadership demonstrated by countries in the region in spearheading initiatives to address security challenges, commending the efforts of regional stakeholders to address the impact of terrorism and transnational organized crime through the Multinational Joint Task Force and the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel.<sup>149</sup>

In the same presidential statement, the Council also recognized the adverse effects of climate change and ecological changes among other factors on the stability of West Africa and the Sahel region and emphasized the need for adequate risk assessments and risk management strategies by governments and the United Nations relating to these factors. The Council expressed concern over the overall humanitarian situation in the region characterized by the impact of armed conflict and terrorism, extreme poverty, food insecurity, forced displacement and adverse effects of climate change and epidemics.<sup>150</sup> Moreover, the Council expressed its intention to periodically monitor progress made and reiterated its call for an assessment of the implementation of resolution [2349 \(2017\)](#) to be integrated in the regular reporting by UNOWAS.<sup>151</sup>

The Council also issued a presidential statement on 10 August 2018 reiterating its recognition of the role of UNOWAS in contributing to continuous strategic and integrated analysis of the opportunities, risks and challenges in support of national and local actors to sustain peace.<sup>152</sup> In the statement, the Council also reiterated its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of all countries in West Africa and the Sahel, welcoming regional and international efforts in Togo and the Gambia and calling upon political stakeholders in Guinea Bissau to uphold the provisions of the Conakry Accords.<sup>153</sup> The Council again emphasized the important role of women in prevention and resolution of conflicts, in peacebuilding as well as in post-conflict situations and welcomed efforts by UNOWAS and ECOWAS to work towards the systematic involvement of women in initiatives to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism.<sup>154</sup> The Council reiterated its concern over the challenging security situation in the region and expressed concern for the increased tensions between pastoralists and farmers driven by competition for natural

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<sup>149</sup> Ibid., eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth paragraphs.

<sup>150</sup> Ibid., eighteenth and twenty-first paragraphs.

<sup>151</sup> Ibid., twenty-fifth paragraph.

<sup>152</sup> [S/PRST/2018/16](#), fourth paragraph.

<sup>153</sup> Ibid., fifth, seventh, eighth and ninth paragraphs.

<sup>154</sup> Ibid., eleventh and twelfth paragraphs.

resources as well as, inter alia, pressures related to climate and ecological factors.<sup>155</sup> The Council again recognized the effects of climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters on the stability of West Africa and the Sahel, and continued to stress the need for long-term strategies by governments and the United Nations, based on risk assessments, to support stabilization and build resilience.<sup>156</sup>

In the same presidential statement the Council stressed the need for strengthening collective engagement across the Sahel region, taking note of the decision of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union to reactivate the Nouakchott Process and the review of the African Union's Strategy for the Sahel.<sup>157</sup> The Council also underlined the need for a more integrated, cross-pillar approach across the development, humanitarian and peace and security nexus and welcomed the collective efforts of the United Nations towards recalibrating the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel. The Council also welcomed the appointment of the Secretary-General's Special Adviser of the Secretary-General for the Sahel and encouraged efforts to foster greater coherence and coordination within the UN System and with regional partners through the efficient implementation of the United Nations Support Plan for the Sahel.<sup>158</sup> The Council also reiterated its call for an assessment of the implementation of its resolution [2349 \(2017\)](#) to be integrated in the regular reporting by UNOWAS.<sup>159</sup>

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<sup>155</sup> Ibid., thirteenth and fifteenth paragraphs.

<sup>156</sup> Ibid., nineteenth paragraph.

<sup>157</sup> Ibid., twentieth paragraph.

<sup>158</sup> Ibid., twenty-first paragraph. The Special Adviser of the Secretary-General for the Sahel was appointed on 21 March 2018, see the Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel ([S/2018/649](#), para. 65).

<sup>159</sup> Ibid., twenty-second and twenty-third paragraphs.

## Meetings: Peace consolidation in West Africa

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8156</a> 11 January 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel ( <a href="#">S/2017/1104</a> )			Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS)	Eight Council members <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8170</a> 30 January 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/3</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8313</a> 17 July 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel ( <a href="#">S/2018/649</a> )			Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOWAS	Seven Council members <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8327</a> 10 August 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/16</a>

<sup>a</sup> Côte d'Ivoire, Sweden, Peru, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Netherlands, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia and Kazakhstan.

<sup>b</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Netherlands and Peru.

## 12. Peace and security in Africa

During the period under review the Security Council held eight meetings and adopted one resolution under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”. Of the eight meetings held, one was convened to adopt a resolution; one was an open debate and the remaining six were briefings.<sup>160</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, the Council held five meetings focusing on the Sahel, including the Lake Chad Basin region, and the activities of the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel. The remaining three meetings were held to address other issues, namely, the Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, peacekeeping operations in Africa and drug trafficking in West Africa.

Concerning the Sahel including the Lake Chad basin region, the Council held three meetings. On 22 March 2018, one year after the Council’s mission to the Lake Chad basin region, the Council held a meeting focused on that region, further to the concept note circulated by the Netherlands.<sup>161</sup> At the meeting, the Council heard briefings by the Deputy Secretary-General, a representative of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, and a Senior Conflict Adviser working with Adelphi (an independent think tank).<sup>162</sup> The Deputy Secretary-General briefed via video teleconference from Monrovia. She noted that while considerable progress had been made over the previous six months in the fight against Boko Haram, raids, abductions, sexual and gender-based violence, and suicide bombings continued. Violations of human rights continued to fuel insecurity and increasingly Boko Haram was using children, women and girls to carry out suicide attacks. The humanitarian situation in the Lake Chad basin remained complex and dire, with 10.7 million people in need of life-saving assistance and 2.3 million people forcibly displaced from their homes.<sup>163</sup> The representative of the Lake Chad Basin Commission briefed the Council on climate variability and its impact on the vulnerability of the Lake Chad basin as well as on the potential role for

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<sup>160</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>161</sup> [S/2018/302](#).

<sup>162</sup> [S/PV.8212](#).

<sup>163</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 2-3.

the United Nations, specifically the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), in that context.<sup>164</sup> The Senior Conflict Adviser with Adelphi briefed the Council on the conflict dynamics in the region and the possible pathways to peace.<sup>165</sup> In the discussion, Council members highlighted the importance of regional efforts, such as the work of the Multinational Joint Task Force in addressing the challenges posed by Boko Haram.

On 10 July 2018, the Council held a meeting focused on women and peace and security issues in the Sahel region,<sup>166</sup> further to the joint United Nations-African Union mission to South Sudan, the Niger and Chad. At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Deputy Secretary-General and the African Union Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security on their mission to the region, which was also joined, among others, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden. The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, who was presiding the meeting, also spoke, further to the mission, on the overall challenges faced by the region, the interrelated nature of those challenges and on the fact that all aspects raised through the mission were not solely a women's issue but a peace and security issue. In the discussion, several Council members referred to the importance of women's participation in peace processes<sup>167</sup> and to the linkage between women's empowerment and gender equality, and peace, stability and security.<sup>168</sup>

On 20 December 2018, further to a concept note circulated by Côte d'Ivoire,<sup>169</sup> the Council held a meeting under the sub-item entitled, "United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel, an integrated response to peacebuilding and sustaining peace".<sup>170</sup> At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Special Adviser of the Secretary-General for the Sahel who underscored that the region was one of the least developed in the world, and was facing simultaneous challenges of extreme poverty, climate change, food crises, rapid population growth, fragile governance and terrorist-linked security threats. While the humanitarian

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<sup>164</sup> Ibid., pp. 4-5.

<sup>165</sup> Ibid., pp. 5-7.

<sup>166</sup> [S/PV.8306](#).

<sup>167</sup> Ibid., p. 8 (Kazakhstan), p. 11 (Russian Federation), p. 12 (United States), p. 16 (Ethiopia), p. 17 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 19 (France, speaking also on behalf of Germany), and pp. 19-20 (Côte d'Ivoire).

<sup>168</sup> Ibid., pp. 5-7 (Sweden), pp. 7-8 (Peru), pp. 8-9 (Kazakhstan), p. 10 (Netherlands), pp. 10-11 (United Kingdom), p. 12 (United States), p. 14 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 17 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 18 (France, speaking also on behalf of Germany) and pp. 19-20 (Côte d'Ivoire).

<sup>169</sup> The concept note was not issued as a Security Council document.

<sup>170</sup> [S/PV.8435](#).

situation had only slightly improved in 2018, he emphasised that an exclusively security-based approach alone would not be enough to stabilize the Sahel.<sup>171</sup> At the meeting, the Council was also briefed by the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission who stated that the Commission had convened a series of meetings on the situation in the region, and had focused primarily on deepening partnerships and ensuring the cooperation, coordination and coherence of the United Nations and the international community in support of the Sahel.<sup>172</sup> The Vice President of the World Bank for Africa who also briefed the Council, reiterated the need to address the economic and social drivers of conflict in the Sahel.<sup>173</sup> The Head of the Coordination Unit of the Sahel Alliance also briefed the Council. He briefed specifically on the activities of the Sahel Alliance, which was launched on 13 July 2017 to contribute to the development of the Sahel and to reduce its social, economic, environmental and institutional vulnerability.<sup>174</sup> In the discussion, Council members stressed the need for a holistic approach in the Sahel that would bring together the political, security and development dimensions.<sup>175</sup>

The operationalization of the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel was addressed by the Council twice, in the context of two briefings in 2018, following the issuance of the respective reports of the Secretary-General. In both of these meetings, held on 23 May and 15 November 2018 respectively, the Assistant Secretary-General and the Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations stressed that the security situation in the Sahel remained dire and that delays were preventing the Joint Force from attaining full operation capability. They both called on the Group of Five for the Sahel to pursue efforts to deploy the remaining troops and clarify the Joint Force's concept of operations.<sup>176</sup> The Permanent Secretary of the Group of Five for the Sahel underlined in both briefings that the Joint Force continued to face major equipment shortfalls, capability gaps, insufficient infrastructure and shortcomings at the logistical and financial levels.<sup>177</sup> During both meetings, several speakers discussed the need for a Chapter VII mandate for the Joint Force.<sup>178</sup>

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<sup>171</sup> Ibid., p. 3.

<sup>172</sup> Ibid., p. 4.

<sup>173</sup> Ibid., p. 5.

<sup>174</sup> Ibid., p. 6.

<sup>175</sup> Ibid., pp. 7-9 (France), p. 10 (Netherlands), p. 11 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 12 (Kuwait), pp. 12-13 (Peru), p. 13 (China), p. 15 (Russian Federation), p. 16 (Sweden), pp. 17-18 (Kazakhstan), p. 18 (Ethiopia), p. 19-20 (United Kingdom), pp. 21-22 (Côte d'Ivoire).

<sup>176</sup> [S/PV.8266, pp. 2-4](#) and [S/PV.8402, pp. 2-4](#).

<sup>177</sup> [S/PV.8266](#), pp. 4-5 and [S/PV.8402](#), p. 4.

<sup>178</sup> [S/PV.8266](#), p. 7 (Permanent Observer of the African Union), p. 18 (United States). [S/PV.8402](#), p. 3 (Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations), p. 5 (Permanent Secretary of the Group of Five for the Sahel), p. 6 (African Union High Representative for Mali and the Sahel), p. 15 (Ethiopia), p. 17 (United States), p. 24.

Against the backdrop of the Ebola outbreak in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Council held a meeting on 30 October 2018 at which it unanimously adopted resolution [2439 \(2018\)](#), sponsored by all Council members as a presidential text.<sup>179</sup> In the resolution, the Council expressed serious concern regarding the security situation in the areas affected by the Ebola outbreak, also condemning all attacks by armed groups, including those posing serious security risks for responders and jeopardizing the response to the Ebola outbreak.<sup>180</sup> The Council noted as well the important positive role of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in supporting the efforts of the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the World Health Organization and other actors to bring the Ebola outbreak successfully under control and in ensuring, within its area of operations, effective protection of civilians.<sup>181</sup> Finally, the resolution emphasized the importance of maintaining international support and engagement – financially, technically and in-kind – to bring the Ebola outbreak successfully under control.

On 20 November 2018, the Council held an open debate on strengthening peacekeeping operations in Africa following the concept note circulated by China.<sup>182</sup> Among the questions that were addressed during the meeting, briefers and invitees discussed how the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union and African countries could be improved in terms of safeguarding peace and security in Africa in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter, while respecting Africa's leading role in resolving its own security issues.<sup>183</sup> The Secretary-General touched upon the challenges to peacekeeping in Africa and stated that United Nations missions were carrying out complex operations with multidimensional mandates in extremely dangerous environments. He announced that he would be signing with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission a joint communiqué guiding the work of the Secretariat and the African Union Commission in strengthening United Nations peacekeeping operations in Africa, paving the way for more adequately supported African-led peace operations. In this connection, he emphasised the

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(Plurinational State of Bolivia). For more information concerning decisions and discussions of the Council relating to Chapter VII of the Charter, see part VII.

<sup>179</sup> For more information on presidential texts, see part II, sect. VIII.

<sup>180</sup> Resolution [2439 \(2018\)](#), paras. 4 and 5.

<sup>181</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 7.

<sup>182</sup> [S/2018/1004](#).

<sup>183</sup> [S/PV.8407](#).



need for strong mandates and predictable, sustainable and flexible financing, including through United Nations assessed contributions, where appropriate.<sup>184</sup> At the meeting, the Council also heard the briefing of the African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security who updated the Council on the areas of cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union. During the meeting, several speakers made reference to the negotiations on a draft resolution for the financing of African Union peace operations which would enable access by the African Union to the United Nations-assessed contributions for operations authorized by the United Nations.<sup>185</sup>

On 19 December 2018, the Council held a meeting under the sub-item entitled “Drug trafficking in West Africa as a threat to stability”.<sup>186</sup> At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). He illustrated some of the findings of the 2018 World Drug Report and stated that UNODC was observing new, alarming trends in drug trafficking in West and Central Africa, with disruptive and destabilizing effects on governance, security, economic growth and public health. He noted that West and Central Africa, together with the countries of North Africa, accounted for 87 per cent of the pharmaceutical opioids seized globally and added that along with Asia, Africa had seen the largest rises worldwide in cocaine seizures as well. In this regard, he underscored the linkages among terrorism, illicit drugs and other forms of crime and explained that within the upcoming phase of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel, UNODC would be supporting the police component of the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel to strengthen its capacity to tackle terrorism and organized crime, including drug trafficking.<sup>187</sup> Following the briefing, Council members dwelled on the links between drug trafficking, regional stability and security, and sustainable development.<sup>188</sup>

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<sup>184</sup> Ibid., pp. 2-4.

<sup>185</sup> Ibid., pp. 5-6 (African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security), p. 9 (Côte d’Ivoire), p. 10 (Kazakhstan), p. 13 (Kuwait), p. 14 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 17 (France), p. 18 (United States), p. 42 (South Africa), p. 50 (Rwanda), p. 59 (Djibouti), pp. 60-61 (Republic of Korea).

<sup>186</sup> [S/PV.8433](#). In its capacity as President of the Security Council for December 2018, Côte d’Ivoire provided a summary of the meeting in a letter dated 20 May 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d’Ivoire addressed to the Secretary-General ([S/2019/419](#)).

<sup>187</sup> Ibid., p. 2.

<sup>188</sup> Ibid., p. 3 (United States), pp. 4-5 (Equatorial Guinea), pp. 5-6 (France), p. 7 (Ethiopia), pp. 7-8 (Sweden), p. 8 (China), p. 10 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), pp. 10-11 (Kazakhstan), pp. 11-12 (Kuwait), p. 12 (Russian Federation), p. 13 (Peru), p. 13 (Poland), p. 14 (United Kingdom), pp. 15-16 (Netherlands), p. 16 (Côte d’Ivoire).

**Meetings: Peace and security in Africa**

<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.8212</a> 22 March 2018			Nigeria	Representative of the Lake Chad Basin Commission, and Senior Conflict Adviser, Adelphi	Deputy Secretary-General, <sup>a</sup> all Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8266</a> 23 May 2018	Report of the Secretary General on the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel ( <a href="#">S/2018/432</a> )			Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Permanent Secretary of the Group of Five for the Sahel, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8306</a> 10 July 2018			Chad	African Union Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security	Deputy Secretary-General, all Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8385</a> 30 October 2018		Draft resolution ( <a href="#">S/2018/961</a> )			Two Council members (Ethiopia and Sweden)	Resolution <a href="#">2439 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8402</a> 15 November 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel ( <a href="#">S/2018/1006</a> )			Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Permanent Secretary of the Group of Five for the Sahel, African Union High Representative for Mali and the Sahel, Deputy Secretary-General for Common Security and Defence Policy and Crisis Response at the European External Action Service	All Council members, all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8407</a> 20 November 2018	Strengthening peacekeeping operations in Africa  Letter dated 9 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/1004</a> )		38 Member States <sup>e</sup>	African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Head of Delegation and Permanent Observer of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of the Holy	Secretary-General, all Council members, <sup>f</sup> all invitees <sup>g</sup>	

<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>
				See to the United Nations		
<a href="#">S/PV.8433</a> 19 December 2018	Drug trafficking in West Africa as a threat to stability			Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)	All Council members, invitee <sup>h</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8435</a> 20 December 2018	United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel, an integrated response to peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the Sahel			Special Adviser of the Secretary-General for the Sahel, Romania (Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission), Vice President of the World Bank for Africa, and the Chief Executive Officer of the French Development Agency on behalf of the Sahel Alliance	All Council members, all invitees <sup>i</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> The Deputy Secretary-General participated in the meeting via videoconference from Monrovia.

<sup>b</sup> Senior Conflict Adviser, Adelphi participated in the meeting via videoconference from Abuja. The representative of Nigeria spoke on behalf of the governments of Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria.

<sup>c</sup> Sweden was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>d</sup> The African Union High Representative for Mali and the Sahel participated in the meeting via videoconference from Bamako and the Deputy Secretary-General for Common Security and Defence Policy and Crisis Response at the European External Action Service participated in the meeting via videoconference from Brussels.

<sup>e</sup> Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Germany, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>f</sup> The representative of Côte d'Ivoire spoke on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea and Ethiopia.

<sup>g</sup> The representative of Norway spoke on behalf of the five Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway. The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela spoke on behalf of the members of the Non-Aligned Movement. The African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security participated in the meeting via videoconference from Addis Ababa.

<sup>h</sup> The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime participated in the meeting via videoconference from Vienna.

<sup>i</sup> The Vice President of the World Bank for Africa and the Chief Executive Officer of the French Development Agency on behalf of the Sahel Alliance, participated in the meeting via videoconference from Washington, D.C., and Paris respectively.

### 13. The situation in Libya

During the period under review, the Security Council held 12 meetings, adopted three resolutions, including two under Chapter VII of the Charter, and issued one presidential statement in relation to the situation in Libya. Except for those meetings devoted to the adoption of a decision of the Council, all the meetings held during this period under this item took the form of briefings.<sup>189</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, the Council was regularly briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL). In his six briefings to the Council in 2018, the Special Representative reported on Libya's ongoing political, security, humanitarian, economic and institutional challenges and how the progressive expansion of UNSMIL was supporting the country's political and democratization process, in accordance with the United Nations Action Plan.<sup>190</sup> With regard to the political and democratization process, the briefings focused on the status of holding a referendum on the draft constitution and presidential and parliamentary elections, as well as the development of a National Conference as a platform for the Libyan people to crystallize their vision for a political transition and to foster institutional progress.<sup>191</sup> He also reported to the Council on the visit of the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs to Libya from 9 to 12 January 2018.<sup>192</sup> The Special Representative also spoke about the deteriorating security situation in Tripoli and other parts of the country, including UNSMIL's brokering of a ceasefire between the major parties to the conflict in September.<sup>193</sup> Other briefers included the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya and the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. The Council was also addressed by the Co-founder of Together We Build It, a Libyan civil society organization. Invitations under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure were limited to Libya.

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<sup>189</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>190</sup> [S/PV.8159](#), p. 2-4; [S/PV.8211](#), p. 4; [S/PV.8263](#), p. 4-5; [S/PV.8312](#), p. 2-3.

<sup>191</sup> [S/PV.8159](#), p. 3; [S/PV.8312](#), p. 2-3; [S/PV.8263](#), p. 3-4; [S/PV.8341](#), p. 4; [S/PV.8394](#), p. 4.

<sup>192</sup> [S/PV.8159](#), p. 4.

<sup>193</sup> [S/PV.8341](#), p. 2; [S/PV.8394](#), p. 2.

The Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya briefed the Council four times on the activities of the Committee and its Panel of Experts.<sup>194</sup> His briefings focused on the violations of the sanctions regime (including the arms embargo), the violations in the context of human trafficking and migrant smuggling, the illicit exports of crude oil and refined petroleum products from Libya and on the implementation of the assets freeze. The Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court briefed the Council twice to report on the progress and challenges relating to the investigations in Libya as well as on the status of the Court's efforts to arrest Mr. Saif Al-Islam Al-Qadhafi following the issuance of an arrest warrant in June 2011 by the Pre-Trial Chamber of the Court. She also called on the Council and all States to engage and lend support to the arrest and surrender of fugitives of the Court in Libya and elsewhere.<sup>195</sup>

In their deliberations in 2018, Council members expressed full support for the United Nations Action Plan for Libya and underscored the importance of the role of the United Nations in facilitating a Libyan-led political solution to the challenges facing the country. The need for the institution of a universally recognized and respected Government at the national level was also discussed, including the need to establish a unified and strengthened Libyan police and security institutions. Speakers dwelled also on the country's underlying economic problems and financial corruption, threatening Libya's unity and stability. Council members expressed concern over the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in Libya, as well as the ongoing fight against terrorism and the continuing threat of terrorist groups in Libya.

The above issues were also addressed by the Council in its decisions during the reporting period. On 6 June 2018, the Council issued a presidential statement reaffirming its endorsement and full support for the United Nations Action Plan for Libya.<sup>196</sup> In the presidential statement, the Council welcomed all efforts to strengthen an inclusive political dialogue among all Libyans within the framework of the Libyan Political Agreement whilst bearing in mind that the political and security situation was not sustainable.<sup>197</sup> The Council welcomed the success of the first phase of the national conference as well as the organisation in a peaceful and organised process of the first municipal elections in the city of Zawiya and

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<sup>194</sup> [S/PV.8159](#), pp. 4-5; [S/PV.8263](#) pp. 5-6; [S/PV.8341](#), pp. 4-5; [S/PV.8394](#), pp. 6-7.

<sup>195</sup> [S/PV.8250](#), pp. 2-5; [S/PV.8388](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>196</sup> [S/PRST/2018/11](#), first paragraph.

<sup>197</sup> *Ibid.*, second and fourth paragraphs.

encouraged all Member States to fully support the efforts of the Special Representative.<sup>198</sup> In the presidential statement, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report as necessary on UNSMIL's support to the next phases leading to national elections.<sup>199</sup>

Shortly thereafter, on 11 June, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2420 \(2018\)](#) acting under Chapter VII of the Charter. In that resolution, the Council decided to extend for 12 months the authorizations, as set out in resolutions [2292 \(2016\)](#) and [2357 \(2017\)](#), to Member States to inspect vessels in 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>200</sup>

On 13 September 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2434 \(2018\)](#), welcoming the UN-brokered ceasefire in Tripoli as well as expressing its strong support for the ongoing efforts of UNSMIL and the Special Representative.<sup>201</sup> By virtue of this resolution, the Council decided to extend the mandate of UNSMIL until 15 September 2019 as an integrated special political mission under the leadership of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General.<sup>202</sup>

On 5 November 2018, the Council adopted resolution [2441 \(2018\)](#) under Chapter VII of the Charter and extending the sanctions measures related to petroleum, including crude oil and refined petroleum products, as well as the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 15 February 2020.<sup>203</sup> Resolution [2441 \(2018\)](#) was adopted with 13 votes in favour, and two abstentions. Further to the vote, the representative of the Russian Federation explained that his country was unable to support resolution [2441 \(2018\)](#), drafted by the United Kingdom, as the authors had incorporated into the resolution a provision specifying sexual and gender-based violence as a separate criterion for sanctions although such actions were fully covered in the existing listing criteria. He added that the issue of sexual and gender-based violence was considered by specialized bodies and the proper division of labour had to be adhered to.<sup>204</sup>

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<sup>198</sup> Ibid., seventh, eighth and thirteenth paragraphs.

<sup>199</sup> Ibid., fifteenth paragraph.

<sup>200</sup> Resolution [2420 \(2018\)](#), para. 1. See also, resolution [2357 \(2017\)](#), para. 1, and resolution [2292 \(2016\)](#), paras. 3 and 4. For further details on authorizations under Chapter VII, see part VII, sect. IV.A.

<sup>201</sup> Resolution [2434 \(2018\)](#), fourth and fifth preambular paragraphs.

<sup>202</sup> Ibid., para. 1. For more information on the extension of the mandate of UNSMIL see part X, sect. II.

<sup>203</sup> Resolution [2441 \(2018\)](#), paras. 2 and 14.

<sup>204</sup> [S/PV.8389](#), p. 3. For more information on the sanctions regime, see part VII, sect. III.

Developments in Libya were also considered elsewhere under the following two items, “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and “Maintenance of international peace and security”.<sup>205</sup>

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<sup>205</sup> For further details, see part I, sect. 34 concerning “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and sect. 40 concerning “Maintenance of international peace and security”.

**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.8159</a> 17 January 2018			Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) Co-founder of Together We Build It <sup>a</sup>	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup> , Libya	
<a href="#">S/PV.8211</a> 21 March 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya ( <a href="#">S/2018/140</a> )		Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL <sup>c</sup>	Six Council members <sup>d</sup> , Libya	
<a href="#">S/PV.8250</a> 9 May 2018			Libya	Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8263</a> 21 May 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya ( <a href="#">S/2018/429</a> )		Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL <sup>e</sup>	All Council members, all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8275</a> 6 June 2018			Libya			<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/11</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8282</a> 11 June 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/542</a> )	Libya			Resolution <a href="#">2420 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8312</a> 16 July 2018			Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL <sup>e</sup>	Three Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Kazakhstan, Sweden) <sup>f</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8341</a> 5 September 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya ( <a href="#">S/2018/780</a> )		Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL <sup>g</sup>	All Council members <sup>h</sup> , all invitees	



<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.8350</a> 13 September 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Support Mission in Libya ( <a href="#">S/2018/780</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/836</a> )	Libya			Resolution <a href="#">2434 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8388</a> 2 November 2018			Libya	Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8389</a> 5 November 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/985</a> )	Libya		Seven Council members <sup>i</sup>	Resolution <a href="#">2441 (2018)</a> 13-0-2 <sup>j</sup> (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8394</a> 8 November 2018			Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSMIL <sup>k</sup>	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> The Special Representative and the Co-founder of Together We Build It participated in the meeting via videoconference from Tunis.

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

<sup>c</sup> The Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from Tripoli.

<sup>d</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Peru, Sweden, Russian Federation. The representative of Sweden spoke in his capacity as the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya.

<sup>e</sup> The Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from Paris.

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

<sup>e</sup> The Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from Tripoli.

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

<sup>g</sup> The Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from Tripoli.

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

<sup>i</sup> Equatorial Guinea, France, Netherlands, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States.

<sup>j</sup> *For:* Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States; *against:* China and the Russian Federation.

<sup>k</sup> The Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from Tripoli.

## 14. The situation in Mali

During the period under review, the Security Council held six meetings and adopted two resolutions under Chapter VII of the Charter in connection with the situation in Mali. Except for two meetings convened to adopt decisions of the Council, all other meetings of the Council under this item took the form of briefings.<sup>206</sup> The Council also met once, in 2018, with countries contributing troops to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).<sup>207</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

The Council heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of MINUSMA, both invited under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure. In 2018, the discussions in the Council focused on the delays in the implementation of the 2015 Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in the country, the operationalization of the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel (G-5 Sahel) and the additional support required, and on the presidential elections, which were held in July and August 2018.

On 23 January 2018, the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations who reported on the timeline for the implementation of urgent measures within the framework of the Peace Agreement. He emphasized the importance for the Government and the signatory movements to make every effort to respect the new timetable. He also reported on the increasing insecurity in the northern and central parts of the country and noted the worsening human rights and humanitarian situation. He welcomed the progress in the operationalization of the G-5 Sahel during 2018, and informed that, in spite of the capability gaps of MINUSMA, the Mission was projecting a robust posture and undertaking all necessary measures to implement the recommendations outlined in the report conducted by Lieutenant General Cruz. He also made reference to the mission-wide prioritization and transition plans in the context of the strategic review.<sup>208</sup>

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<sup>206</sup> For further information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>207</sup> Held on 7 June 2018, under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B”; see [S/PV.8281](#).

<sup>208</sup> [S/PV.8163](#), pp. 2-4.

On 11 April 2018, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of MINUSMA briefed the Council further to the latest report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali ([S/2018/273](#)). He focused on the implementation of the Peace Agreement and described the role of MINUSMA in regard to strengthening the capacities of the regional authorities in the north and centre of the country, providing electoral assistance and providing support to the Specialized Judicial Unit against terrorism and organized crime. The Special Representative also informed about the support to the G-5 Sahel Joint Force by MINUSMA further to the tripartite technical arrangement signed on 23 February 2018. He also referred to the establishment of the International Commission of Inquiry on Mali as well as to the work of the Truth, Justice and Reconciliation Commission as mechanisms that complemented the Peace Agreement's monitoring architecture.<sup>209</sup> At that meeting, the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#) also briefed on the activities of the Committee and the Panel of Experts as well as on the visit to Bamako from 26 to 27 March 2018.<sup>210</sup>

On 14 June 2018, further to the Secretary-General's report ([S/2018/541](#)), the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations reported that whilst progress in the peace process had been achieved since the adoption of resolution [2364 \(2017\)](#), the security environment remained volatile with a total of 101 Blue Helmets having lost their lives since the deployment of MINUSMA. He also reported about the political tensions fuelled by the presidential election and clarified that whilst the Special Representative's good offices had helped to ease tensions, the United Nations was not in a position to certify the election results since that activity was not part of the mandate of MINUSMA.<sup>211</sup> He also referred to the recommendations of the independent strategic review. In this regard, he noted that the United Nations country team would lead in humanitarian, recovery, development and peacebuilding efforts and enhance its presence in the north and centre of the country and MINUSMA would adjust its role aiming at underscoring the primacy of politics with a shift in focus to maximize its role in support of the Peace Agreement.<sup>212</sup>

On 19 October 2018, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations briefed the Council again to report on the successful holding of presidential elections. He

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<sup>209</sup> [S/PV.8229](#), pp. 2-5

<sup>210</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5. For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#), see part IX, sect. I. B.

<sup>211</sup> [S/PV.8288](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>212</sup> *Ibid.*, pp 3-4.

noted that the holding of the elections should have been underpinned by further progress in the implementation of key institutional reforms. He also informed of the 15 October signing of the pact for peace as requested by resolution [2423 \(2018\)](#), by the Government and the United Nations, and said that it was an essential tool to spur the implementation of the Peace Agreement and give new impetus to the peace process. The Under-Secretary-General expressed his extreme concern about the security situation, especially in the centre of the country, and informed that MINUSMA and the United Nations country team had begun developing a comprehensive strategic framework in support of the Government's security plan for the central regions.<sup>213</sup>

These issues were also addressed by the Council in its decisions during the reporting period. On 28 June 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2423 \(2018\)](#), under Chapter VII of the Charter, extending the mandate of MINUSMA for one year until 30 June 2019 and renewing its authorization to use all necessary means to carry out its mandate with a proactive and robust posture.<sup>214</sup> The Council decided that the Mission's strategic priority remained to support the implementation of the Peace Agreement and requested it to reprioritize its resources and efforts to focus on political tasks.<sup>215</sup> In the resolution, the Council welcomed the recent positive steps achieved in the implementation of the Peace Agreement and expressed its deep frustration that parties had too long stalled its implementation, in spite of significant international support and assistance.<sup>216</sup> The Council also urged the Government of Mali and the Plateforme and Coordination armed groups to take immediate and concrete action to implement key provisions of the Peace Agreement referenced in the Roadmap adopted on 22 March 2018. In this regard, the Council expressed its intention to respond with measures pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#), should the parties not implement the agreed-upon commitments in the Roadmap.<sup>217</sup> The Council also requested the Secretary-General to report to the Council six months after the presidential inauguration on progress achieved in the implementation of the measures and benchmarks developed in the framework of the "Pact for Peace", and to provide options for potential significant

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<sup>213</sup> [S/PV.8376](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>214</sup> Resolution [2423 \(2018\)](#), paras. 24, 32 and 33. For more information concerning to decisions of the Council relating to Article 42 of the Charter during the period under review, see part VII, sect. IV.A. For more information on the mandate of MINUSMA, see part X, sect. I, with regard to peacekeeping operations.

<sup>215</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 26 and 27. See also paras. 38 and 39.

<sup>216</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 1-2.

<sup>217</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 3-4 and sixth preambular paragraph. For further information, see part VII, sect. II.

adaptation of the mandate of MINUSMA in the absence of progress.<sup>218</sup> The Council also welcomed the signing of the 23 February 2018 technical agreement between the United Nations, the European Union and the G-5 Sahel with a view to providing specified operational and logistical support through MINUSMA and requested the Secretary-General to enhance exchange of information between MINUSMA and the G-5 Sahel States through provision of relevant intelligence.<sup>219</sup> The Council also noted the importance for the Government of Mali and the United Nations to take into consideration, as appropriate, the security implications of the adverse effects of climate change and other ecological changes and natural disasters in their activities, programs and strategies.<sup>220</sup> Finally, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report every three months on the implementation of the resolution and to include every six months in his regular reports an update on the development and implementation of the integrated strategic framework.<sup>221</sup> Following the vote, the representative of France stressed that the resolution made it clear that maintaining the configuration of a mission as important and exposed as MINUSMA had to be accompanied by substantial progress in the peace process.<sup>222</sup> The representative of the United States noted that without significant progress, it would be necessary to consider options to overhaul the Mission. He added that the resolution streamlined MINUSMA's mandate, emphasized the primacy of the Mission's political engagement, and stressed the importance of outreach and engagement for the protection of civilians.<sup>223</sup> Despite its support to the resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation expressed its opposition to the term "intelligence" in relation to the mandate of peacekeepers. Furthermore, with regard to the provisions on climate and ecological changes, he underlined that those issues fell under the purview of the relevant bodies of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.<sup>224</sup>

On 30 August, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2432 \(2018\)](#), acting under Chapter VII of the Charter renewing until 31 August 2019 the sanctions measures imposed by

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<sup>218</sup> Ibid., para. 6.

<sup>219</sup> Ibid., paras. 49-50.

<sup>220</sup> Ibid., para. 68.

<sup>221</sup> Ibid., paras. 70-71.

<sup>222</sup> [S/PV.8298](#), p. 3.

<sup>223</sup> Ibid., p. 4.

<sup>224</sup> Ibid., p. 5.

resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#).<sup>225</sup> The Council also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#) until 30 September 2019 and expressed its intention to review the mandate and take appropriate action no later than 31 August 2019.<sup>226</sup> Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of France took the floor to restate that imposing sanctions on those who obstructed the implementation of the peace process in Mali was embedded in the very content of the Peace Agreement, and that the sanctions regime established by the Council in 2017 had proven to be a useful addition to the range of tools available to the international community to promote a solution to the crisis in Mali.<sup>227</sup>

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<sup>225</sup> Resolution [2432 \(2018\)](#), paras. 1 and 2. For more information on the sanctions measures concerning Mali, see part VII, sect. III, “Measures not involving the use of armed force in accordance with Article 41 of the Charter”.

<sup>226</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 3. For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#) concerning Mali and on the Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I. B.

<sup>227</sup> [S/PV.8336](#), p. 2.

**Meetings: The situation in Mali**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8163</a> 23 January 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali ( <a href="#">S/2017/1105</a> )		Mali <sup>a</sup>	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8229</a> 11 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali ( <a href="#">S/2018/273</a> )		Mali <sup>a</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA)	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8288</a> 14 June 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali ( <a href="#">S/2018/541</a> )		Mali <sup>a</sup>	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8298</a> 28 June 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali ( <a href="#">S/2018/541</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2018/639</a> )			Four Council members (Ethiopia, France, Russian Federation, United States)	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8336</a> 30 August 2018	Letter dated 8 August 2018 from the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">2374 (2017)</a> on Mali addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/581</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2018/785</a> )			One Council member (France)	Resolution <a href="#">2432 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8376</a> 19 October 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali ( <a href="#">S/2018/866</a> )		Mali	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> Mali was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

<sup>b</sup> The Permanent Representative of Sweden spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#) concerning Mali.



## AMERICAS

### 15. The question concerning Haiti

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings and adopted one resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter on the question concerning Haiti. Two of the meetings took the form of debates, one meeting was a briefing and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.<sup>228</sup> With the adoption of resolution [2410 \(2018\)](#), acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council renewed the mandate of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH).<sup>229</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, the Council was briefed once by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations prior to the expiration of the initial mandate of MINUJUSTH, and by the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Haiti and Head of MINUJUSTH at 90-day intervals starting from 1 June 2018, further to resolution [2410 \(2018\)](#). After the establishment of the Mission in October 2017, the briefings in 2018 focused on its role in supporting the Government of Haiti to consolidate stability and security and facilitate the country's path to longer-term development with a stronger rule of law and the enjoyment of human rights. As part of their remarks, the briefers presented and reported on the implementation of the two-year benchmarked exit strategy for the transition to a non-peacekeeping United Nations presence in Haiti, as requested by the Council in resolution [2350 \(2017\)](#). The 11 benchmarks and corresponding 46 indicators were initially presented to the Council by the Secretary-General in his reports of 20 March and 30 August 2018.<sup>230</sup>

During the Council deliberations, discussions focused on the importance of the MINUJUSTH mandate to ensure a successful transition to a non-peacekeeping United Nations presence in Haiti, including the implementation of the benchmarked exit strategy and the indicators. Council members highlighted the stabilization of political and security

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<sup>228</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>229</sup> For more information on the mandate and composition of MINUJUSTH, see part X, sect. I, "Peacekeeping operations".

<sup>230</sup> See [S/2018/241](#) and [S/2018/795](#).

conditions in Haiti, particularly with the conclusion of the electoral process in 2017 and the appointment of a new Government in 2018. They also noted progress on the professionalization of the Haitian National Police with the implementation of the 2017-2021 development plan and the Government's definition of a broad reform and legislative agenda, the need for further progress in the strengthening of rule of law institutions, improving respect for human rights, and addressing the difficult socio-economic conditions and the lack of accountability and corruption that resulted in several protests in different parts of Haiti in July, October and November 2018. Discussions also touched upon the need for international support for the reform of Haiti's security sector, the full implementation of the humanitarian response plan and the Government's efforts to implement the 2030 Agenda for sustainable Development and to eradicate the cholera epidemic and continued progress by MINUJUSTH to report and investigate instances of sexual exploitation and abuse in accordance with the zero-tolerance policy of the Secretary-General.

On 10 April 2018, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted resolution [2410 \(2018\)](#), with 13 votes in favour and two abstentions, renewing the mandate of MINUJUSTH for a period of one year until 15 April 2019 and providing for a downward adjustment of the Mission's police component.<sup>231</sup> In addition to specific reporting requirements concerning the exit strategy for the Mission,<sup>232</sup> the Council also requested the Secretary-General to conduct a Strategic Assessment Mission to Haiti by 1 February 2019 and, on this basis, to present to the Council recommendations on the future United Nations role in Haiti, including any recommendations for drawdown and exit, in the fourth 90-day report no later than 1 March 2019.<sup>233</sup> The Council also affirmed its intention, based on a review of the security conditions on the ground and Haiti's overall capacity to ensure stability, to consider the withdrawal of the Mission and transition to a non-peacekeeping United Nations presence beginning no sooner than 15 October 2019.<sup>234</sup>

Explaining the decision to abstain in the vote on the draft resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation maintained that the situation in Haiti did not constitute a threat to international peace and security and that the invocation of Chapter VII of the Charter should be contemplated by the Council only as a last resort for issues related to

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<sup>231</sup> Resolution [2410 \(2018\)](#), paras. 1 and 3.

<sup>232</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 4 to 6.

<sup>233</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 9.

<sup>234</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 10.

physical safety.<sup>235</sup> The representative of China stated that the mandate of MINUJUSTH should clearly focus on helping Haiti address peace and security challenges, rather than focusing too much on human rights, and called for more patient consultations during negotiations on draft resolutions.<sup>236</sup> By contrast, the United Kingdom stated that MINUJUSTH required all the necessary tools to ensure that the transition in Haiti was a success and that included the authorization under Chapter VII of the Charter to use all necessary means to carry out its mandate.<sup>237</sup> By the same resolution, the Council recognized that, over the past year, Haiti had made considerable strides towards stability and democracy, improvements in strengthening the security and humanitarian situation, and a consolidation of its democratic institutions through a peaceful transfer of power.<sup>238</sup> The Council further encouraged the Government, working with MINUJUSTH, to carry out work towards implementing the benchmarks, including adopting of new criminal legislation, strengthening judicial and correction systems, increasing oversight and accountability mechanisms in the justice, corrections and police sectors, establishing a Permanent Electoral Council, adopting the Legal Assistance Law, addressing the issue of prolonged pre-trial detention, and implementing community violence reduction efforts.<sup>239</sup>

In a letter dated 31 July 2018, the Council took note of the intention of the Secretary-General to appoint his new Special Representative for Haiti and Head of MINUJUSTH.<sup>240</sup>

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<sup>235</sup> [S/PV.8226](#), p. 3.

<sup>236</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 4.

<sup>237</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5.

<sup>238</sup> Resolution [2410 \(2018\)](#), second preambular paragraph.

<sup>239</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 7.

<sup>240</sup> [S/2018/754](#).

**Meetings: The question concerning Haiti**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8220</a> 3 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti ( <a href="#">S/2018/241</a> )		Six Member States <sup>a</sup>	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV. 8226</a> 10 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti ( <a href="#">S/2018/241</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/286</a> )	Haiti		11 Council members <sup>c</sup> , Haiti	Resolution <a href="#">2410 (2018)</a> 13-0-2 <sup>d</sup> (adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter)
<a href="#">S/PV.8342</a> 6 September 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti ( <a href="#">S/2018/795</a> )		Haiti	Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	All Council members <sup>e</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8419</a> 12 December 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti ( <a href="#">S/2018/1059</a> )		Haiti	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti, representative of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees <sup>f</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia and Haiti.

<sup>b</sup> The Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine. The representative of Canada spoke on behalf of the Friends of Haiti, comprising Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Guatemala, Peru, the United States and Uruguay.

<sup>c</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, France, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>d</sup> *For*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States;  
*abstaining*: China and the Russian Federation.

<sup>e</sup> The Netherlands was represented by the Prime Minister of Sint Maarten.

<sup>f</sup> The representative of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European and Albania, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine.

## **16. Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2016/53](#))**

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings and adopted one resolution under the agenda item entitled, “Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2016/53](#))”. Four of the meetings took the form of briefings and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.<sup>241</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In his quarterly briefings to the Council,<sup>242</sup> the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia highlighted the progress made by the parties in the implementation of the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace. He also focused on the overall political process in Colombia, namely the successful and peaceful conduct of presidential and legislative elections in March and May 2018, respectively, with the participation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (FARC-EP) for the first time, the establishment of transitional justice and reconciliation mechanisms and the steps taken by the new Government of Colombia in the implementation of the Agreement.<sup>243</sup> In terms of challenges, he briefed on an upsurge in attacks on social leaders and human rights defenders and emphasized the need for full political, legal and socioeconomic reincorporation of former FARC-EP members, including through ensuring land access and reform, and the provision of services.<sup>244</sup>

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<sup>241</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>242</sup> By his letter dated 21 May 2018 addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Secretary-General requested an extension for the submission of his third progress report from 26 June to 20 July 2018, in order to align its time frame with the concluding period of the current administration in Colombia. See [S/2018/498](#) and [S/2018/499](#).

<sup>243</sup> <sup>243</sup> [S/PV.8238](#), pp. 3-4; [S/PV.8319](#), pp. 2-3; [S/PV.8368](#); pp. 3-4.

<sup>244</sup> [S/PV.8154](#), pp. 2-3; [S/PV.8238](#), p. 3; [S/PV.8319](#), p. 3; [S/PV.8368](#), pp. 2-4.

Deliberations in the Council under this item during 2018 focused similarly on the status of the implementation of subsequent phases of the Agreement and the reincorporation of the FARC-EP elements into political, economic and social life, as well as the status of ceasefire talks between the Government and the National Liberation Army.

On 13 September 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2435 \(2018\)](#), welcoming the progress made towards peace since the adoption of the Agreement and urging the Government and the FARC-EP to work together to renew the momentum behind the implementation of the Agreement.<sup>245</sup> Acknowledging the request of the Government of Colombia in this regard,<sup>246</sup> the Council also extended the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia for a period of one year until 25 September 2019.<sup>247</sup>

Further, in a letter dated 5 December 2018 addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Secretary-General appointed a new Special Representative for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission.<sup>248</sup>

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<sup>245</sup> Resolution [2435 \(2018\)](#), third preambular paragraph.

<sup>246</sup> [S/2018/801](#).

<sup>247</sup> Resolution [2435 \(2018\)](#), para. 1. For more information on the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>248</sup> [S/2018/1097](#) and [S/2018/1098](#).

**Meetings: Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2016/53](#))**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8154</a> 10 January 2018	Letter dated 8 December 2017 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2017/1037</a> )  Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia ( <a href="#">S/2017/1117</a> )		Colombia <sup>a</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8238</a> 19 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia ( <a href="#">S/2018/279</a> )		Colombia <sup>b</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8319</a> 26 July 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia ( <a href="#">S/2018/723</a> )		Colombia <sup>c</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8351</a> 13 September 2018			Colombia			Resolution <a href="#">2435 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8368</a> 10 October 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia ( <a href="#">S/2018/874</a> )		Colombia <sup>d</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a b c</sup> Colombia was represented by its Vice-President.

<sup>d</sup> Colombia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

## ASIA

### 17. The situation in Afghanistan

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings, adopted one resolution and issued one presidential statement on the situation in Afghanistan. Four of the meetings took the form of debates and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.<sup>249</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. In addition, the Council conducted a mission to Afghanistan from 12 to 15 January 2018.<sup>250</sup>

During 2018, as in previous periods, the Council was briefed quarterly by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) further to the reports of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan.<sup>251</sup> The Council was briefed twice by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and once by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#). The Council was also briefed once by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism as well as by representatives of the Afghan High Peace Council and the Independent Commission for Overseeing the Implementation of the Constitution. Finally, the Council was briefed by two civil society representatives, in two separate meetings.

In his briefings, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General highlighted the new momentum in the peace process following President Ashraf Ghani's offer of unconditional peace talks to the Taliban, which was endorsed by the Kabul Process for Peace and Security second conference held on 28 February 2018.<sup>252</sup> Despite a short ceasefire from both sides in June 2018, he described the security and human rights situation, with over 8,000 civilian casualties from January to September and high levels of child casualties.<sup>253</sup> The Special Representative kept the Council apprised of the preparations and outcome of the parliamentary elections held on 20 October 2018 and the joint United Nations-Government of

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<sup>249</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>250</sup> For more information, see part I, sect. 33, "Security Council mission".

<sup>251</sup> See [S/2018/165](#), [S/2018/539](#), [S/2018/824](#) and [S/2018/1092](#).

<sup>252</sup> [S/PV.8294](#), p. 2.

<sup>253</sup> [S/PV.8426](#), p. 4.



Afghanistan ministerial conference held in Geneva on 27 and 28 November 2018.<sup>254</sup> While noting modest progress in the status of women, particularly on the legislative agenda, the Special Representative underlined the importance of ensuring the equal participation and full involvement of women in all efforts for the promotion, establishment and maintenance of peace and security.<sup>255</sup> He also drew attention to the impact of the insecurity on journalists and aid workers in Afghanistan and the significant humanitarian challenges facing the population, particularly in light of the worst drought in years.<sup>256</sup>

The Executive Director of UNODC noted that, despite a decline since 2017 due to drought, the area of opium cultivation in Afghanistan was the second-highest recorded since 1994.<sup>257</sup> He stressed the need for a strong Afghan lead and international support in counter-narcotics action as well as comprehensive and balanced approaches targeting the nexus between drugs, crime and terrorism.<sup>258</sup> The Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#) provided an overview of the latest trends in the security situation, as reported by the Monitoring Team, including the actions undertaken by the Taliban, the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) and Al-Qaida, and called on Member States to play a more active role in providing information to assist the Committee in the implementation of its mandate.<sup>259</sup> The Executive Director of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism also informed about the continued deadly violence across Afghanistan, including terrorist attacks against civilians, and provided an overview of the activities of his office with respect to the provision of technical assistance to Afghanistan on, inter alia, law enforcement, border security, countering terrorist financing and assistance and support to victims.<sup>260</sup>

In their discussions, Council members expressed support for the Kabul Process and called for an inclusive, Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace and reconciliation process. They also urged the Taliban to accept the President's offer for direct talks and the international community, including regional actors, to support the process. Speakers

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<sup>254</sup> [S/PV.8199](#), p. 3; [S/PV.8294](#), p. 3; [S/PV.8354](#), pp. 2-3; and [S/PV.8426](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>255</sup> [S/PV.8199](#), p. 3 and [S/PV.8354](#), p. 3.

<sup>256</sup> [S/PV.8294](#), p. 4; [S/PV.8354](#), p. 3 and [S/PV.8426](#), p. 4.

<sup>257</sup> [S/PV.8426](#), p. 4.

<sup>258</sup> [S/PV.8294](#), p. 5.

<sup>259</sup> [S/PV.8426](#), pp. 5-6. For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#), see part IX, sect. I.A, "Committees established under Chapter VII of the Charter".

<sup>260</sup> [S/PV.8294](#), pp. 5-7.

condemned the high rates of violence against civilians, including terrorist attacks by ISIL (Da'esh) and the Taliban. With respect to the Geneva conference, speakers welcomed the renewed partnership between the Government and the international community urging donors and stakeholders to support Afghanistan, including through regional economic and development cooperation. During 2018, the discussions in the Council addressed also the status of women in Afghanistan. Speakers condemned and called for an end to violence against women and girls and called on the Government to increase efforts to ensure the greater representation of women in the peace process and to implement the necessary measures to ensure their safe participation in the parliamentary and presidential elections, as well as safe access to education and healthcare.

On 8 March 2018, the Council adopted resolution [2405 \(2018\)](#) renewing the existing mandate of UNAMA for one year until 17 March 2019. In the resolution, the Council welcomed the findings of the strategic review and called for the implementation of the recommendations of the Secretary-General with a view to aligning the Mission's substantive functions in support of peace efforts and an intra-Afghan dialogue.<sup>261</sup> While reiterating the Mission's existing priorities, the Council specified that this would include the organization of future elections, including the parliamentary and district council elections as foreseen for 2018 and the presidential elections in 2019.<sup>262</sup> The Council called on UNAMA to increase efforts to achieve greater coherence with other UN entities based on a "One UN approach" in close consultation with the Afghan Government.<sup>263</sup> The Council further stressed the role of UNAMA in supporting an inclusive Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process while also calling on all regional and international partners of Afghanistan to continue to support peace and reconciliation through the Kabul Process toward holding early and direct talks between the Government and the Taliban and for the effective implementation of the Strategic Plan for Peace and Reconciliation presented by the High Peace Council.<sup>264</sup>

The Council welcomed the Government's commitment to empower women politically and economically, and reiterated the importance of their increasing full and effective

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<sup>261</sup> Resolution [2405 \(2018\)](#), paras. 3 and 4. For more information on the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, see part X, sect. II, "Special political missions".

<sup>262</sup> Resolution [2405 \(2018\)](#), para. 6(b).

<sup>263</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 7 and 9. See also para. 6(c).

<sup>264</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 11 to 13.

participation and leadership in decision-making.<sup>265</sup> The Council also called for enhanced efforts to secure the rights of women and girls and to ensure they are protected from violence and abuse, including sexual and gender-based violence and that perpetrators are held accountable.<sup>266</sup> In the resolution, the Council further underlined the need to hold perpetrators, organizers, financiers and sponsors of terrorist acts accountable and urged all States, in accordance with their obligations under international law and Council resolutions, to cooperate actively with the Government of Afghanistan and all other relevant authorities in this regard.<sup>267</sup>

In a presidential statement issued on 23 July 2018, the Council noted the conclusion of the voter registration for the parliamentary elections in October 2018 and underscored the importance of developing sustainable democratic institutions in Afghanistan based on inclusive, transparent and credible elections and stressed the need to promote the full and safe participation of women and minority groups, as voters and candidates.<sup>268</sup> The Council further stressed the importance of a secure environment for conducting elections, condemned in the strongest terms those who resort to violence to obstruct the electoral process, including the Taliban and ISIL (Da'esh) affiliates and reaffirmed its commitment to the ability of all Afghan citizens to exercise their civil and political rights.<sup>269</sup>

Developments in Afghanistan were also considered elsewhere under the following two items, “Maintenance of international peace and security” and “Security Council mission”.<sup>270</sup>

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<sup>265</sup> Ibid., paras. 19 and 39.

<sup>266</sup> Ibid., para. 38.

<sup>267</sup> Ibid., para. 23.

<sup>268</sup> [S/PRST/2018/15](#), first and fourth paragraphs.

<sup>269</sup> Ibid., ninth paragraph.

<sup>270</sup> For more information, see part I, sect. 33, “Security Council mission” and sect. 37, “Maintenance of international peace and security”.

### Meetings: The situation in Afghanistan

<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.8199</a> 8 March 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2018/165</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the Netherlands ( <a href="#">S/2018/198</a> )	10 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, Deputy Chairperson of the High Peace Council of Afghanistan, Executive Director of the Organization for Policy Research and Development Studies, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members <sup>b</sup> , all invitees <sup>c</sup>	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8294</a> 26 June 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2018/539</a> )		12 Member States <sup>d</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Executive Director of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism, Representative of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees <sup>e</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8315</a> 23 July 2018			Afghanistan		Afghanistan	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/15</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8354</a> 17 September 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2018/824</a> )		11 Member States <sup>f</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Afghan youth representative, Head of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees <sup>g</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8426</a> 17 December 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2018/1092</a> )		14 Member States <sup>h</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Executive Director of UNODC <sup>i</sup> , Independent Commission for Overseeing the Implementation of the Constitution, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members <sup>j</sup> , all invitees <sup>k</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Pakistan and Turkey.

<sup>b</sup> The Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Trade and Development and Sweden was represented by its Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

<sup>c</sup> Australia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Ukraine,

<sup>d</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

<sup>e</sup> The representative of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine.

<sup>f</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

<sup>g</sup> The Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia and Ukraine.

<sup>h</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

<sup>i</sup> The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime participated in the meeting via videoconference from Vienna.

<sup>j</sup> The representative of Kazakhstan spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#).

<sup>k</sup> The Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union, Albania, Georgia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey.

## 18. The situation in Myanmar

During the period under review, the Security Council held three meetings under the item entitled “The situation in Myanmar”. The three meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>271</sup> No decisions were adopted by the Council under this item during 2018. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. In addition, the Council conducted a mission to Myanmar and Bangladesh from 28 April to 2 May 2018.<sup>272</sup>

In 2018, the Council was briefed by the Secretary-General, the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Associate Administrator for the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Goodwill Ambassador, and the Chairperson of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar. Discussions in the Council focused on the security, humanitarian, and human rights situation in Rakhine State, the status of the Rohingya refugees across the border in Bangladesh and internally displaced persons and the conditions necessary for their return, humanitarian access restrictions, progress in the implementation by the Government of Myanmar of the recommendations of the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State as a means of addressing the root causes of the crisis, and the need for accountability for crimes committed against the Rohingya.

In his briefing to the Council on 13 February 2018, the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs noted that five months since the start the large-scale violence which forced 688,000 Rohingya to leave Myanmar for Bangladesh since August 2017 the outflow of people continued, although at a lower rate, and that large-scale acts of violence had subsided.<sup>273</sup> Nevertheless, he emphasized the insecurity of the Rohingya from Bamar and Rakhine States and the lack of humanitarian access to conflict-affected areas. The Assistant Secretary-General further urged the Government to take a leadership role in promoting intercommunal cohesion and creating an environment conducive to dialogue and the respect

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<sup>271</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>272</sup> For more information on the Council’s mission to Myanmar and Bangladesh, see part I, sect. 33, “Security Council mission”.

<sup>273</sup> [S/PV.8179](#), p. 2.

for basic human rights.<sup>274</sup> The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees underscored the absence of necessary conditions for the return of refugees and internally displaced persons and called for increased humanitarian support. He also endorsed the recommendations of the Advisory Commission for a solution focused on a two-track approach of, first, access to citizenship and the restoration of rights for the Rohingya and, second, inclusive development aimed at improving living conditions.<sup>275</sup>

During the briefing held on 28 August 2018, the Secretary-General reiterated that conditions had not been met for the return of refugees and asked Council members to join him in urging the Myanmar authorities to cooperate with the United Nations and ensure immediate, unimpeded, and effective humanitarian access. He added that accountability was essential for genuine reconciliation among all ethnic groups in the country. The Secretary-General further informed of his appointment of a Special Envoy on Myanmar in April 2018 who had commenced a process of consultations in furtherance of the Secretary-General's policy of engagement to encourage positive actions by the Government, help defuse tensions among communities, and build confidence and trust.<sup>276</sup> The Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme provided an overview of efforts to implement the tripartite memorandum of understanding signed among the Government of Myanmar, the United Nations Development Programme and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees as a framework for creating sustainable conditions for voluntary returns.<sup>277</sup> The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Goodwill Ambassador drew the attention of Council members to the significant underfunding of international humanitarian efforts and implored the Council to encourage a more robust international response in this regard.<sup>278</sup>

In a letter dated 16 October 2018 to the President of the Council, the representatives of nine Council members requested a meeting on the situation in Myanmar and for the Chair of the Independent International Fact-Finding Mission on Myanmar, established by the Human Rights Council, to formally brief the Council which, they explained, would enable Council members to receive further information on the situation and its implications on

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<sup>274</sup> Ibid., pp. 2-3.

<sup>275</sup> Ibid., pp. 3-5.

<sup>276</sup> [S/PV.8333](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>277</sup> Ibid., pp. 4-5.

<sup>278</sup> Ibid., pp. 5-6.

international peace and security.<sup>279</sup> In a letter dated 18 October 2018 addressed to the President of the Council, the representatives of the Plurinational State of Bolivia, China, Equatorial Guinea, and the Russian Federation objected to the holding of the requested meeting, maintaining that it was outside of the mission's mandate, would set a bad precedent for the Council and would erode the mandate of and duplicate the work of the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council.<sup>280</sup>

On 24 October 2018, the Chairperson of the independent fact-finding mission on Myanmar briefed the Council on the findings and recommendations of the report of the fact-finding mission of 12 September 2018 highlighting the consistent patterns of human rights violations in Kachin, Rakhine and Shan States, in addition to serious violations of international humanitarian law, committed primarily by the Myanmar military, which – according to the report – could amount to the gravest crimes under international law.<sup>281</sup> The Chairperson called on the Council to refer the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court or another international ad hoc tribunal and to impose targeted individual sanctions against those most responsible for serious crimes.<sup>282</sup> The provisional agenda was adopted by a procedural vote at the outset of the meeting.<sup>283</sup> In their statements before and after the vote, the representatives of Bolivia, China, Kazakhstan, and the Russian Federation voiced their opposition to holding the meeting, maintaining, inter alia, that this was beyond the role of the Council as provided by the Charter.<sup>284</sup> Other Council members who had voted in favour of the provisional agenda underscored the importance of the briefing for the Council to fulfil its responsibility in the maintenance of international peace and security.<sup>285</sup>

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<sup>279</sup> Letter dated 16 October from the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States to the President of the Security Council ([S/2018/926](#)).

<sup>280</sup> [S/2018/938](#).

<sup>281</sup> [A/HRC/39/64](#).

<sup>282</sup> [S/PV.8381](#), pp. 4-6.

<sup>283</sup> For details on procedural votes on the agenda, see part II, sect. II.A.

<sup>284</sup> [S/PV.8381](#), p. 2 (China), pp. 2-3 (Russian Federation), p. 4 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)), and p. 19 (Kazakhstan). For more information on relations with the General Assembly, see part IV, sect. I.

<sup>285</sup> [S/PV.8381](#), p. 3 and p. 6 (United Kingdom), p. 9 (Netherlands), p. 9 (United States), p. 10 (France) and p. 17 (Peru).



**Meetings: The situation in Myanmar**

<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.8179</a> 13 February 2018			Bangladesh, Myanmar	Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8333</a> 28 August 2018			Bangladesh, Myanmar	Associate Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees Goodwill Ambassador	Secretary-General, all Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8381</a> 24 October 2018	Letter dated 16 October 2018 from the representatives of Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States addressed to the President of the Security Council <a href="#">(S/2018/926)</a>		Bangladesh, Myanmar	Chairperson of the independent international fact-finding mission on Myanmar	All Council members, all invitees	Procedural vote (Rule 9) 9-3-3 <sup>c</sup>
	Letter dated 18 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea and the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council <a href="#">(S/2018/938)</a>					

<sup>a</sup> The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees participated in the meeting via videoconference from Amman.

<sup>b</sup> The United Kingdom was represented by the Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the United Nations.

## EUROPE

### 19. The situation in Cyprus

During the year 2018, the Security Council held two meetings and adopted two resolutions concerning the situation in Cyprus. More information on the meetings, including on invitees, speakers and outcomes is given in the table below. The Council also held two closed meetings with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#).<sup>286</sup>

During the two meetings of the Council, no statements were made. The Council unanimously adopted two resolutions in 2018: resolution [2398 \(2018\)](#) on 30 January, and resolution [2430 \(2018\)](#) on 26 July 2018. By these resolutions, the Council renewed the mandate of UNFICYP for six months respectively, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the reports of the Secretary-General.<sup>287</sup> In both resolutions, the Council requested the Secretary-General to maintain transition planning in relation to a settlement, guided by progress in negotiations, and encouraged the sides to engage with each other, as well as with UNFICYP and the United Nations Good Offices mission.<sup>288</sup> In addition, the Council noted the need to consider adjustments as appropriate to the mandate of UNFICYP, its force levels and other resources and concept of operations, while taking into account developments on the ground and the views of the parties.<sup>289</sup>

By resolution [2398 \(2018\)](#), the Council welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on the strategic review of UNFICYP and endorsed implementation of its recommendations.<sup>290</sup> It also welcomed the progress of the leaders-led process and urged the sides and all involved participants to renew the political will and commitment to a settlement.<sup>291</sup> The Council also called on the two leaders to reach convergences on the core issues, intensify work with the objective of enhancing intercommunal contacts and improving

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<sup>286</sup> Held on 16 January and 12 July 2018, under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop-and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B”; see [S/PV.8157](#) and [S/PV.8308](#). For more information with regard to the mandate of UNFICYP, see part X, sect. I.

<sup>287</sup> See [S/2018/25](#), and [S/2018/676](#).

<sup>288</sup> Resolutions [2398 \(2018\)](#), para. 5; and [2430 \(2018\)](#), para. 6.

<sup>289</sup> Resolutions [2398 \(2018\)](#), sixteenth preambular paragraph and [2430 \(2018\)](#), eighteenth preambular paragraph.

<sup>290</sup> Resolution [2398 \(2018\)](#), para. 10.

<sup>291</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 1.

lives of Cypriots and improve the public atmosphere to secure a settlement.<sup>292</sup> The resolution also stressed the importance of the full and effective participation of civil society and women in particular at all stages of the peace process and urged their involvement in the development of post conflict strategies as well as the full and effective participation of youth.<sup>293</sup>

In resolution [2430 \(2018\)](#), the Council welcomed again the progress of the leaders-led process while noting the lack of progress towards a settlement since the conclusion of the Conference on Cyprus. The Council also urged the sides and all involved participants to seize the important opportunity presented by the appointment of the United Nations Consultant Jane Holl Lute to conduct in-depth consultations on a way forward, by engaging constructively in those consultations, and renewing their political will and commitment to a settlement.<sup>294</sup> In this regard, the Council called upon the sides, specifically the leaders of the two Cypriot communities, and all involved parties to actively engage with openness and creativity, fully commit to a settlement process, and avoid any actions that might damage the chances of success.<sup>295</sup> Recalling its call in resolution [2398 \(2018\)](#) to the two leaders to reach convergence on the core issues, it also called on them to increase and strengthen the participation of civil society in the process with a view to mobilizing greater support for the settlement process at large.<sup>296</sup> The Council, by this resolution again, stressed the importance of the full and effective participation of civil society and women at all stages of the peace process and urged their involvement in the development and implementation of post-conflict strategies, including by revitalizing the Gender Committee and considering the Secretary-General's proposal to conduct a gender-sensitive socioeconomic impact assessment. The Council also requested the Secretary-General to increase the number of women in UNFICYP as well as to ensure the meaningful participation of women in all aspects of operations.<sup>297</sup> In addition, stressing the importance of the full and effective participation of youth, the Council recognized the important work of the Bi-Communal Technical Committee on Education and called on both sides to facilitate intercommunal youth contacts.<sup>298</sup>

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<sup>292</sup> Ibid., para. 4.

<sup>293</sup> Ibid., para. 7.

<sup>294</sup> Resolution [2430 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>295</sup> Ibid., para. 2.

<sup>296</sup> Ibid., para 5 (d).

<sup>297</sup> Ibid., paras. 8 and 12.

<sup>298</sup> Ibid., para. 9.

In 2018, the Council endorsed the Secretary-General's appointment of a new Force Commander of UNFICYP by an exchange of letters.<sup>299</sup>

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<sup>299</sup> [S/2018/1000](#) and [S/2018/1001](#).

**Meetings: The situation in Cyprus**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8168</a> 30 January 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus ( <a href="#">S/2018/25</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/72</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2398 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8317</a> 26 July 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on progress towards a settlement in Cyprus ( <a href="#">S/2018/610</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/737</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2430 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus ( <a href="#">S/2018/676</a> )					

## **20. Items relating to the situation in the former Yugoslavia**

### **A. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

During 2018, the Security Council held two meetings and adopted one resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter in connection with the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Council continued the consideration of this item in the context of semi-annual briefings by the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>300</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In his briefings to the Council in 2018, the High Representative provided updates on the developments covered in his two reports.<sup>301</sup> While noting the positive developments achieved by the leadership of Bosnia and Herzegovina during the reporting period, particularly towards the integration with the European Union, the High Representative also expressed concerns regarding the slow pace in implementing urgent electoral reforms and strengthening the rule of law, and regretted the escalation in divisive public rhetoric, particularly in view of the general elections held on 7 October 2018.<sup>302</sup>

During the discussions, Council members emphasized the need for urgent implementation of key reforms, including the introduction of the rulings of the European Court of Human Rights and the Constitutional Court of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Council members further expressed concerns with the persistence of ethnic tensions undermining the political and social stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina as well as with the proliferation of violent extremism and radicalization in the country. In addition, members of the Council reiterated calls on the competent authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to

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<sup>300</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>301</sup> See [S/2018/416](#) and [S/2018/974](#).

<sup>302</sup> [S/PV.8248](#), pp. 2-4 and [S/PV. 8392](#), pp. 2-4.

take the steps required to complete the 5 plus 2 agenda, necessary for the closure of the Office of the High Representative.

Following the elections on 7 October 2018, on 6 November 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2443 \(2018\)](#) under Chapter VII of the Charter by which it renewed the authorization of the multinational stabilization force (European Union Force – EUFOR ALTHEA) and the continued presence of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in the country for a period of 12 months, starting from the date of the adoption of that resolution.<sup>303</sup> In this resolution, the Council also urged the parties to engage constructively on swift government formation at all levels and to prioritise the implementation of comprehensive reforms, and further called on the parties to refrain from any polarizing unconstructive policy, action and rhetoric.<sup>304</sup> At the meeting, before and after the vote, the representatives of the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom expressed differing views on the process of drafting of the resolution as well as on the engagement as members of the Contact Group and of the Peace Implementation Council Steering Board for Bosnia and Herzegovina.<sup>305</sup>

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<sup>303</sup> Resolution [2443 \(2018\)](#), paras. 3 and 4. For more information, see part VIII, sect. III.

<sup>304</sup> Resolution [2443 \(2018\)](#), para. 8.

<sup>305</sup> [S/PV.8392](#), p. 4 (Russian Federation) and p. 5 (United Kingdom).

**Meetings: The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina**

<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.8248</a> 8 May 2018	Letter dated 2 May 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/416</a> )		Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia	High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8392</a> 6 November 2018	Letter dated 30 October 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/974</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/989</a> )	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia	High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2443 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)



## **B. Security Council resolutions [1160 \(1998\)](#), [1199 \(1998\)](#), [1203 \(1998\)](#), [1239 \(1999\)](#) and [1244 \(1999\)](#)**

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings in connection with the item entitled “Security Council resolutions [1160 \(1998\)](#), [1199 \(1998\)](#), [1203 \(1998\)](#), [1239 \(1999\)](#) and [1244 \(1999\)](#)”. All meetings took the form of briefings and no decisions were adopted by the Council under this item during 2018.<sup>306</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers is given in the table below.

As in the past, the Council considered the item through briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) further to the Secretary-General’s reports pursuant to resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#). In 2018, briefings focused on the increase in tensions between Pristina and Belgrade, the lack of substantive progress and setbacks in the normalization of relations between the two through the European Union-facilitated dialogue, and the establishment of the Association/Community of Serb-majority municipalities.

Speakers at those meetings also focused on the launch of the new enlargement strategy of the European Union for the Western Balkans. The attempt to abrogate the law on the Specialist Chambers by a number of members of the ruling coalition in the Kosovo Assembly was referenced in the discussions of the Council as a cause of concern, as well as the murder on 16 January 2018 of a prominent Kosovo Serb politician and the arrest in March of the Director of the Serbian Government’s Kosovo office and Belgrade’s lead negotiator for the European Union facilitated dialogue after entering northern Kosovo against the advice of the Kosovo authorities. Council members also focused on the work of UNMIK,<sup>307</sup> which had re-aligned its focus and priorities towards promoting longer-term reconciliation, as well as the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX),

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<sup>306</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>307</sup> For more information on the mandate of UNMIK, see part X, sect. I.

the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Kosovo Force. In addition, during the meetings of the Council, certain Council members argued that it was no longer necessary for the Council to receive quarterly reports of the Secretary-General or be briefed every three months on the situation in Kosovo,<sup>308</sup> while others considered the idea of changing the format and periodicity of Secretariat briefings on Kosovo to be inappropriate at that juncture.<sup>309</sup>

On 17 December, the Council held an urgent meeting at the request of the Permanent representative of Serbia to discuss the 14 December decision by the Assembly of Kosovo to “transform the Kosovo Security Force into armed forces”.<sup>310</sup> In his letter to the President of the Council, the Permanent representative of Serbia emphasized that resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#) provided for the deployment of an international security presence and that “no establishment of any other armed force” was provided for in the resolution. At the meeting, Council members discussed whether the transition of the Kosovo Security Force into armed forces was Kosovo’s sovereign right or a violation of resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#). Council members also assessed the impact of this decision on regional stability. At the same meeting, the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations on the heightened tensions between Belgrade and Pristina due to the announcement by the Government of Kosovo of an increase in the tariff on goods imported from Serbia and Bosnia and Herzegovina from 10 to 100 per cent.

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<sup>308</sup> See for example, [S/PV.8176](#), p. 14 (Poland), p. 17 (Sweden and the United Kingdom) and p. 19 (Netherlands); and [S/PV.8399](#), p. 13 (United Kingdom), p. 19 (Netherlands), p. 19 (Poland), p. 21 (Sweden).

<sup>309</sup> [S/PV.8176](#), p. 16 (Russian Federation); and [S/PV.8399](#), p. 4 (Serbia) and pp. 15-16 (Russian Federation).

<sup>310</sup> [S/PV.8427](#). See [S/2018/1111](#).

**Meetings: Security Council resolutions [1160 \(1998\)](#), [1199 \(1998\)](#), [1203 \(1998\)](#), [1239 \(1999\)](#) and [1244 \(1999\)](#)**

<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.8176</a> 7 February 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo ( <a href="#">S/2018/76</a> )		Serbia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Kosovo and Head of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo, <sup>a</sup> Ms. Vlora Çitaku	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8254</a> 14 May 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo ( <a href="#">S/2018/407</a> )		Serbia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ms. Vlora Çitaku	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8399</a> 14 November 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo ( <a href="#">S/2018/981</a> )		Serbia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Ms. Vlora Çitaku	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8427</a> 17 December 2018	Letter dated 14 December 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Serbia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1111</a> )		Serbia	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Mr. Hashim Thaçi	All Council members, all invitees <sup>c</sup>	

<sup>a</sup>The Special Representative of the Secretary-General participated in the meeting via videoconference from Pristina.

<sup>b</sup>Serbia was represented by its First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>c</sup>Serbia was represented by its President.

## 21. Items relating to Ukraine

### **A. Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/136](#))**

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings, including one high-level meeting, in connection with the item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/136](#))” and adopted one presidential statement. Except for one, all meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>311</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes is given in the table below.

During 2018, the Council heard briefings from the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, and the Chief Monitor of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine. Briefers focused on the deterioration of the security situation along the line of contact dividing eastern Ukraine, including sniper fire and mine and unexploded ordnance contamination. Briefings also touched upon the lack of progress in the implementation of the Minsk agreements and the humanitarian crisis resulting from the conflict, in particular, the issue of humanitarian access, the situation of displaced persons, the threat to civilians posed by shelling, and the impact of the destruction of civilian infrastructure.<sup>312</sup>

These topics were also discussed by Council members. They focused in particular, on the need for all parties to comply with the ceasefire and on the impact of the conflict on the civilian population and the potential threat of long-term environmental damage posed by attacks on civilian infrastructure.<sup>313</sup> Speakers also dwelled on the human rights situation in Crimea affecting, among other groups, the Crimean Tatar community.<sup>314</sup> Council members

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<sup>311</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>312</sup> See [S/PV.8270](#) and [S/PV.8386](#).

<sup>313</sup> Ibid.

<sup>314</sup> See [S/PV.8270](#), [S/PV.8386](#) and [S/PV.8410](#).

also discussed the updates of the Joint Investigation Team on the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH-17 emphasizing the importance of abiding by resolution [2166 \(2014\)](#).<sup>315</sup> They also considered the possibility of deploying a United Nations-mandated peacekeeping mission to eastern Ukraine.<sup>316</sup>

At the request of six Council members,<sup>317</sup> the Council held a meeting on 30 October under this item as well as the item entitled “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/264](#))” to discuss the announcement of leadership elections in Donetsk and Luhansk on 11 November 2018, and the potential impact on efforts for a peaceful resolution of the conflict. At the outset of the meeting, the representative of Sweden noted that the meeting was being held under two items “without the formal creation of a new agenda item”. He further indicated that the two items remained separate and distinct.<sup>318</sup> The representative of Sweden objected to the invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the briefer proposed by the Russian Federation. The representative of Sweden indicated that France, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States would oppose to such invitation if the matter was put to a procedural vote.<sup>319</sup> In response, the representative of the Russian Federation insisted “for reasons of transparency” in requesting the participation of the “heads of the central electoral commissions of the Donetsk and Luhansk People’s Republics”.<sup>320</sup> Immediately thereafter, the Council held a procedural vote on the proposal to extend the invitation under rule 39 of the Council’s provisional rules of procedure. The proposal was not adopted due to its failure to obtain the required number of votes.<sup>321</sup> At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs on the situation in Ukraine, including the increase in violations to the ceasefire by the parties to the Minsk Agreement, the humanitarian situation, and the impact of the conflict on civilians.

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<sup>315</sup> See [S/PV.8270](#).

<sup>316</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>317</sup> France, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. See [S/PV.8386](#), p. 2.

<sup>318</sup> For further information on the agenda, see part II, sect. II.

<sup>319</sup> [S/PV.8386](#), p. 2.

<sup>320</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3.

<sup>321</sup> For more information on participation, see part II, section VII. For more information on decision-making by voting, see part II, section VIII.

Against the backdrop of heightened tensions, on 26 November, the Council met to address the security incident that had taken place the previous day near Crimea involving a confrontation between Ukrainian and Russian vessels when the former attempted to enter the Sea of Azov through the Kerch Strait. This meeting took place further to a meeting under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”.<sup>322</sup> At the meeting, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council on the incident and called for the immediate de-escalation of tensions in the Sea of Azov and the Black Sea. In the discussion that ensued, Council members expressed concern about the escalation of tensions and called on the parties to refrain from actions that could aggravate the situation. Many Council members reaffirmed the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine. The representative of the Russian Federation argued instead that Ukraine had violated the border in a place that was Russian before 2014.<sup>323</sup>

During the review period, the Council issued the first presidential statement in relation to the situation in Ukraine. In that statement, the Council expressed grave concern about the deterioration of the security situation in eastern Ukraine and its impact on the civilian population, condemned the continuous violations of the ceasefire regime, welcomed the work of UN agencies in addressing the humanitarian situation and expressed support to the Special Monitoring Mission of the OSCE. The Council also reaffirmed its full support for resolution [2166 \(2014\)](#) on the downing of flight MH-17 and underlined the need for strict compliance with resolution [2202 \(2015\)](#) on the implementation of the Minsk Agreements.<sup>324</sup>

In 2018, the Council considered the situation in Ukraine also under the item entitled “Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe”.<sup>325</sup>

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<sup>322</sup> For more information, see part I, sect. 37.

<sup>323</sup> [S/PV.8410](#), p. 13.

<sup>324</sup> [S/PRST/2018/12](#).

<sup>325</sup> For more information, see part I, sect. 32.

**Meetings: Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/136](#))**

<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.8270</a> 29 May 2018			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Chief Monitor of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members <sup>a</sup> , all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8276</a> 6 June 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/12</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8386</a> 30 October 2018 <sup>c</sup>			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	14 Council members <sup>d</sup> , all invitees	Procedural vote (Rule 39) 1-7-7 <sup>e</sup>
<a href="#">S/PV.8410</a> 26 November 2018			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> The Netherlands and Poland (President of the Security Council) were represented by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>b</sup> The Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine participated in the meeting via videoconference from Minsk. Ukraine was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>c</sup> This meeting was held also under the item entitled “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/264](#))”.

<sup>d</sup> Bolivia (the Plurinational State of), China, France, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Poland, Peru, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>e</sup> *For*: Russian Federation; *against*: France, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait.

## **B. Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/264](#))**

During the period under review, the Security Council held one meeting in connection with the item entitled “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/264](#))” and the item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/136](#))”. More information on the meeting, including on participants and speakers, is given in the table below.

During the meeting, held on 30 October, the Council heard briefings from the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator. The meeting was held at the request of six Council members to discuss the announcement of leadership elections in Donetsk and Luhansk on 11 November 2018 and the potential impact on efforts for a peaceful resolution of the conflict.<sup>326</sup> At the outset of the meeting, the representative of Sweden noted that the meeting was being held under two items “without the formal creation of a new agenda item”. He further indicated that the two items remained separate and distinct.<sup>327</sup> The representative of Sweden objected to the invitation under rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the briefer proposed by the Russian Federation. The representative of Sweden indicated that France, the Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, the United Kingdom and the United States would oppose to such invitation if the matter was put to a procedural vote.<sup>328</sup> In response, the representative of the Russian Federation insisted “for reasons of transparency” in requesting the participation of the “heads of the central electoral commissions of the Donetsk and Luhansk People’s Republics”.<sup>329</sup> Immediately thereafter, the Council held a procedural vote

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<sup>326</sup> France, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States. See [S/PV.8386](#), p. 2.

<sup>327</sup> For further information on the agenda, see part II, sect. II.

<sup>328</sup> [S/PV.8386](#), p. 2.

<sup>329</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3.



on the proposal to extend the invitation under rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure. The proposal was not adopted due to its failure to obtain the required number of votes.<sup>330</sup> At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator on the situation in Ukraine, including the increase in violations to the ceasefire by the parties to the Minsk Agreement, the humanitarian situation, and the impact of the conflict on civilians.

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<sup>330</sup> For more information on participation, see part II, section VII. For more information on decision-making by voting, see part II, section VIII.

**Meetings: Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/264](#))**

<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.8386</a> 30 October 2018 <sup>a</sup>			Ukraine	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	14 Council members <sup>b</sup> , all invitees	Procedural vote (Rule 39) 1-7-7 <sup>c</sup>

<sup>a</sup>This meeting was held also under the item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/136](#))”.

<sup>b</sup>Bolivia (the Plurinational State of), China, France, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, the Netherlands, Poland, Peru, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>c</sup>*For*: Russian Federation; *against*: France, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d’Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Kuwait.

## **22. Letter dated 13 March 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2018/218](#))**

During 2018, the Security Council held four meetings under the item “Letter dated 13 March 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2018/218](#))”. All four meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>331</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In a letter from the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom to the Secretary-General included as annex to the letter of the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom dated 13 March 2018, the Prime Minister informed that on 4 March 2018, Sergei Skripal and his daughter Yulia Skripal had been poisoned in Salisbury and were in critical condition. In the letter, the Prime Minister further informed that a police officer had also been exposed in the attack and remained seriously ill and that specialist military troops had been deployed to assist in the investigation and to secure the sites of contamination. According to the letter, hundreds of members of the public had also been affected by the incident. The letter further stated that the United Kingdom police had identified that the chemical used in Salisbury was a specific nerve agent from a class of chemical warfare agents known as “Novichoks”, highly toxic poisons that prevented the normal functioning of the nervous system. According to the letter, the British Government believed that, as stated to the Parliament, it was highly likely that the Russian Federation was responsible for the attack given the combined capability in chemical warfare, intent to weaponize the agent and motive to target the principal victim. The letter further stated that the United Kingdom was determined to bring to account those responsible for the crime in accordance with the rule of law. The letter described the attack as a clear challenge by a State Member of the United Nations to the rules-based international order which required to be addressed with the support of the international community.<sup>332</sup>

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<sup>331</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>332</sup> [S/2018/218](#), p. 2.

The first meeting under this item was held on 14 March 2018. During that meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom affirmed that the incident was an unlawful use of force and a violation of Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations.<sup>333</sup> During the same meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that the letter contained “totally irresponsible assertions” and included threats to a sovereign State and permanent member of the Security Council that were contrary to international law and Article 2, paragraph 4, of the Charter of the United Nations. The Russian Federation further underlined that it considered the unfounded accusations in the British Prime Minister’s appeal of 13 March to the Secretary-General “totally unacceptable”.<sup>334</sup> Many members of the Security Council expressed concern regarding the use of a chemical weapon against civilians and the threat that it posed to the international non-proliferation regime,<sup>335</sup> whilst others called for the respect of the Chemical Weapons Convention and looked forward to a full and thorough investigation.<sup>336</sup>

In the subsequent meetings under this agenda item, discussions focused on the meetings of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) in The Hague. On 18 April 2018, the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs informed that the United Kingdom had requested technical assistance from the OPCW Technical Secretariat under article VIII of the Chemical Weapons Convention. She also informed the Council that the Director-General of the OPCW had deployed a technical assistance team to the United Kingdom in late March 2018. At that meeting, the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs stated that the results of the analysis by the OPCW-designated laboratories of the environmental and biomedical samples collected by the OPCW technical assistance team confirmed the findings of the United Kingdom relating to the identity of the toxic chemical that was used in Salisbury on 4 March and that this was transmitted, on 12 April 2018, in a report of the OPCW Technical Secretariat to the United Kingdom and to all other States parties to the Chemical Weapons Convention.<sup>337</sup> At the same meeting, on 18 April 2018, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that there was nothing in the OPCW report that supported the British

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<sup>333</sup> [S/PV.8203](#), p. 2.

<sup>334</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 8.

<sup>335</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5 (France), p. 5 (Kuwait), p. 6 (Poland), p. 6 (Peru), pp. 6-7 (Sweden) and pp. 10-11 (Netherlands).

<sup>336</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5 (Kuwait), p. 7 (Sweden), p. 7 (Kazakhstan), p. 7 (Ethiopia).

<sup>337</sup> [S/PV.8237](#), p. 2.

version of Russia’s involvement in the Salisbury incident and that the speedy analysis conducted by the OPCW only confirmed that such a substance could have been produced in any laboratory that had the right equipment.<sup>338</sup>

On 5 September 2018, the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom transmitted to the Security Council a letter attaching a statement made by the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom to Parliament on 5 September 2018 concerning the investigation into the attack in Salisbury of 4 March 2018.<sup>339</sup> At the Council meeting, on 6 September 2018, the representative of the United Kingdom informed that whilst the Skripals were recovering, two other persons had fallen ill after being exposed to Novichok in Amesbury resulting in the passing of one of them on 8 July 2018. The representative of the United Kingdom also noted that the OPCW’s independent expert laboratories had again confirmed the United Kingdom’s identification of the Novichok nerve agent and that charges had been brought against two Russian nationals by the Crown Prosecution Service. He further stated that the United Kingdom Government had concluded that the two individuals named by the police investigation were in fact officers from the Russian Military Intelligence Service.<sup>340</sup> The representative of the Russian Federation firmly rejected the “groundless accusations” of his country’s involvement in the poisoning with the toxic chemicals in the city of Salisbury in March 2018 and that the Russian Federation had never developed, produced or stockpiled the toxic chemicals referred to as Novichok.<sup>341</sup>

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<sup>338</sup> Ibid., p. 12.

<sup>339</sup> [S/2018/814](#).

<sup>340</sup> [S/PV.8343](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>341</sup> Ibid., p. 11.

**Meetings: Letter dated 13 March 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2018/218](#))**

<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.8203</a> 14 March 2018	Letter dated 13 March 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/218</a> )				All Council members	
<a href="#">S/PV.8224</a> 5 April 2018	Letter dated 13 March 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/218</a> )				All Council members	
<a href="#">S/PV.8237</a> 18 April 2018	Letter dated 13 March 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/218</a> )			High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	All Council members, High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	
<a href="#">S/PV.8343</a> 6 September 2018	Letter dated 13 March 2018 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/218</a> )				All Council members	

## MIDDLE EAST

### 23. The situation in the Middle East

During the period under review, the Security Council held 47 meetings in relation to the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”.<sup>342</sup> In 2018, most meetings held under this item took the form of briefings.<sup>343</sup> In the context of these meetings, the Council considered a variety of topics, principally, the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, the conflict in Yemen, the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) and the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). The Council also met once to consider the developments in the Islamic Republic of Iran in January 2018. During the period under review, the Council adopted a total of seven resolutions and issued one presidential statement in connection with this item. The Council, however, failed to adopt four draft resolutions in relation to the situations in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen owing to the negative vote of one or more permanent members of the Council in two cases and the lack of the required number of votes in the remaining two. In addition, the Council met three times in the context of closed meetings with troop- and police-contributing countries to UNDOF and UNIFIL.<sup>344</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the tables below.

The meetings in the Council during the period under review in relation to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic focused on three defined aspects: the political process to end the conflict, the proliferation and use of chemical weapons and the humanitarian situation in the country. With regard to the political process, the Council held regular monthly briefings by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria. In his briefings, the Special Envoy updated the Council on the efforts aimed at reaching a political agreement and de-escalating the conflict. In this regard, he briefed the Council on the progress of the Geneva

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<sup>342</sup> In addition to the 47 meetings, the provisional agenda for the 8209<sup>th</sup> meeting was not adopted, having failed to obtain the required number of votes ([S/PV.8209](#)). For more information on the adoption of the agenda, see part II sect. II.A and sect. II.C, case 2.

<sup>343</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>344</sup> Under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353\(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B”, the Council held two meetings in relation to UNDOF on 14 June 2018 and 11 December 2018, see [S/PV.8286](#) and [S/PV.8417](#); and one meeting in relation to UNIFIL on 9 August 2018; see [S/PV.8326](#).

consultations, the Astana arrangements and the Syrian National Dialogue Congress held in the city of Sochi in January 2018. He also briefed on other developments concerning the armed conflict in the country and in particular, the implementation of resolution [2401 \(2018\)](#) of February 2018 which had demanded the cessation of hostilities for a 30-day humanitarian pause.<sup>345</sup> Other developments covered were the ceasefire agreement reached in Douma in March 2018 between the Russian military, the Syrian Government and the Jaysh Al-Islam, as well as the agreement between the Russian Federation and Turkey of 17 September 2018 to establish a demilitarized zone in Idlib. The Special Envoy also briefed on the negotiations and challenges to the formation of a constitutional committee agreed to in the final statement of the Sochi National Dialogue Congress.<sup>346</sup> According to the Statement, a Constitutional Committee would be formed to draft a constitutional reform as a contribution to the political settlement under UN auspices in accordance with resolution [2254 \(2015\)](#) and it would comprise “at the very least” the Government, opposition representatives in the intra-Syrian talks, Syrian experts, civil society, independents, tribal leaders and women.<sup>347</sup>

With respect to the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Council was regularly briefed by the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and her Deputy on the progress in the implementation of resolution [2118 \(2013\)](#) on the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons program. The briefings focused on the process for the destruction of the two remaining chemical weapons production facilities as well as the work of the fact-finding mission of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to investigate the alleged use of chemical weapons by the Government and non-state actors. In 2018, the briefings also addressed the viability of establishing an accountability mechanism to attribute responsibility for the use of chemical weapons in the territory of Syria further to the expiration of the mandate of the the OPCW-UN Joint Investigative Mechanism in November 2017. In this regard, further to the alleged chemical attack in Douma on 7 April 2018, the Council voted on three separate draft resolutions; a draft resolution sponsored by 26 Member States,<sup>348</sup> and two draft resolutions sponsored by the Russian Federation.<sup>349</sup> The draft sponsored by 26 Member States and one of the resolutions sponsored by the Russian

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<sup>345</sup> Resolution [2401 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>346</sup> See letter dated 14 February 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2018/121](#)), annex.

<sup>347</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 4.

<sup>348</sup> [S/2018/321](#).

<sup>349</sup> [S/2018/175](#) and [S/2018/322](#).



Federation proposed the establishment of the United Nations Independent Mechanism of Investigation (UNIMI).<sup>350</sup> However, the draft sponsored by 26 Member States would have requested the Syrian authorities to grant the UNIMI and OPCW personnel “immediate and unfettered access” to any sites, materials and individuals deemed of importance for the purpose of its mandate.<sup>351</sup> The draft sponsored by the Russian Federation specified, by contrast, that such access would be “justified based on the assessment of the facts and circumstances known at the time”.<sup>352</sup>

The draft sponsored by 26 Member States was voted on first and failed to be adopted owing to the negative vote of the Russian Federation, a permanent member of the Council. The representative of the Russian Federation explained that the draft proposed replicated the former mechanism’s “flawed working methods”.<sup>353</sup> The representative of China regretted that the draft did not take into consideration some of the concerns of certain Council members regarding the mechanism’s working methods.<sup>354</sup> The first of the two draft resolutions sponsored by the Russian Federation was voted on second and failed to be adopted due to the lack of the required votes. Finally, the second draft resolution sponsored by the Russian Federation, was voted on last and expressed support for the fact-finding mission but contained no provisions on the establishment of an investigation mechanism. This draft resolution also failed to be adopted due to an insufficient number of affirmative votes.<sup>355</sup> The draft proposed was criticized by several Council members for its failure to create a mechanism to ensure accountability for the attacks,<sup>356</sup> and for not stressing the need for the fact-finding mission’s independence.<sup>357</sup> Moreover, some speakers complained at the lack of sufficient time for negotiation of the draft.<sup>358</sup>

With respect to the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Council was regularly briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator and his Deputy, as well as the Director of the Coordination and Response Division of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian

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<sup>350</sup> [S/2018/321](#), para. 7; and [S/2018/175](#), para. 5.

<sup>351</sup> [S/2018/321](#), paras. 12 and 13.

<sup>352</sup> [S/2018/175](#), para. 9.

<sup>353</sup> [S/PV.8228](#), p. 4.

<sup>354</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 6.

<sup>355</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 14.

<sup>356</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 14-15 (United Kingdom), p. 15 (Sweden), p. 17 (Kuwait), p. 18 (France) and pp. 18-19 (Peru).

<sup>357</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 18 (Netherlands).

<sup>358</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 15 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 16 (United States) and p. 18 (Netherlands).

Affairs. Their briefings focused on the detrimental humanitarian effects of continued military operations on civilian population, particularly in and around Idlib and eastern Ghouta, including frequent indiscriminate attacks affecting critical infrastructure and civilian objects, obstructions to humanitarian aid delivery, massive displacements across the country and the prospects of return of internally displaced persons (IDPs) to areas of origin, including to places formerly controlled by ISIL (Da'esh). The briefers updated the Council on the United Nations cross-border operations and other humanitarian initiatives as well as on the implementation of resolution [2401 \(2018\)](#), which had demanded all parties to cease hostilities for a durable 30-day humanitarian pause throughout Syria.

In 2018, all decisions of the Council relating to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic concerned the humanitarian situation in the country. On 24 February 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2401 \(2018\)](#), underscoring the obligation of all Member States under Article 25 of the Charter to carry out its decisions, and demanding all parties to cease hostilities without delay, and engage immediately to ensure full and comprehensive implementation of this demand, for a durable humanitarian pause for at least 30 consecutive days throughout Syria. The Council also demanded that the parties engage immediately to enable the “safe, unimpeded and sustained” delivery of humanitarian aid and services and medical evacuations of the critically sick and wounded, in accordance with applicable international law.<sup>359</sup> The resolution affirmed that the cessation of hostilities did not apply to military operations against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), also known as Da'esh, Al Qaeda and Al Nusra Front (ANF), and all other associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, as designated by the Security Council.<sup>360</sup> The resolution also reiterated its demand that all parties immediately comply with their obligations under international law, including international human rights law and international humanitarian law.<sup>361</sup> On 13 December 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2449 \(2018\)](#) renewing the 12-month authorization first granted in resolution [2165 \(2014\)](#) for cross-border humanitarian access to Syria and the associated monitoring mechanism until 10 January 2020.<sup>362</sup> The situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and some of the developments concerning the use of chemical weapons were also addressed under other items, namely, “The situation

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<sup>359</sup> Resolution [2401 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>360</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 2.

<sup>361</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 7.

<sup>362</sup> Resolution [2449 \(2018\)](#), paras. 2 and 3.

in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, and “Threats to international peace and security”.<sup>363</sup>

In relation to the conflict in Yemen, the Council continued to focus on three distinct areas: the political process to find a solution to the conflict, the humanitarian situation in the country and the sanctions measures in place against individuals and entities designated as engaging in or providing support for acts that threaten the peace, security or stability of Yemen.

Regarding the political process, the Council was briefed on the political developments by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, particularly the continued fighting between the Government of Yemen and Ansar Allah and the efforts of the Special Envoy to relaunch the peace process. In this regard, in his briefing to the Council, on 2 August 2018, the Special Envoy expressed the intention to bring the parties together to Geneva on 6 September 2018 for a first round of consultations.<sup>364</sup> After the Houthis had failed to arrive at the scheduled talks, the Special Envoy announced to the Council, on 11 September 2018, that he would continue his consultations with the parties on confidence-building measures, including the reopening of the Sana’a airport and the exchange of prisoners, throughout the following weeks during his visits to Sana’a, Riyadh and Muscat.<sup>365</sup> Three months later, on 14 December 2018, the Special Envoy briefed the Council on the consultations between the parties held in Stockholm which resulted in the signing, on 13 December 2018, of the Stockholm Agreement, circulated to the Council by the Secretary-General in his letter dated 20 December 2018.<sup>366</sup> According to the Stockholm Agreement, the parties reached an agreement on the city of Hodeidah and the ports of Hodeidah, Salif and Ras Issa, an executive mechanism on activating the prisoner exchange agreement, and a statement of understanding on Taiz.

Regarding the humanitarian situation, the Council continued to hear briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Director of the Coordination and Response Division of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. The briefings focused on the adverse consequences of

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<sup>363</sup> For more information, see part I, sects. 24 and 36.

<sup>364</sup> [S/PV.8323](#), p. 2.

<sup>365</sup> [S/PV.8348](#), p. 3.

<sup>366</sup> Letter dated 20 December 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2018/1134](#)), p. 3.

the conflict on the country's economy and its civilian population including severe malnutrition and increasing risk of famine caused by blockages to humanitarian deliveries in the ports of entry to the country and restrictions placed by the Government on imports of essential commodities and further exacerbated by the spread of cholera and diphtheria. In this regard, the briefers often called upon the parties to open the humanitarian corridors to allow the delivery of food, fuel and medicine, and upon Member States and other donors to increase humanitarian donations and inject foreign exchange into the Yemeni economy.

Regarding the sanctions measures imposed in connection with the conflict in Yemen, on 26 January, during its 8190<sup>th</sup> meeting the Council voted on two draft resolutions; a draft resolution sponsored by the United Kingdom,<sup>367</sup> and a draft resolution sponsored by the Russian Federation.<sup>368</sup> At the outset of the meeting, the representative of the United Kingdom expressed concern over the alleged use of arms of Iranian origin in Yemen in violation of resolution [2216 \(2015\)](#) and explained that the text of the draft resolution submitted by his delegation provided a balanced and impartial assessment of the situation in Yemen but did not “shy away” from calling out those whose actions undermined international peace and security.<sup>369</sup> While expressing support for the majority of its provisions, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that he could not concur with the “unconfirmed conclusions” of the Panel of Experts included in the draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom.<sup>370</sup> The two draft resolutions were voted in sequence. The draft resolution sponsored by the United Kingdom was voted on first and failed to be adopted due to the negative vote of the Russian Federation, a permanent member of the Council. The draft resolution sponsored by the Russian Federation was adopted unanimously as resolution [2402 \(2018\)](#). Following the vote, the representative of China noted that “significant differences” remained among Council members on some elements of the draft submitted by the United Kingdom and that it was necessary for the Council to negotiate and meet each other half way in order to give full play to the sanctions mechanism.<sup>371</sup> The representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia expressed similar reservations, regretting that some concerns expressed had not been taken into account by the delegation of the United Kingdom.<sup>372</sup>

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<sup>367</sup> [S/2018/156](#).

<sup>368</sup> [S/2018/157](#).

<sup>369</sup> [S/PV.8190](#), p. 3.

<sup>370</sup> *Ibid.* See also [S/2018/156](#), ninth and tenth preambular paragraphs.

<sup>371</sup> [S/PV.8190](#), p. 6.

<sup>372</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7.

By resolution [2402 \(2018\)](#), the Council renewed the sanctions measures imposed pursuant to resolutions [2140 \(2014\)](#) and [2216 \(2015\)](#), namely an assets freeze, a travel ban and an arms embargo.<sup>373</sup> The Council also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 28 March 2019.<sup>374</sup> In addition to resolution [2402 \(2018\)](#), the decisions of the Council in 2018 relating to the conflict in Yemen also addressed the humanitarian situation in the country and the ceasefire agreed to under the Stockholm Agreement. On 15 March, the Council issued a presidential statement, expressing grave concern over the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Yemen, including the outbreaks of cholera and diphtheria, famine, as well as the high levels of violence, in particular the indiscriminate attacks resulting in civilian casualties.<sup>375</sup> Condemning the ballistic missile attacks by the Houthis against Saudi Arabia, the Council called upon the parties to allow access of humanitarian aid to the affected areas, and stressed the need for humanitarian aid to be gender and age sensitive.<sup>376</sup> The presidential statement also urged all Member States to fully implement the arms embargo imposed by the relevant resolutions.<sup>377</sup> On 21 December 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2451 \(2018\)](#) endorsing the Stockholm Agreement and authorizing the Secretary-General to establish an advance team for an initial period of 30 days to support and facilitate its immediate implementation, including the request for the United Nations to chair the Redeployment Coordination Committee.<sup>378</sup> The resolution further requested the Secretary-General to submit proposals on how the United Nations would fully support the Stockholm Agreement and to report to the Council on progress regarding the implementation of the resolution on a weekly basis.<sup>379</sup>

During the review period, the mandate of UNDOF was renewed twice by resolutions [2426 \(2018\)](#) and [2450 \(2018\)](#) for periods of six months each, until 31 December 2018 and 30 June 2019, respectively.<sup>380</sup> The mandate of UNDOF remained unchanged throughout the reporting period.<sup>381</sup> By resolution [2450 \(2018\)](#), the Council took note of the independent review and encouraged the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, UNDOF, and the UN

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<sup>373</sup> Resolution [2402 \(2018\)](#), para. 2. For more information, see part VII, sect. III.

<sup>374</sup> Resolution [2402 \(2018\)](#), para. 5. For more information, see part IX, sect. I.

<sup>375</sup> [S/PRST/2018/5](#), second and third paragraphs.

<sup>376</sup> *Ibid.*, fourth, fifth and sixth paragraphs.

<sup>377</sup> *Ibid.*, tenth paragraph.

<sup>378</sup> Resolution [2451 \(2018\)](#), paras. 2 and 5.

<sup>379</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 6 and 7.

<sup>380</sup> Resolutions [2426 \(2018\)](#), para. 12; and [2450 \(2018\)](#), para. 13.

<sup>381</sup> For more information, see part X, sect. I.

Truce Supervision Organization to continue relevant discussions on its recommendations to improve mission performance and implementation of UNDOF's mandate.<sup>382</sup> The situation in the area of operations of UNDOF was also addressed under other items, namely, "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".<sup>383</sup>

In connection with Lebanon, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2433 \(2018\)](#), renewing the mandate of UNIFIL for a period of one year until 31 August 2019.<sup>384</sup> By this resolution, the Council called for the Government of Lebanon to develop a plan to increase its naval capabilities with the goal of ultimately decreasing UNIFIL's Maritime Taskforce and transitioning its responsibilities to the Lebanese Armed Forces (LAF), and encouraged the deployment by the Government of a model regiment and an offshore patrol vessel in UNIFIL's area of operations.<sup>385</sup> The Council also welcomed the initiatives undertaken by the Secretary-General to standardize a culture of performance in peacekeeping and called on him to continue his efforts to develop an integrated performance policy framework and apply it to UNIFIL.<sup>386</sup> The Council further requested the Secretary-General and the troop-contributing countries to seek to increase the number of women in UNIFIL and ensure their meaningful participation in all aspects of operations, and more broadly requested UNIFIL to take fully into account gender considerations as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate.<sup>387</sup> The situation in Lebanon was also addressed under other items, namely, "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question".<sup>388</sup>

On 5 January 2018, the Council met under this item to discuss the situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, during which the Assistant-Secretary-General delivered a briefing on the anti-Government protests which had taken place in late December 2017 and early January 2018. During the meeting, some Council members expressed various reservations about the holding of the meeting.<sup>389</sup>

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<sup>382</sup> Resolution [2450 \(2018\)](#), para. 10.

<sup>383</sup> For more information, see part I, sect. 24.

<sup>384</sup> [Resolution 2433 \(2018\)](#), para.1.

<sup>385</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 7 and 8.

<sup>386</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 23.

<sup>387</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 23 and 24. For more information, see part X, sect. I.

<sup>388</sup> For more information, see part I, sect. 24.

<sup>389</sup> [S/PV.8152](#), p. 4 (France), p. 5 (Bolivia, Plurinational State of), p. 8 (Sweden), p. 11 (Ethiopia) and p. 12 (Russian Federation). For more information on the discussion, see part VII, sect. I.B, case 5.

For the purposes of facilitating the coverage of this item, the meetings are set out below under five separate headings, namely: the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen, UNDOF, UNIFIL and Other.

**Meetings: The situation in the Middle East – Syrian Arab Republic**

<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.8164</a> 23 January 2018					14 Council members <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8171</a> 30 January 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> and <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/60</a> )			Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	Seven Council members <sup>b</sup> , invitee	
<a href="#">S/PV.8174</a> 5 February 2018	Letter dated 1 February 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/84</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8181</a> 14 February 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria	Seven Council members <sup>c</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8186</a> 22 February 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members <sup>e</sup> , all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8188</a> 24 February 2018		Draft resolution submitted by 10 Member States <sup>f</sup> ( <a href="#">S/2018/146</a> )	Syrian Arab Republic		All Council members, invitee	Resolution <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8195</a> 28 February 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , and <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/138</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	



<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.8201</a> 12 March 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Secretary-General	14 Council members <sup>g</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8206</a> 16 March 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria	Five Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte D'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan and Peru), all invitees <sup>h</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8209</a> 19 March 2018 (agenda not adopted)					Four Council members (China, France, Russian Federation, United States)	Procedural vote (Rule 9) 8-4-3 <sup>i</sup>
<a href="#">S/PV.8217</a> 27 March 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , and <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/243</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members <sup>j</sup> , all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8221</a> 4 April 2018	Letter dated 28 March 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/283</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	Deputy High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8228</a> 10 April 2018		Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation ( <a href="#">S/2018/175</a> ); Draft resolution submitted by 26 Member States <sup>k</sup> ( <a href="#">S/2018/321</a> ); Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation ( <a href="#">S/2018/322</a> )	Canada, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey		All Council members, Syrian Arab Republic	Draft resolution not adopted ( <a href="#">S/2018/175</a> ) 6-7-2 <sup>l</sup> Draft resolution not adopted ( <a href="#">S/2018/321</a> ) 12-2-1 <sup>m</sup> Draft resolution not adopted ( <a href="#">S/2018/322</a> ) 5-4-6 <sup>n</sup>

<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.8236</a> 17 April 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8242</a> 25 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> (S/2018/369)			Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	Assistant Secretary-General	
<a href="#">S/PV.8260</a> 16 May 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria	Six Council members <sup>o</sup> , all invitees <sup>p</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8269</a> 29 May 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> (S/2018/484)			Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	Under-Secretary-General	
<a href="#">S/PV.8296</a> 27 June 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the review of United Nations cross-border operations (S/2018/617) Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> (S/2018/619)		Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Director of the Coordination and Response Division, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, all invitees <sup>p</sup>	

<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.8320</a> 27 July 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/724</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8332</a> 28 August 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/777</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	Director of Operations and Advocacy of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8344</a> 6 September 2018	Letter dated 28 August 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/804</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8345</a> 7 September 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Director of Operations and Advocacy of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members <sup>q</sup> , all invitees <sup>p</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8347</a> 11 September 2018			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Turkey		All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8355</a> 18 September 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332</a>		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	14 Council members <sup>t</sup> , all invitees	

<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="#">(2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/845</a> )					
<a href="#">S/PV.8373</a> 17 October 2018			Seven Member States <sup>s</sup>	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8383</a> 26 October 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria	All Council members, all invitees <sup>t</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8384</a> 29 October 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/947</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8390</a> 5 November 2018	Letter dated 29 October 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/971</a> )		Syrian Arab Republic	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8406</a> 19 November 2018			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria <sup>q</sup>	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8411</a> 29 November 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/1041</a> )			Director of Operations and Advocacy of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	Three Council members (Kuwait, United States, Russian Federation), Director of Operations and Advocacy of the United Nations Office	

<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>
					for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	
<a href="#">S/PV.8423</a> 13 December 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> and <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/1104</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by Kuwait and Sweden ( <a href="#">S/2018/1110</a> )	Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2449 (2018)</a> 13-0-2
<a href="#">S/PV.8434</a> 20 December 2018			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> The representative of Ethiopia did not make a statement.

<sup>b</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Equatorial Guinea, France, Netherlands, Peru, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>c</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Peru, Russian Federation and United States.

<sup>d</sup> The Under-Secretary-General participated in the meeting via videoconference from Geneva.

<sup>e</sup> Kuwait (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>f</sup> Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>g</sup> The representative of Sweden did not make a statement. The representative of Kuwait spoke on behalf of Kuwait and Sweden.

<sup>h</sup> The Special Envoy participated in the meeting via videoconference from Brussels.

<sup>i</sup> *For*: France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America; *against*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation; *abstaining*: Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia.

<sup>j</sup> The Netherlands (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Kuwait spoke on behalf of Kuwait and Sweden.

<sup>k</sup> Albania, Australia, Bulgaria, Canada, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Slovenia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>1</sup> *For*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and Russian Federation; *against*: France, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States; *abstaining*: Côte d'Ivoire and Kuwait.

<sup>m</sup> *For*: Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States; *against*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Russian Federation; *abstaining*: China.

<sup>n</sup> *For*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan and Russian Federation; *against*: France, Poland, United Kingdom and United States; *abstaining*: Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru and Sweden.

<sup>o</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>p</sup> The Special Envoy participated in the meeting via videoconference from Geneva.

<sup>q</sup> Kuwait was represented by its Deputy Foreign Minister, who spoke on behalf of Kuwait and Sweden.

<sup>r</sup> The United States (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Secretary of State's Special Representative for Syria Engagement. The representative of Kuwait did not make a statement. The representative of Sweden spoke on behalf of Kuwait and Sweden.

<sup>s</sup> Egypt, Germany, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey.

<sup>t</sup> The Special Envoy participated via videoconference from Beirut.

**Meetings: The situation in the Middle East – Yemen**

<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.8190</a> 26 February 2018	Letter dated 26 January 2018 from the Panel of Experts on Yemen mandated by Security Council resolution <a href="#">2342 (2017)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/68</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/156</a> ) Draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation ( <a href="#">S/2018/157</a> )			10 Council members <sup>a</sup>	Draft resolution not adopted ( <a href="#">S/2018/156</a> ) 11-2-2 <sup>b</sup> Resolution <a href="#">2402 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8191</a> 27 February 2018			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary General for Yemen, Director of the Coordination and Response Division of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8205</a> 15 March 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/5</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8235</a> 17 April 2018			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary General for Yemen, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8323</a> 2 August 2018			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary General for Yemen, Director of the Coordination and Response Division of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8348</a> 11 September 2018			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen	All Council members, all invitees <sup>c</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8361</a> 21 September 2018			Yemen	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees	

<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.8379</a> 23 October 2018			Yemen	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8404</a> 16 November 2018			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme and Founder and Director of the Peace Track Initiative Yemen	All Council members, all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8424</a> 14 December 2018			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees <sup>c</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8439</a> 21 December 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/1147</a> )	Yemen		12 Council members <sup>e</sup> , invitee	Resolution <a href="#">2451 (2018)</a> 15-0-0

<sup>a</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>b</sup> *For:* Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States; *against:* Bolivia (Plurinational State of) and Russian Federation; *abstaining:* China and Kazakhstan.

<sup>c</sup> The Special Envoy participated in the meeting via videoconference from Amman.

<sup>d</sup> The Executive Director participated in the meeting via videoconference from Ottawa.

<sup>e</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ethiopia, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.



**Meetings: The situation in the Middle East – United Nations Disengagement Observer Force**

<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.8303</a> 29 June 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for the period from 23 February to 23 May 2018 ( <a href="#">S/2018/550</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation and the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/647</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2426 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8436</a> 21 December 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force ( <a href="#">S/2018/1088</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/1143</a> )			All Council members, all invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2450 (2018)</a> 15-0-0

**Meetings: The situation in the Middle East – United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon and Security Council resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#)**

<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.8338</a> 30 August 2018	Letter dated 30 July 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/750</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2018/796</a> )	Israel, Lebanon		Five Council members (China, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States)	Resolution <a href="#">2433 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8432</a> 19 December 2018			Israel, Lebanon	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	All Council members, all invitees	

**Meetings: The situation in the Middle East – Other**

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<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.8152</a> 5 January 2018			Iran (Islamic Republic of)	Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	

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## **24. The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question**

During the period under review, the Security Council held 15 meetings in connection with the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”. In 2018, the Council continued to alternate monthly briefings and quarterly open debates to consider this item.<sup>390</sup> In addition, the Council held two unscheduled briefings and failed to adopt two competing draft resolutions in connection with the situation in the Gaza Strip. Under this item, the Council also considered developments in Iran, Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen and the overall political situation in the Middle East.<sup>391</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During the year 2018, the Council was briefed in most meetings under this item by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process. The Council was also briefed, on occasion, by the Secretary-General, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, as well as the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs. In the context of the monthly briefings, the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process briefed on the deteriorating situation in the Gaza Strip, the developments in the West Bank in so far as it concerned settlement activities and violence, the situation in the Golan Heights, the regional dynamics and the status of the peace process. During those briefings, concerns over the funding for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) were also raised. On 20 February 2018, in the context of a monthly briefing of the Council under this item, the President of the Observer State of Palestine was invited to participate (the representative of Israel was also invited to participate).<sup>392</sup> At that meeting, President Abbas called for an international conference to form a multilateral mechanism in support of the parties to negotiate all permanent status issues as defined by the Oslo Accords, within a specific time frame and to secure full United Nations membership for the State of Palestine and mutual recognition of Palestinian and Israeli statehood along the 1967 lines.<sup>393</sup>

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<sup>390</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>391</sup> For more information, see part I, sect. 23, “The situation in the Middle East”.

<sup>392</sup> For further information on participation, see part II, sect. VII.

<sup>393</sup> [S/PV.8183](#), pp. 8-9.

Every three months, monthly briefings were also used to report on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#). During those briefings that took place in March, June, September and December, the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process briefed on the Israeli settlement activities, the violence against civilians including acts of terror, incitement, provocation and inflammatory rhetoric, on the steps and efforts to advance the peace process as well as on the actions by all States to distinguish in their relevant dealings between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967. On 14 May 2018, ten Council members addressed a letter to the Secretary-General in which they noted the practice of presenting oral reports on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) and requested thereon that the Secretary-General circulate a written report.<sup>394</sup> On 18 June 2018, the Secretary-General presented the sixth quarterly report on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) in written form.<sup>395</sup> No other written report was presented during the period under review. On 21 December 2018, ten Council members and three incoming members addressed a letter to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council with reference to the letter sent on 14 May concerning the lack of implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#).<sup>396</sup> In the letter, the signatories reaffirmed their conviction that written reports would contribute to furthering the implementation of the resolution. They also expressed their expectation to receive written reports at least every second reporting occasion and once again requested the Secretary-General to circulate a written report to the Council on the implementation of the resolution prior to its meetings designated for the follow-up on resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#).

Concerning the situation in the Gaza Strip and in response to the rise of violence in March and May 2018, the Council held additional meetings in the context of which Council members were briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, on 30 March, and by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, on 15 May. At the meeting of 30 March 2018, the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs reported to the Council that around 30,000 people had participated in the so-called March of Return at various locations in Gaza, resulting in violence. He also reported that violence broke out in the West Bank, with an estimated 900 Palestinians demonstrating mostly in central West Bank cities, such as Ramallah and Hebron.<sup>397</sup> An additional meeting was also held on 15 May

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<sup>394</sup> [S/2018/454](#).

<sup>395</sup> [S/2018/614](#).

<sup>396</sup> [S/2018/1150](#).

<sup>397</sup> [S/PV.8219](#), pp. 2-3.

2018, against the backdrop of the violence that had erupted further to the demonstrations as part of the Great March of Return as well as in protest of the relocation of the United States Embassy in Israel from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem the day before.<sup>398</sup> At the meeting, the Special Coordinator informed the Council about the clashes in the West Bank and the deteriorating situation with reports indicating that at least 60 people were killed and 1,300 injured.<sup>399</sup> At the monthly briefing held on 19 November 2018, the Special Coordinator informed the Council of the efforts of his team to ensure return to the 2014 ceasefire agreement further to the escalation in the period from 11 to 13 November triggered by an operation of the Israel Defense Forces inside the Gaza Strip in which a local commander of Hamas Al-Qassam Brigades and six other Palestinians were killed.<sup>400</sup>

During 2018, the Council held open debates every quarter, in January, April, July and October 2018. At those meetings, Council members and Members States alike dwelled on the Israeli settlement activity, the security situation in the West Bank as well as the deteriorating humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip. Moreover, speakers in 2018, also focused on the United States' decision to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, as well as on its decision to move its Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

Amidst the worsening security situation in the Gaza Strip following the March of Return, on 1 June 2018, the Council failed to adopt two competing draft resolutions, sponsored by Kuwait,<sup>401</sup> and the United States respectively.<sup>402</sup> Before the vote, the representative of the United States affirmed that the draft resolution presented by Kuwait represented "a grossly one-sided view" of what had taken place in Gaza and warned that regardless of how others would choose to vote, the United States would oppose the draft resolution and would veto it. She added further that in spite of Hamas's responsibility for the awful living conditions in Gaza, the diversion of humanitarian assistance into military infrastructure and attacks on humanitarian access points as well as its refusal to cooperate with the Palestinian Authority to unite in the pursuit of peace, Kuwait's draft resolution made no mention of Hamas.<sup>403</sup> The draft resolution sponsored by Kuwait, was voted on first and

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<sup>398</sup> [S/PV.8256](#), p. 5.

<sup>399</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 2-4.

<sup>400</sup> [S/PV.8405](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>401</sup> [S/2018/516](#).

<sup>402</sup> [S/2018/520](#).

<sup>403</sup> [S/PV.8274](#), pp. 2-3.

was not adopted due to the negative vote of the United States, a permanent member of the Council. In her intervention after the first vote, the representative of the United Kingdom affirmed that both draft resolutions contained elements that were either imbalanced or too vague to be viable. Whilst the Kuwaiti text failed to name terrorist actors, the American text did not adequately reference Israel's responsibilities and obligations with regard to Gaza.<sup>404</sup> Other members of the Council also raised concerns regarding each of the texts presented.<sup>405</sup> The draft resolution sponsored by the United States, was put to a vote second and was not adopted due to the failure to obtain the required number of votes, with one vote in favour by the United States. In the explanation of the vote that ensued, some members of the Council voiced concerns about the lack of prior negotiations and regretted the absence of a more holistic consideration of the situation in Gaza in the text presented by the United States.<sup>406</sup>

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<sup>404</sup> Ibid., p. 5.

<sup>405</sup> Ibid., pp. 10-11 (Netherlands) and p. 11 (Ethiopia).

<sup>406</sup> Ibid., p. 9 (France), p. 9 (Peru), p. 10 (Sweden) and p. 11 (Kazakhstan).

**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>
<a href="#">S/PV.8167</a> 25 January 2018			30 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Holy See, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States to the United Nations, Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8183</a> 20 February 2018			Israel	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, President of the Observer State of Palestine	Secretary- General, all Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8214</a> 26 March 2018			Israel	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine	Seven Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8219</a> 30 March 2018				Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8244</a> 26 April 2018			31 Member States <sup>e</sup>	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Vice-Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, Permanent Observer of the Holy See, Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States	All Council members, all invitees <sup>f</sup>	



<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.8256</a> 15 May 2018			Israel	Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General	All Council members, all invitees <sup>g</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8265</a> 23 May 2018				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General	Kazakhstan, invitee <sup>h</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8274</a> 1 June 2018		Draft resolution submitted by Kuwait ( <a href="#">S/2018/516</a> ); draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/520</a> )	Israel	Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine	13 Council members <sup>i</sup> , all invitees	Draft resolution <a href="#">S/2018/516</a> not adopted 10-1-4 <sup>j</sup>  Draft resolution <a href="#">S/2018/520</a> not adopted 1-3-11 <sup>k</sup>
<a href="#">S/PV.8289</a> 19 June 2018				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General	Invitee	
<a href="#">S/PV.8316</a> 24 July 2018			25 Member States <sup>l</sup>	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, Charge d'Affaires of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations <sup>n</sup> , Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States, Permanent Observer of the Holy See	All Council members, all invitees <sup>m</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8329</a> 22 August 2018				Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	Invitee	

<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.8358</a> 20 September 2018				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General	All Council members, invitee	
<a href="#">S/PV.8375</a> and <a href="#">S/PV.8375 (Resumption 1)</a> 18 October 2018			28 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, Executive Director of B'Tselem, Charge d'Affaires of the European Union to the United Nations, Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States, Permanent Observer of the Holy See	All Council members <sup>c</sup> , all invitees <sup>p</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8405</a> 19 November 2018				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General	All Council members, invitee <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8429</a> 18 December 2018				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General	All Council members, invitee	

<sup>a</sup> Argentina, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt, Estonia, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey ), United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>b</sup> The Special Coordinator participated in the meeting via video-teleconference from Jerusalem. Maldives was represented by its Minister of Foreign Affairs. The representative of Turkey spoke on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. The representative of the United Arab Emirates spoke on behalf of the Arab Group, and the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its Member States; the Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, Albania and the country of the Stabilisation and Association Process and a potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina aligned themselves with the statement.

<sup>c</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kuwait, United Kingdom, United States.

<sup>d</sup> The Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General participated in the meeting via video-teleconference from Jerusalem.

<sup>e</sup> Bahrain, Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Cuba, Egypt, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

<sup>f</sup> The representative of Tunisia spoke on behalf of the Arab Group. Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its Member States; the Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania, as well as Ukraine aligned themselves with the statement. The representative of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. The representative of Iraq spoke on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation.

<sup>g</sup> The Special Coordinator participated in the meeting via video tele-conference from Jerusalem.

<sup>h</sup> The Special Coordinator participated in the meeting via video tele-conference from Jerusalem.

<sup>i</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>j</sup> *For:* Bolivia ((Plurinational State of)), China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Peru, Russian Federation, Sweden; *against:* United States of America; *abstaining:* Ethiopia, Netherlands, Poland, United Kingdom.

<sup>k</sup> *For:* United States; *against:* Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Kuwait, Russian Federation; *abstaining:* China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom.

<sup>l</sup> Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Viet Nam.

<sup>m</sup> The Special Coordinator participated in the meeting via video tele-conference from Jerusalem. The representative of Bangladesh spoke on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. The representative of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. The Chargé d'Affaires of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations spoke on behalf of the European Union and its Member States; the Candidate Countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro and Albania, and the European Free Trade Association country Liechtenstein, member of the European Economic Area, aligned themselves with the statement.

<sup>n</sup> Bangladesh (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation), Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Oman (on behalf of the Arab Group), Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (on behalf of the non-aligned movement), Viet Nam.

<sup>o</sup> Kazakhstan was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>p</sup> The Special Coordinator joined via video tele-conference from Jerusalem. Bangladesh spoke on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. Oman spoke on behalf of the Arab Group.

<sup>q</sup> The Special Coordinator participated in the meeting via video tele-conference from Jerusalem.

## 25. The situation concerning Iraq

During 2018, the Security Council held five meetings and adopted one resolution in connection with the situation concerning Iraq. With the unanimous adoption of resolution [2421 \(2018\)](#), the Council renewed the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Iraq (UNAMI) for a period of ten months until 31 May 2019.<sup>407</sup> Except for one, all meetings under this item during the period under review took the form of briefings.<sup>408</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During the period under review, the Council was briefed quarterly by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq and Head of UNAMI on the situation in Iraq. Against the backdrop of the defeat of Da'esh, he briefed the Council on the holding and status of parliamentary elections as well as on the activities of UNAMI in the areas of political dialogue and national reconciliation. In this regard, the Special Representative noted that the voluntary and dignified return of internally displaced persons (IDPs), under conditions of safety and security, was critical for the success and credibility of the elections.<sup>409</sup> He also briefed the Council on the public protests following allegations of electoral fraud and mismanagement of the parliamentary elections.<sup>410</sup> The Special Representative also made reference to the question of missing Kuwaiti and third-country nationals and property.<sup>411</sup> In his last briefing to the Council, the Special Representative reported that the Special Adviser and Head of the Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh had arrived in Iraq on 30 October.<sup>412</sup>

The Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) briefed the Council once, on the joint visit to Iraq in March 2018 as well

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<sup>407</sup> Resolution [2421 \(2018\)](#), para. 1. For more information on the mandate of UNAMI, see part X, sect. II, "Special political missions".

<sup>408</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>409</sup> [S/PV.8184](#), p. 2.

<sup>410</sup> [S/PV.8324](#), p. 2.

<sup>411</sup> [S/PV.8184](#), p. 3, [S/PV.8271](#), p. 4, [S/PV.8324](#), p. 4.

<sup>412</sup> [S/PV.8396](#), p. 3. For more information, see part VI, sect. II, and part IX, sect. III.

as the dispatching of a joint UNOCT-CTED scoping mission at the beginning of May to identify specific elements of programmatic support to the Government of Iraq.<sup>413</sup>

The Head of the International Committee of the Red Cross Delegation (ICRC) to the United Nations also briefed the Council once, on the topic of missing persons from the 1991 Gulf War and the work of the so-called tripartite mechanism, chaired by the ICRC, to trace the persons still unaccounted for as a result of the conflict.<sup>414</sup> At the same meeting, a representative of the Women Empowerment Organization in Iraq and Coordinator of the Iraq Cross Sector Task Force for the implementation of Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) briefed the Council on the situation of women in Iraq and the work of the Iraqi Cross Sector Task Force in its development of a national action plan.<sup>415</sup>

At those meetings, Council members discussed the progress of national elections, the overall political process and the reconstruction efforts in the context of the progressive liberation and recovery of territories that were under the control of Da'esh. In this regard, certain Council members expressed their support to the Investigative Team and called on the Government of Iraq to cooperate with it. Council members also focused on the humanitarian issues faced by the country, including the return of IDPs.

In 2018, the Council renewed the mandate of UNAMI on 14 June 2018 through the unanimous adoption of resolution [2421 \(2018\)](#) for a period of 10 months until 31 May 2019.<sup>416</sup> As explained at the meeting, the decision to extend the mandate for a period of 10 months was made to better align mandate renewals with the budget cycle, in keeping with the findings of the independent external assessment of UNAMI.<sup>417</sup> In the resolution, the Council also welcomed the results of the assessment.<sup>418</sup> The Council decided that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq, taking into account the views of the Government of Iraq,<sup>419</sup> would prioritize the provision of advice, support and assistance on advancing inclusive political dialogue and national and community-level reconciliation.<sup>420</sup> In

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<sup>413</sup> [S/PV.8271](#), pp. 4-7.

<sup>414</sup> [S/PV.8324](#), pp. 4-5.

<sup>415</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5.

<sup>416</sup> Resolution [2421 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>417</sup> [S/PV.8285](#), p. 2 (United States). See also [S/2017/966](#).

<sup>418</sup> Resolution [2421 \(2018\)](#), para. 5. For more information on the mandate of UNAMI, see part X, sect. II, "Special political missions".

<sup>419</sup> See [S/2018/430](#).

<sup>420</sup> Resolution [2421 \(2018\)](#), para. 2(a).

addition, the Council decided that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNAMI would further advise, support and assist the Government of Iraq on, inter alia, the development of processes for holding elections and on constitutional review as well as approach gender mainstreaming as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate and to advise the Government in ensuring the participation, involvement and representation of women at all levels.<sup>421</sup>

The security situation in Iraq and the threat posed by the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) were also considered elsewhere under the items entitled “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and “Maintenance of international peace and security”.<sup>422</sup>

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<sup>421</sup> Ibid., paras. 2(b) and (e).

<sup>422</sup> For further details, see part I, sects. 34 and 40.

**Meetings: The situation concerning Iraq**

<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.8184</a> 20 February 2018	Seventeenth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution <a href="#">2107 (2013)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/40</a> )  Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution <a href="#">2367 (2017)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/42</a> )		Iraq	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI)	Six Council members, <sup>a</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8271</a> 30 May 2018	Eighteenth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution <a href="#">2107 (2013)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/40</a> )  Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to Security Council resolution <a href="#">2367 (2017)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/359</a> )		Iraq	Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism	Five Council members (Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Peru, Plurinational State of Bolivia, United States), all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8285</a> 14 June 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/604</a> )			Two Council members (Sweden, United States)	Resolution <a href="#">2421 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8324</a> 8 August 2018	Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution <a href="#">2367 (2017)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/677</a> )  Nineteenth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution <a href="#">2107 (2013)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/683</a> )		Iraq	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Head of the International Committee of the Red Cross Delegation to the United Nations, Representative of the Women Empowerment Organization in Iraq	Two Council members (Kuwait, Peru), all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8396</a> 13 November 2018	Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution <a href="#">2421 (2018)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/975</a> )  Twentieth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution <a href="#">2107 (2013)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/976</a> )		Iraq	Special Representative of the Secretary-General	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Peru, Bolivia (Plurinational State of). Kuwait (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

## THEMATIC ISSUES

### 26. United Nations peacekeeping operations

During the period under review, the Security Council held seven meetings, adopted two resolutions and issued one presidential statement in connection with the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”. Two of the meetings took the form of briefings, three were convened for the adoption of a decision. Of the remaining two, one was a debate and the other an open debate.<sup>423</sup> The open debate was a high-level meeting to discuss collective action to improve United Nations peacekeeping, while the debate was the first annual meeting on the reform of peacekeeping held further to resolution [2378 \(2017\)](#).<sup>424</sup> Following established practice, the Council held annual briefings with selected Force Commanders and Police Commissioners of United Nations peacekeeping operations.<sup>425</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, the Council was briefed by the Secretary-General once as well as by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission. The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations briefed twice, while the Assistant Secretary-General for the Rule of Law and Security Institutions briefed once as did the Force Commanders and the Police Commissioners of various peacekeeping operations. In addition, the Council was briefed twice by representatives of two non-governmental organizations.

Discussions in the Council under this item focused on the need for a collective approach to strengthening the effectiveness of peacekeeping. In this regard, speakers underlined the importance of improving the performance of and strengthening accountability of peacekeeping personnel, improving safety and security and ensuring better equipment and training. Discussions also referred to the need for well-defined and achievable mandates, political solutions to guide the work of missions and integrated strategies based on which to measure overall mandate implementation. The discussions also pointed to the need for greater

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<sup>423</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>424</sup> [S/PV.8218](#) and [S/PV.8349](#). See also resolution [2378 \(2017\)](#), para. 10.

<sup>425</sup> [S/PV.8251](#) and [S/PV.8393](#).



involvement of women in peacekeeping and the prevention of and accountability for sexual exploitation and abuse.

At the high-level open debate held on 28 March 2018, the Secretary-General called for a “quantum leap” in collective engagement and announced the launching of a new “Action for Peacekeeping” initiative aimed at developing mutually agreed principles and commitments for creating peacekeeping operations fit for the future. In this regard, he requested Member States, including the Council, to sharpen and streamline mission mandates, sustain political engagement and push for political solutions and inclusive peace processes.<sup>426</sup> The Chairperson of the African Union Commission underlined the need for close cooperation between the United Nations and African Union to move forward the political processes underpinning peacekeeping operations and for complementarity between the two organizations.<sup>427</sup> The Council was also briefed by a representative of a non-governmental organization from Gao, Mali, who described the political, security and protection situation in her country, and called on the United Nations Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) to support the implementation of the Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation.<sup>428</sup>

On 9 May 2018, the Force Commanders of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), MINUSMA, and the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) provided the Council with an overview of key mandate implementation challenges in their missions. The Force Commander of UNAMID called for transition strategies to be embedded in the renewal of mission mandates.<sup>429</sup> The Force Commander of MINUSMA concurred with the findings of the report by Lieutenant-General Carlos Alberto dos Santos Cruz on improving the safety and security of United Nations peacekeepers and specifically highlighted the need for personnel training and intelligence capacity and decentralized decision-making to deal with complex security environments.<sup>430</sup> The UNMISS Force Commander described the need for a political solution in South Sudan as an imperative that would improve the mission’s prospects for achieving its mandate.<sup>431</sup>

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<sup>426</sup> [S/PV.8218](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>427</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6.

<sup>428</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 6-8.

<sup>429</sup> [S/PV.8251](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>430</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 3-5.

<sup>431</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

On 12 September 2018, at the annual debate on peacekeeping reform held further to resolution [2378 \(2017\)](#), the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations informed the Council that the Secretary-General, within the framework of the “Action for Peacekeeping” initiative, put forward a “Declaration of Shared Commitments on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations” to all Member States for their endorsement. He outlined the measures undertaken by the Secretariat to enhance peacekeeping performance and the efforts of the Secretariat and Member States to increase the number of women in peacekeeping and on the prevention of sexual exploitation and abuse by peacekeepers, particularly of children.<sup>432</sup> The Chief Executive Officer of Keeping Children Safe called on world leaders to champion the safety of children at the highest levels by requiring all organizations involved in peacekeeping to implement robust international child-safeguarding standards.<sup>433</sup>

On 6 November 2018, at the annual meeting of the Council with United Nations police commissioners, the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions updated on the status of the “Action for Peacekeeping” initiative, noting that 150 Member States had endorsed the “Declaration of Shared Commitments” and that the independent strategic reviews of missions, eight of which had been conducted over the past year, were essential if United Nations police were to fulfil their role in keeping the peace and creating space for political dialogue and preventive diplomacy.<sup>434</sup> In her briefing, the Police Commissioner of UNMISS described how the mission implemented its protection of civilians’ mandate, including to address sexual and gender-based violence, through community-oriented and gender-responsive policing.<sup>435</sup> The Police Commissioner of MONUSCO described the work of his staff in supporting the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to combat organized crime and the activities of armed groups.<sup>436</sup> The MINUJUSTH Police Commissioner noted that the integral role of the mission in supporting Haiti’s reform of the security and justice sector had enabled it to address overall rule of law reform in a more coordinated and comprehensive manner.<sup>437</sup> The representative of the Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime briefed the Council on the links between

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<sup>432</sup> [S/PV.8349](#), pp. 2-6.

<sup>433</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.

<sup>434</sup> [S/PV.8393](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>435</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 4-6.

<sup>436</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.

<sup>437</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

organized crime and conflict and on the need for the policing function to be part of an integrated response in peacekeeping operations.<sup>438</sup>

In its decisions during the period under review, the Council focused on the collective action to enhance peacekeeping and the role of police, justice and corrections components. In a presidential statement issued on 14 May 2018, the Council reaffirmed the basic principles of peacekeeping, including consent of the parties, impartiality, and non-use of force, except in self-defence and defence of the mandate.<sup>439</sup> The Council welcomed the initiatives of the Secretary-General to standardize “a culture of performance” in United Nations peacekeeping and expressed support for the development of a comprehensive and integrated policy framework that ensured effective and full implementation of mandates, identified clear standards of performance for evaluating civilian and uniformed personnel and included comprehensive and objective methodologies based on clear and well-defined benchmarks to ensure accountability for underperformance and incentives for outstanding performance.<sup>440</sup> The Council expressed support for the vision of the Secretary-General for the reform of the peace and security pillars and welcomed his efforts to mobilize all partners and stakeholders in support of more effective peacekeeping through the “Action for Peacekeeping” initiative.<sup>441</sup>

By resolution [2436 \(2018\)](#) of 21 September 2018, while reaffirming its support for the development of a comprehensive and integrated performance policy framework, the Council outlined examples of outstanding performance and noted that the framework should specify measures for performance accountability that included a range of responses proportionate to the performance failures.<sup>442</sup> Specifically highlighting the need for the full implementation of protection mandates, the Council affirmed that, where mandated, peacekeepers were authorized to use “all necessary means”, which included the use of force where required.<sup>443</sup> The Secretary-General was requested to act with urgency to initiate special investigations into alleged instances of “significant performance failure”, to provide detailed reporting on their

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<sup>438</sup> Ibid., pp. 8-10.

<sup>439</sup> [S/PRST/2018/10](#), third paragraph.

<sup>440</sup> Ibid., thirteenth paragraph.

<sup>441</sup> Ibid., twenty-sixth paragraph.

<sup>442</sup> Resolution [2436 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>443</sup> Ibid., para. 6.

findings and implementation plans to the Council and relevant Member States, and to ensure that decisions in this context were predicated on objective performance data.<sup>444</sup>

By resolution [2447 \(2018\)](#), the Council underscored the importance of integrating police, justice and corrections activities into the mandates of peacekeeping operations and special political missions from their outset to ensure support for the achievement of strategic goals and to address the root causes of conflict.<sup>445</sup> Specifically, the Secretary-General was requested to enhance the coherence, performance and effectiveness of United Nations assistance in this context, ensure coordination with the United Nations country team and other United Nations actors, timely planning and benchmarks for mission transition and that data streams related to the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations include police, justice and corrections institutions, and are centralized to improve analytical evaluation of mission operations.<sup>446</sup>

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<sup>444</sup> Ibid., paras. 10 to 12.

<sup>445</sup> Resolution [2447 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>446</sup> Ibid., para. 6(a) to (d).

**Meetings: United Nations peacekeeping operations**

<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.8218</a> 28 March 2018	Collective action to improve United Nations peacekeeping operations  Letter dated 2 March 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/184</a> )		52 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Chairperson of the African Union Commission <sup>b</sup> , Director of Groupe de Recherche d'Études de Formation Femme-Action, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>c</sup> , all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8251</a> 9 May 2018				Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Force Commander of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, Force Commander of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali, Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan	All Council members, all invitees <sup>e</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8253</a> 14 May 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/10</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8349</a> 12 September 2018			11 Member States <sup>f</sup>	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Chief Executive Officer of Keeping Children Safe, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	13 Council members <sup>g</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8360</a> 21 September 2018		Draft resolution submitted by the United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/853</a> )			Five Council members (China, Ethiopia, Netherlands, United States, Russian Federation)	Resolution <a href="#">2436 (2018)</a>

<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.8393</a> 6 November 2018	Police Commissioners			Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Police Commissioner of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, Police Commissioner of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Police Commissioner of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti, Global Initiative Against Transnational Organized Crime	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8420</a> 13 December 2018		Draft resolution submitted by 10 Council members <sup>h</sup> <a href="#">(S/2018/1109)</a>			Three Council members (Côte d'Ivoire, Netherlands <sup>i</sup> , Russian Federation)	Resolution <a href="#">2447 (2018)</a> 15-0-0

<sup>a</sup> Argentina, Bangladesh, Belgium, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Fiji, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Norway, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Viet Nam.

<sup>b</sup> The Chairperson of the African Union Commission participated in the meeting via videoconference from Nouakchott.

<sup>c</sup> The Netherlands was represented by its Prime Minister; Côte d'Ivoire was represented by its Minister of State and Minister of Defence; Sweden was represented by its Minister for Policy Coordination and Energy; Poland was represented by its Deputy Foreign Minister; Kazakhstan was represented by its Deputy Minister for Defence; France was represented by its Secretary of State attached to the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs; the United Kingdom was represented by its Minister of State for the Commonwealth; and the United Nations and the United States was represented by its Permanent Representative and Member of the President's Cabinet.

<sup>d</sup> Indonesia, who was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, spoke on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations; Germany was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Estonia was represented by its Minister for Defence; Canada, who was represented by its Minister of National Defence, spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Women, Peace and Security; Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), who was represented by its Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. The representative of Norway spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries; the representative of the Republic of Korea spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of the United Nations Peace Operations; and the representative of Italy spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of the Responsibility to Protect.

<sup>e</sup> The Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan participated in the meeting via videoconference from Juba.

<sup>f</sup> Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Fiji, Indonesia, Pakistan, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal and Uruguay.

<sup>g</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d'Ivoire, who spoke on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia and Equatorial Guinea, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>h</sup> Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>i</sup> The Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

## **27. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals**

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings related to the work of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.<sup>447</sup> The Council also adopted one presidential statement and one resolution, under Chapter VII of the Charter. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, the Council heard semi-annual briefings by the President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals and by the Prosecutor on the work of the Mechanism.<sup>448</sup> At those meetings, the Council considered the progress achieved as well as the challenges to the implementation of the mandate of the Mechanism during the reporting period, in particular with regard to the enforcement of sentences. In that connection, most Council members called on Member States to cooperate with the Office of the Prosecutor, in locating and apprehending fugitives remaining at large. Speakers also recognized the role of the Tribunals for the former Yugoslavia and Rwanda, as well as of the Mechanism in providing access to justice and international criminal law as a way to build sustainable peace.

The decisions of the Council dealt with most of the aspects discussed in those meetings. On 19 March 2018, the Council issued a presidential statement requesting the Mechanism to present the report on the progress of its work by 15 April 2018.<sup>449</sup> In addition, the Council requested the Informal Working Group on International Tribunals to carry out a thorough examination of the Mechanism's report, as well as the report on the evaluation of the methods and work of the Mechanism by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS)

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<sup>447</sup> In a note by the President dated 2 February 2018 ([S/2018/90](#)), the Council agreed that issues pertaining to the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, established by resolution [1966\(2010\)](#), would be considered under an item entitled "International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals" (IRMCT), under which the Council would also henceforth consider issues pertaining to the items entitled "International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991" and "International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994". For more information on the mandates of ICTY, ICTR and of the IRMCT, see part IX, sect. IV, A and B.

<sup>448</sup> [S/PV.8278](#) and [S/PV.8416](#).

<sup>449</sup> [S/PRST/2018/6](#), fifth paragraph.



and to present its views and any findings or recommendations for the Council's consideration in its review of the work of the Mechanism.<sup>450</sup> The Council further noted with concern that the Mechanism faced problems in the relocation of acquitted persons and convicted persons who had completed serving their sentences, and emphasized the importance of the successful relocation of such persons.<sup>451</sup> Furthermore, the Council stressed its determination to combat impunity for those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law and the necessity that all persons indicted by the ICTY and ICTR, including the remaining fugitives, were brought to justice.<sup>452</sup>

On 27 June 2018 the Council adopted, albeit non-unanimously, resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#), under Chapter VII of the Charter appointing the Prosecutor of the Mechanism with effect from 1 July 2018 until 30 June 2020.<sup>453</sup> In the resolution, the Council urged all States to intensify their cooperation with and render all necessary assistance to the Mechanism, in particular to achieve the arrest and surrender of all remaining fugitives indicted by the ICTR, as soon as possible.<sup>454</sup> Noting the concerns expressed by some Member States with respect to the early release of persons convicted by the ICTR, the Council encouraged the Mechanism to consider an appropriate solution.<sup>455</sup> In addition, the Council welcomed the report submitted by the Mechanism to the Council and the report of the OIOS on the evaluation of the methods and work of the Mechanism.<sup>456</sup> In this regard, the Council requested the Mechanism to implement the recommendations made by the Informal Working Group on International Tribunals, and to continue to take steps to further enhance efficiency and effective and transparent management.<sup>457</sup> With a view to strengthening independent oversight of the Mechanism, the Council also recalled that, as set out in its presidential statement of 19 March 2018, future reviews carried out pursuant to paragraph 17 of resolution [1966 \(2010\)](#) should include evaluation reports sought from the OIOS with respect to the methods and work of the Mechanism.<sup>458</sup>

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<sup>450</sup> Ibid., sixth and eighth paragraphs.

<sup>451</sup> Ibid., ninth paragraph.

<sup>452</sup> Ibid., tenth paragraph.

<sup>453</sup> Resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>454</sup> Ibid., para. 4.

<sup>455</sup> Ibid., para. 10.

<sup>456</sup> See [S/2018/347](#) and [S/2018/206](#).

<sup>457</sup> Resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#), para. 8.

<sup>458</sup> Ibid., para 12.

During the period under review, the Council took note of the intention of the Secretary-General to appoint the nominated judges to fill the various vacancies resulting from the resignation, and the passing of two judges of the Mechanism. In addition, the Council took note of the intention of the Secretary-General to reappoint the 23 judges and the President of the Mechanism as well as of the nomination of the Prosecutor for reappointment for a new term which was decided, as referenced above, by resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#). In accordance with article 10 of the statute of the Mechanism, the President of the Security Council addressed a letter to the President of the General Assembly transmitting the list of nominations for the two judge vacancies in the roster of the Mechanism to the General Assembly.<sup>459</sup>

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<sup>459</sup> For details on actions of the Security Council concerning judges of the International Residual Mechanism, see part IV, sect. I. D.

**Meetings: International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals**

<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.8208</a> 19 March 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/6</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8278</a> 6 June 2018	Letter dated 13 April 2018 from the President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/347</a> )  Letter dated 17 May 2018 from the President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/471</a> )		Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Rwanda, Serbia <sup>a</sup>	President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Prosecutor of the Mechanism	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8295</a> 27 June 2018		Draft resolution submitted by Peru ( <a href="#">S/2018/628</a> )	Serbia		Two Council members (Peru, Russian Federation), invitee	<a href="#">Resolution 2422 (2018)</a> (adopted under Chapter VII) 14-0-1 <sup>b</sup>
<a href="#">S/PV.8416</a> 11 December 2018	Note by the Secretary-General on the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals ( <a href="#">S/2018/569</a> )  Letter dated 19 November 2018 from the President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1033</a> )		Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Rwanda, Serbia <sup>c</sup>	President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Prosecutor of the Mechanism	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a, c</sup> Serbia was represented by its Minister of Justice.

<sup>b</sup> *For:* Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining:* Russian Federation.

## 28. Children and armed conflict

During the period under review, the Security Council held one high-level meeting and adopted one resolution in connection with the item entitled “Children and armed conflict”. More information on the meeting including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in table 1.

Further to the concept note circulated by Sweden,<sup>460</sup> the Council held a high-level open debate on 9 July 2018 under the sub-item entitled “Protecting children today prevents conflicts tomorrow”.<sup>461</sup> At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and a civil society representative from Colombia.<sup>462</sup>

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General provided an overview of the trends regarding children and armed conflict, as presented in the latest report of the Secretary-General for 2017,<sup>463</sup> and expressed profound shock at the over 21,000 violations against children, perpetrated by armed groups, Government and unknown armed forces. Noting the examples of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Iraq, Myanmar and Somalia, she highlighted a sharp rise in the number of abductions, an elevated number of children killed and injured, the use of children in suicide attacks, targeting of schools and hospitals, denials of access and attacks on humanitarian convoys, and the unlawful detention of children allegedly associated with armed groups. In terms of positive developments, the Special Representative highlighted, inter alia, the progress in the adoption and implementation of action plans for the protection of children in the Central African Republic, Mali, Nigeria and the Sudan, and the advances in this context attained through the Colombian peace process. Emphasizing the important connection between child protection and any strategy to reach and sustain peace, she also noted the work of her office further to the presidential statement of 31

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<sup>460</sup> [S/2018/625](#).

<sup>461</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>462</sup> [S/PV.8305](#).

<sup>463</sup> [S/2018/465](#).

October 2017<sup>464</sup> to compile good practices and guidance on the integration of child protection into peace processes.<sup>465</sup>

In her remarks, the Executive Director of UNICEF highlighted the short- and longer-term threats facing children in the context of armed conflict and called for zero tolerance of all violations against children. She stressed the importance of fully reintegrating children into their communities through quality education, training and psychosocial support and upholding their rights as a fundamental part of any peace process.<sup>466</sup> The civil society representative described her experience as a child soldier recruited by the Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Colombia-Ejército del Pueblo (FARC-EP) and spoke to Council members on behalf of the Group of Young Consultants on Childhood, Adolescence and Armed Conflict. In her remarks she made a series of recommendations concerning how to address the root causes that compelled children to join armed groups, ensuring that children were consulted in the process of reintegration, tackling the specific issues affecting girls in the reintegration process and acknowledging children as victims, also entitled to reparations.<sup>467</sup>

During their deliberations, Council members and other speakers expressed concern over the increased number of violations against children in 2017, underlining the responsibility of the international community to respond to these developments. They also acknowledged the positive developments, including, inter alia, the release of over 10,000 children by armed forces and groups and the signing of new national action plans. Many speakers highlighted that the primary responsibility for the protection of children lied with Member States and called on those which had not done so to commit to the relevant international instruments. They also stressed the importance of ending impunity and ensuring accountability. Speakers emphasized the need for peace operations to prioritize and have the necessary resources to monitor child protection issues, including through the support of child protection advisers, and called for the provision of timely, objective and accurate information to the Council on violations and abuses against children, including through the Monitoring and Reporting Mechanism.

At the outset of the high-level open debate, the Security Council unanimously adopted resolution [2427 \(2018\)](#). In the resolution, the Council called upon States and the United

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<sup>464</sup> [S/PRST/2017/21](#).

<sup>465</sup> [S/PV.8305](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>466</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 4-6.

<sup>467</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 6-8.

Nations to mainstream child protection activities in conflict prevention, conflict and post-conflict situations with the aim of sustaining peace and preventing conflict.<sup>468</sup> The Council expressed its commitment to consider and use the tools of the United Nations system to ensure that early warning of potential conflicts translated into early, concrete preventive action, including towards the goal of protecting children whilst acknowledging that serious abuses and violations against children could be an early indication of a descent into conflict or an escalation of conflict.<sup>469</sup> The Council called upon Member States, United Nations entities, including the Peacebuilding Commission, to ensure that the views of children were taken into account in programming activities throughout the conflict cycle.<sup>470</sup> The Council expressed deep concern at the military use of schools in contravention of applicable international law and urged all parties in armed conflict to protect the civilian character of schools, encouraged Member States to take concrete steps to deter the use of schools by armed forces and non-state armed groups, urged Member States to investigate attacks on schools and to prosecute those responsible and called on the United Nations country-level task forces to enhance the monitoring and reporting on the military use of schools.<sup>471</sup> The Council also urged Member States concerned to mainstream child protection and ensure that the specific needs of girls and boys were fully taken into account at all stages of disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration processes, including through the development of a gender- and age-sensitive disarmament process.<sup>472</sup> The Council further encouraged Member States to focus on long-term and sustainable reintegration opportunities for children, including access to health care, psychosocial support, and education programmes, as well as awareness-raising within their communities.<sup>473</sup> In addition, the Council reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to ensure that in all of his reports on country-specific situations the matter of children and armed conflict was included as a specific aspect of the report.<sup>474</sup>

In 2018, the Council addressed the children and armed conflict agenda in a number of its country- and region-specific decisions as well as in decisions relating to thematic items; selected provisions of those decisions are listed in table 2. The Council, *inter alia*, (i)

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<sup>468</sup> Resolution [2427 \(2018\)](#), para. 3.

<sup>469</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 7 and 8.

<sup>470</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 23.

<sup>471</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 16.

<sup>472</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 24.

<sup>473</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 26 and 27.

<sup>474</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 38.

condemned and demanded the cessation of and accountability for violations and abuses against children and compliance with international instruments, (ii) urged the implementation of action plans and programmes on children and armed conflict, (iii) underscored the importance of taking into account child protection concerns in the demobilization, disarmament and reintegration processes and security sector reform, (iv) requested monitoring, analysis and reporting on child protection concerns, (v) called for the introduction of protection of children as a cross-cutting issue in the United Nations system, and (v) imposed or called for the imposition of measures against perpetrators of violations and abuses against children.

Table 1  
**Meetings: Children and armed conflict**

<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.8305</a> 9 July 2018	Protecting children today prevents conflicts tomorrow  Report of the Secretary-General on children and armed conflict ( <a href="#">S/2018/465</a> )  Letter dated 21 June from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Sweden to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/625</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by 98 Member States <sup>a</sup> ( <a href="#">S/2018/667</a> )	110 Member States <sup>b</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, Ms. Yenny Londono (civil society representative), Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations	All Council members <sup>c</sup> , 69 invitees under rule 37 <sup>d</sup> , all other invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a> 15-0-0

<sup>a</sup> Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Palau, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Zimbabwe.

<sup>b</sup> Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Panama, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Tanzania (United Republic of), Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

<sup>c</sup> Sweden (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Prime Minister. The Netherlands was represented by the Prime Minister of Aruba.



<sup>d</sup> Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Costa Rica, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, the Republic of Korea, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Rwanda, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Tanzania (United Republic of), Thailand, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, and Yemen. Ireland was represented by its Minister for Children and Youth Affairs, Luxembourg was represented by its Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Ukraine was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. The representative of Argentina spoke on behalf of the signatories of the Safe Schools Declaration., ; the representative of Canada spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Children and Armed Conflict; the representative of Estonia spoke on behalf of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania; the representative of Norway spoke on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden; the representative of Viet Nam spoke on behalf of Brunei Darussalam, Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Viet Nam.

Table 2  
**Provisions relevant to children and armed conflict, by theme and agenda item**

	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
<b>Condemnation of and demand for cessation of and accountability for violations and abuses against children and compliance with international instruments</b>			
	The situation in Burundi	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/7</a>	tenth, eleventh
	Central African region	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/17</a>	tenth
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	7, 29, 32
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	19, 20
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	63
	The situation in the Middle East	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/5</a>	third
<b>Country- and region-specific</b>		Resolution <a href="#">2408 (2018)</a>	17, 24, 27
		Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	34, 36, 52, 54
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2442 (2018)</a>	24
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/13</a>	twelfth
		Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	25
		Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	26
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	38, 44
		Resolution <a href="#">2445 (2018)</a>	26
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	1, 12, 13, 15, 16(a), (c), 18 20, 30, 31
<b>Action plans and programmes on children and armed conflict</b>			
	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	33
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	17, 37(i)(b)
<b>Country- and region-specific</b>	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	29, 54
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	25
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	38, 38(b)
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	10, 11, 23, 26, 37
<b>Child protection in disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration and security sector reform</b>			
<b>Country- and region-specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	19
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	16, 30, 40(c)(i), 56

	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	26, 37(i)(c), 37 (i)(d), 37 (ii)(b), 38
	The situation concerning Iraq	Resolution <a href="#">2421 (2018)</a>	2(f)
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	38(ii)
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/4</a>	eighth
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/3</a>	twelfth
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	21, 22, 24, 25, 26, 28, 37

**Monitoring, analysis and reporting on violations against children**

	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	39, 40(d)(ii)
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	36(i)(b), 59(i)
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	38(e)(ii)
<b>Country- and region-specific</b>		Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	7(c)(ii)
		Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	26
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2428 (2018)</a>	22
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	7(ii), 11(i), 38(a), 56(i), 56 (vii)
		Resolution <a href="#">2445 (2018)</a>	27
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	3, 5, 8, 16(d), 22, 23, 35, 38

**Introduction of child protection as a cross-cutting issue in United Nations system, including through the deployment of Child Protection Advisors in United Nations peace operations**

	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	33
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2399 (2018)</a> Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	39 39(a)(iii), 56
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	38
<b>Country- and region-specific</b>	The situation concerning Iraq	Resolution <a href="#">2421 (2018)</a>	2(f)
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a> Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	38(d)(iii), 63, 66 7(a)(i), (vi), (vii)
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a> Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a> Resolution <a href="#">2445 (2018)</a>	28 19(iii), 38(b) 29
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	8, 10, 22, 23, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/18</a>	first

	Maintenance of international peace and security	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/1</a>	twenty-ninth
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution <a href="#">2436 (2018)</a> <a href="#">S/PRST/2018/10</a>	7 eighteenth
<b>Measures against the perpetrators of violations and abuses against children</b>			
<b>Country- and region-specific</b>	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2399 (2018)</a>	21(d)
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2428 (2018)</a>	14(d), (f)
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	32

## 29. Protection of civilians in armed conflict

During 2018, the Security Council held three meetings to consider the protection of civilians in armed conflict, including one high-level meeting which took the form of an open debate.<sup>475</sup> The Council adopted one resolution and one presidential statement under this item. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in table 1.

Further to the concept note circulated by Poland,<sup>476</sup> the Council held a ministerial-level open debate on 22 May 2018, with the purpose of advancing the protection of civilians at all levels and encouraging efforts to enhance respect for international humanitarian law and human rights law, as well as to develop and implement policies and strategies to avoid civilian harm in the conduct of hostilities, including in the context of the “global effort” called for by the Secretary-General in his report of May 2017.<sup>477</sup> At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Secretary-General, the Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Secretary-General of the Iraqi Al-Amal Association. The Secretary-General briefed the Council first and stated that the most effective way to protect civilians was to prevent and end conflicts. Further to his report,<sup>478</sup> the Secretary-General described the situation of civilians in conflict zones and recalled his recommendations to improve the protection of civilians through national policy frameworks, the engagement of non-State armed groups and ensuring accountability for serious violations.<sup>479</sup> The Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross highlighted four issues of concern for improving the situation on the ground, namely, the use of heavy explosive weapons in populated areas, the protection of health care, the deprivation of liberty and the missing people in armed conflict. He cautioned that any normalization of violations could have a terrible impact and underlined that a more positive focus on international humanitarian law could improve compliance.<sup>480</sup> The Secretary-General of the Iraqi Al-Amal Association spoke about the situation of civilians in Iraq and urged the Council to ensure that civilians were

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<sup>475</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.A.

<sup>476</sup> [S/2018/444](#).

<sup>477</sup> [S/2017/414](#).

<sup>478</sup> [S/2018/462](#).

<sup>479</sup> [S/PV.8264](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>480</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 4-6.

protected in line with legal obligations under international humanitarian and international human rights law.<sup>481</sup> Following the briefings, Member States further discussed the means to strengthen accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law, providing practical examples of national initiatives implemented in that regard. Speakers also focused on the need to enhance the protection of medical personnel and facilities pursuant to resolution [2296 \(2016\)](#), as well as on the implementation of protection mandates by United Nations peacekeeping operations. Further to the meeting, on 29 June 2018, Poland circulated a summary of the open debate.<sup>482</sup>

On 24 May 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2417 \(2018\)](#), which focused on the connection between armed conflict and conflict-induced food insecurity and the threat of famine. In the resolution, the Council strongly condemned the use of starvation of civilians as a method of warfare as well as the unlawful denial of humanitarian access.<sup>483</sup> In that connection, the Council recalled that it had adopted and could consider adopting sanction measures that could be applied to individuals or entities obstructing the delivery of humanitarian assistance.<sup>484</sup> The Council strongly urged States to conduct, in an independent manner, full, prompt, impartial and effective investigations within their jurisdiction into violations of international humanitarian law related to the use of starvation of civilians as a method of warfare, and, where appropriate, to take action against those responsible.<sup>485</sup> In the resolution, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to provide information on the humanitarian situation and response, including on the risk of famine and food insecurity as part of his reporting on country-specific situations as well as to report swiftly to the Council when the risk of conflict-induced famine and wide-spread food insecurity in armed conflict occurred. In addition, the Council requested the Secretary-General to brief on the implementation of the resolution within his annual briefing on the protection of civilians.<sup>486</sup>

On 21 September, the Council adopted a presidential statement recognising the contribution of the updated Aide Memoire for the consideration of issues pertaining to the

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<sup>481</sup> Ibid., pp. 6-7.

<sup>482</sup> See letter dated 29 June 2018 from the Permanent representative of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ([S/2018/684](#)).

<sup>483</sup> Resolution [2417 \(2018\)](#), paras. 5 and 6.

<sup>484</sup> Ibid., para. 9.

<sup>485</sup> Ibid., para. 10.

<sup>486</sup> Ibid., paras. 11 to 13.

protection of civilians in armed conflict, including its enhanced focus on the protection of medical facilities and personnel and on the use of starvation as a method of warfare. The Council also recognised the contribution of the Aide Memoire as a practical tool that provided a basis for improved analysis and diagnosis of key protection issues.<sup>487</sup> As per past practice, the Aide Memoire was contained in the annex to the presidential statement.<sup>488</sup>

Throughout 2018, the Council continued the practice of hearing briefings by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs concerning the protection of civilians in armed conflict under country and region-specific items.<sup>489</sup> The Council also included protection-related provisions in most of its resolutions and presidential statements in relation to both country- or region-specific and thematic items.<sup>490</sup>

The Council focused on multiple aspects and used a variety of language formulas to address the protection of civilians in its decisions; selected provisions of those decisions are listed in table 2. In particular, the Council (a) condemned all forms of attacks against civilians, especially against women and children and including attacks against schools, hospitals and medical facilities; (b) called upon all parties to conflict to comply with their obligations under international humanitarian law, human rights law and refugee law and called for accountability measures against perpetrators of such crimes; (c) demanded that all parties to armed conflict ensure unhindered access for delivery of humanitarian assistance, particularly in the context of conflict-induced famine, and to ensure safety of humanitarian and medical personnel as well as United Nations personnel; (d) emphasised the primary responsibility of States to comply with their relevant obligations to protect civilians; (e) requested additional monitoring mechanisms as well as reporting arrangements in order to improve the protection of civilians in armed conflict, and (f) adopted or expressed its intention to adopt targeted measures, such as sanctions, against perpetrators. In addition, the

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<sup>487</sup> [S/PRST/2018/18](#), seventh paragraph. The initial Aide Memoire was adopted on 15 March 2002 in [S/PRST/2002/6](#).

<sup>488</sup> See [S/PRST/2015/23](#).

<sup>489</sup> During 2012 and 2013, the Council was briefed by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs four times at public meetings and 25 times in consultations; during 2014 and 2015, the Council was briefed by the Office 32 times at public meetings and 42 times in consultations; during 2016 and 2017, the Council was briefed by the Office 44 times at public meetings and 56 times in consultations. In 2018 alone, the Council was briefed by the Office 27 times in public meetings and 16 times in consultations, at a total of 43 briefings during that year.

<sup>490</sup> For information on other cross-cutting issues before the Council, see part I, sect. 28, “Children and armed conflict”, and sect. 30, “Women and peace and security”.

Council practice of strengthening the mandates of United Nations peace operations with a view to protecting civilians continued to evolve. During the reporting period, the Council requested several Missions to adopt a more comprehensive approach to the protection of civilians, including by strengthening local community engagement and empowerment, early warning and information-sharing mechanisms.<sup>491</sup>

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<sup>491</sup> For additional information on mandates and decisions relevant to peacekeeping and political missions, see part X.



Table 1  
**Meetings: Protection of civilians in armed conflict**

<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.8264</a> 22 May 2018	Letter dated 9 May 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/444</a> )  Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of civilians in armed conflict ( <a href="#">S/2018/462</a> )		63 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), Secretary-General of the Iraqi Al-Amal Association, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees <sup>c</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8267</a> 24 May 2018		Draft resolution submitted by 9 Member States <sup>d</sup> ( <a href="#">S/2018/492</a> )			Four Council members (Netherlands, United Kingdom, United States, Russian Federation)	Resolution <a href="#">2417 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8359</a> 21 September 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/18</a>

<sup>a</sup> Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar,

New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Yemen.

<sup>b</sup> Poland (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Kazakhstan was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>c</sup> Georgia was represented by its Vice-Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Argentina and Ukraine were represented by their Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs. Norway spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries; Switzerland spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends on the Protection of Civilians in armed conflict; Panama spoke on behalf of the Human Security Network; Venezuela spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement; and Qatar spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Responsibility to Protect.

<sup>d</sup> Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

Table 2  
**Provisions relevant to the protection of civilians in armed conflict, by theme and agenda item**

	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
<b>Condemnation of attacks and acts of violence against civilians and abuses and violations of human rights and international humanitarian law</b>			
<b>Country and region-specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	23
	The situation in Burundi	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/7</a>	tenth
	Central African region	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/17</a>	twelfth
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	14, 19
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	39, 41, 44
	The situation in the Middle East	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/5</a>	third
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	1, 15
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/18</a>	third
		Resolution <a href="#">2417 (2018)</a>	5, 6
<b>Calls for compliance with and accountability under applicable international humanitarian law human rights law and relevant Security Council resolutions by all parties</b>			
<b>Country and region-specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	27
	Central African region	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/17</a>	tenth
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	26, 53
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	11, 14, 40
	The situation in Libya	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/11</a>	third
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	44, 61
	The situation in the Middle East	Resolution <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a>	7
		Resolution <a href="#">2449 (2018)</a>	2, 6
		Resolution <a href="#">2451 (2018)</a>	10
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2408 (2018)</a>	22, 23, 24
	Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	49, 52	
	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/13</a>	twelfth	
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	24
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	46
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	7, 16 (a), (c)
	Maintenance of international peace and security	Resolution <a href="#">2419 (2018)</a>	5, 6
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2417 (2018)</a>	1, 2, 4, 8, 10
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/18</a>	fifth
	Threats to international peace and security	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/9</a>	sixth
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution <a href="#">2447 (2018)</a>	10
	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/10</a>	fifteenth	

<b>Demands for humanitarian access and safety of humanitarian and medical personnel and facilities</b>			
<b>Country and region-specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	26
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	66, 67
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/14</a>	eleventh
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	43
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	62
	The situation in the Middle East	Resolution <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a>	1, 5, 8, 10
		Resolution <a href="#">2449 (2018)</a>	1, 4, 6
		Resolution <a href="#">2451 (2018)</a>	8, 10
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/5</a>	fourth, fifth
	Peace and security in Africa	Resolution <a href="#">2439 (2018)</a>	6
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2408 (2018)</a>	26
		Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	51
		Resolution <a href="#">2444 (2018)</a>	47
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	23
		Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	24
Resolution <a href="#">2428 (2018)</a>		2, 23	
Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>		43	
Resolution <a href="#">2445 (2018)</a>		25	
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	13
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2417 (2018)</a>	47
<b>Affirmation of primary responsibility of States and parties to the conflict to protect civilians</b>			
<b>Country and region-specific</b>	The situation in Burundi	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/7</a>	eleventh
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	25
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	63
	Peace and security in Africa	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/3</a>	twelfth
Resolution <a href="#">2439 (2018)</a>		3	
<b>Thematic</b>	Maintenance of international peace and security	Resolution <a href="#">2419 (2018)</a>	7
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/1</a>	tenth
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/18</a>	second
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	<a href="#">S/RES/2436 (2018)</a>	6
<b>Requests for specific monitoring and analysis of and reporting on protection of civilians</b>			
<b>Country and region-specific</b>	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	59(ii), (iv)
	The situation in the Middle East	Resolution <a href="#">2451 (2018)</a>	7
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	9

		Resolution <a href="#">2444 (2018)</a>	49
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	33
		Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	26
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	7(ii), (iii), 56(i),(iv),(viii)
		Resolution <a href="#">2445 (2018)</a>	27
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/4</a>	tenth
<b>Thematic</b>	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2417 (2018)</a>	11, 13
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/18</a>	eighth
<b>Imposition of targeted measures against perpetrators of violations against civilians in armed conflict</b>			
<b>Country and region-specific</b>	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2399 (2018)</a>	21(b), (c), (d), (f)
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/14</a>	second
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	3
		Resolution <a href="#">2428 (2018)</a>	14(c), (d), (g), (h), 19(c), 25
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2444 (2018)</a>	48
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	32
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2417 (2018)</a>	9
<b>Inclusion of mission-specific protection mandates and benchmarks<sup>a</sup></b>			
<b>Country and region-specific</b>	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	39(a)(i)-(iv)
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/14</a>	seventh
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	36(i)(a) - (g), 44, 47, 48
	The question concerning Haiti	Resolution <a href="#">2410 (2018)</a>	15
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	34, 37, 38(d)(i) - (iii), (e)(i) and(ii), 38(f), 70(ii)
	Peace and security in Africa	Resolution <a href="#">2439 (2018)</a>	7
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	6, 17, 20
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	7(a), (b) and (c) 9(iii), 12, 15, 21
		Resolution <a href="#">2428 (2018)</a>	23
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	11(i), 13, 19 (i)-(iii), 53
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/4</a>	fifth, seventh
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/19</a>	eighth
<b>Thematic</b>	Children and armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2427 (2018)</a>	33
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/18</a>	fourth
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution <a href="#">2436 (2018)</a>	7

<sup>a</sup> For additional information on mandates and decisions relevant to peacekeeping and political missions, see part X.

### **30. Women and peace and security**

In 2018, the Security Council held two meetings, including one high-level meeting, in relation to the item entitled “Women and peace and security”. Both meetings took the form of open debates.<sup>492</sup> In this period, the Council did not adopt any decision. More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers is given in table 1.

Further to the concept note circulated by Peru,<sup>493</sup> on 16 April 2018, the Council held an open debate under the sub-item “Preventing sexual violence in conflict through empowerment, gender equality and access to justice”.<sup>494</sup> At the meeting, the Council heard a briefing by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and a Senior Researcher of Kalandan Press. The Deputy Secretary-General noted that through 2018, in Myanmar, and in many other conflict situations, sexual violence was once again being used as a tactic to advance military, economic and ideological objectives, and it had been again a driver of massive forced displacement. She affirmed the common responsibility to bring justice, recognition and reparations to the survivors of these crimes, not only justice in the courtroom but also social justice and economic empowerment.<sup>495</sup> The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict noted that the annual open debate on sexual violence in conflict provided a critical opportunity for taking stock of progress or regression “in this agenda”. She also stressed that while significant normative and operational progress had been achieved, sexual violence continued to be employed as a tactic of war and terrorism and as a tool of political repression. Looking forward, she proposed three recommendations. First, she called on the international community to give serious consideration to the establishment of a reparations fund for survivors of sexual-related sexual violence. Secondly, she encouraged a more operational response to stigma alleviation and in cases where survivors faced ongoing risks, she encouraged States to adopt special quota projects to help relocate women and

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<sup>492</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>493</sup> [S/2018/311](#).

<sup>494</sup> [S/PV.8234](#).

<sup>495</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 2.

children to third countries. Thirdly, she stated the need to marshal sustained political resolve and resources equal to the scale of the challenge, noting that the gender-based violence response in humanitarian settings remained chronically underfunded.<sup>496</sup> Speaking on behalf of the NGO Working Group on Women, Peace and Security, the Senior Researcher of Kalandan Press stated that the international community, particularly the Security Council had failed the Rohingya and that the recent crisis could have been prevented if the warning signs since 2012 had not been ignored. She reported on her research and evidence of rape by Government troops and noted that there were similar situations around the world. She affirmed that the rule of law must drive the response to the Rohingya crisis and called for the Security Council to refer the situation in Myanmar to the International Criminal Court.<sup>497</sup> During the meeting, several speakers noted the importance of imposing targeted sanctions against perpetrators of conflict-related sexual violence,<sup>498</sup> and supported the Secretary-General's recommendation to introduce sexual violence as a designation criterion for sanctions.<sup>499</sup>

On 25 October 2018, further to a concept note circulated by the Plurinational State of Bolivia,<sup>500</sup> the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item "Promoting the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda and sustaining peace through women's political and economic empowerment". At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Secretary-General, the Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), and the General Director of the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling.<sup>501</sup> The Secretary-General noted that despite progress in some areas, the participation of women in formal peace processes remained extremely limited. He emphasized that the meaningful participation of women was directly linked to more sustainable peace and underscored that a "gendered approach" to peace and security meant supporting peacebuilding at the local level, even during conflict. As peace

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<sup>496</sup> Ibid., p. 3-6.

<sup>497</sup> Ibid., pp. 6-7.

<sup>498</sup> Ibid., p. 39 (Mexico), p. 42 (Italy), p. 62 (Sudan), p. 65 (Bangladesh), p. 66 (Ireland), p. 79 (Argentina).

<sup>499</sup> Ibid., pp. 8-9 (Sweden), p. 10 (United States), p. 11 (Ethiopia), p. 12 (France), p. 14 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)), p. 20 (Kazakhstan), p. 23 (Netherlands), pp. 27-28 (Canada), p. 34 (Spain), p. 42 (Italy), pp. 47-48 (Lithuania), p. 54 (Germany), p. 72 (Costa Rica), p. 74 (Montenegro). For more information on the discussion see part VII, sect. III.B.

<sup>500</sup> [S/2018/904](#).

<sup>501</sup> [S/PV.8382](#).

processes faltered at the national and international levels, he stressed the importance of supporting local women's groups that negotiated humanitarian access and supported community resilience. He urged the Security Council to invest in gender equality and women's empowerment not only as an end in themselves, but as a critical means of achieving the overarching aim of preventing and ending conflict and building peace and prosperity.<sup>502</sup> The Executive Director of UN Women noted the clear gender inequality in women's access to resources which she indicated was a reflection of the non-prioritization of women's needs and the relegation of women to small-scale and local peripheral initiatives. She also shared three priorities for the year 2020, namely, to stop supporting, brokering and paying for peace negotiations excluding women, to ensure that the 15 per cent minimum target for projects advancing gender equality and women's empowerment was met by all relevant entities and peace and security funds, and to protect women activists, peacebuilders and human rights defenders.<sup>503</sup> The General Director of the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling briefed the Council on the situation of Palestinian women and called on the Security Council to act to ensure women's meaningful participation in conflict prevention, democratic transition, reconciliation efforts and any humanitarian work.<sup>504</sup> During the discussion that ensued, a number of speakers noted the insufficient participation of women as delegates, mediators and negotiators in peace processes,<sup>505</sup> and referred to the need for gender-sensitive conflict analysis.<sup>506</sup>

During the period under review, the Informal Experts Group on Women and Peace and Security continued to be convened in accordance with resolution [2242 \(2015\)](#).<sup>507</sup>

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<sup>502</sup> Ibid., pp. 3-4.

<sup>503</sup> Ibid., pp. 6-.

<sup>504</sup> Ibid., pp. 8-10.

<sup>505</sup> Ibid., p. 10 (Sweden), p. 12 (Netherlands), p. 18 (China), p. 19 (Kuwait), p. 24 (France), p. 26 (Poland), p. 32 (Ukraine), p. 35 (Slovakia), p. 37 (Turkey on behalf of the MIKTA countries, namely, Mexico, Indonesia, the Republic of Korea, Turkey and Australia), p. 37 (Pakistan), p. 38 (Norway on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway), p. 39 (Albania), p. 43 (Republic of Korea), p. 47 (United Arab Emirates), p. 51 (Mexico), p. 54 (Italy), pp. 56-57 (Israel), p. 58 (Belgium), pp. 61-62 (Ghana), p. 63 (Canada), p. 65 (Viet Nam), p. 66 (Ireland), p. 70 (Nepal), p. 73 (Lebanon), pp. 87-88 (Costa Rica), p. 94 (Djibouti), p. 95 (Senior Adviser on Gender Issues of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)), p. 103 (Spain).

<sup>506</sup> Ibid., p. 11 (Sweden), p. 16 (Kazakhstan), p. 22 (United States), p. 39 (Norway on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Sweden and Norway), p. 49 (Dominican Republic), p. 52 (Mexico), p. 54 (Italy), p. 57 (European Union), pp. 63-64 (Canada), p. 67 (Ireland), p. 82 (Maldives), p. 101 (Special Representative of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary-General for Women, Peace and Security).

<sup>507</sup> See for further details: [S/2018/188](#), [S/2018/362](#), [S/2018/475](#), [S/2018/881](#), [S/2018/688](#), [S/2018/885](#), [S/2018/1087](#), [S/2018/1139](#).



In 2018, the Council referred to issues relating to women and peace and security under numerous items on its agenda and addressed in its decisions a wide variety of measures in connection with the women and peace and security agenda; selected provisions of those decisions are listed in table 2. In particular, the Council (i) demanded the participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution and in public affairs and governance; (ii) called for measures to combat sexual violence including through monitoring, analysing and reporting on conflict-related sexual violence, as well as for the prosecution of perpetrators of sexual violence; (iii) called for gender mainstreaming to be taken into account as a cross-cutting issue; and (iv) called for meaningful participation of women in peacekeeping operations.

Table 1  
**Meetings: Women and peace and security**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8234</a> 16 April 2018	Preventing sexual violence in conflict through empowerment, gender equality and access to justice  Report of the Secretary General on conflict-related sexual violence ( <a href="#">S/2018/250</a> )  Letter dated 2 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/311</a> )		47 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Five invitees under rule 39 <sup>b</sup> and Permanent Observer of the Observer State of the Holy See	Deputy Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>c</sup> , all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8382</a> 25 October 2018	Promoting the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda and sustaining peace through women's political and economic empowerment  Report of the Secretary-General on women and peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2018/900</a> )  Letter dated 9 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/904</a> )		70 Member States <sup>e</sup>	Six invitees under rule 39 <sup>f</sup> and Permanent Observer of the Observer State of the Holy See	Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>g</sup> , all invitees <sup>h</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Maldives, Mali, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Myanmar, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine and United Arab Emirates.

<sup>b</sup> Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Senior Researcher of Kaladan Press, Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, and Special Representative of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary-General for Women, Peace and Security.

<sup>c</sup> Sweden was represented by its Minister for Culture and Democracy.

<sup>d</sup> Canada was represented by its Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Women, Peace and Security, Norway spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries (Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden), Mali spoke on behalf of the Human Security Network (Austria, Chile, Costa Rica, Greece, Ireland, Jordan, Mali, Norway, Panama, Slovenia, Switzerland, Thailand and South Africa).

<sup>e</sup> Afghanistan, Albania, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Czech Republic, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Maldives, Malta, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Nepal, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

<sup>f</sup> Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), General Director of the Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling, Principal Adviser for Gender and the Implementation of UNSCR 1325 on Women, Peace and Security of the European External Action Service of the European Union, Permanent Observer of the Organisation Internationale de la Francophonie, Senior Adviser on Gender Issues of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and Special Representative of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Secretary-General for Women, Peace and Security.

<sup>g</sup> Sweden was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Netherlands was represented by its Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs, and Côte d'Ivoire spoke on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea and Ethiopia.

<sup>h</sup> Germany was represented by its Minister of State in the Federal Foreign Office of Germany, Slovenia was represented by its State Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia and Ukraine was represented by the First Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.

Table 2  
**Selection of provisions relevant to women and peace and security, by theme and agenda item**

	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>	<i>Paragraph</i>
<b>Participation of women in peacebuilding and in conflict prevention and resolution</b>			
<b>Country and region specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	10, 39
	The situation in Cyprus	Resolution <a href="#">2398 (2018)</a>	7
		Resolution <a href="#">2430 (2018)</a>	8
	Central African region	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/17</a>	Eighth
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	39(b)(v)
	The situation in Guinea-Bissau	Resolution <a href="#">2404 (2018)</a>	4(d)
	The situation in Liberia	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/8</a>	Fifth, eighth
	The situation in Libya	Resolution <a href="#">2434 (2018)</a>	4
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	64
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/3</a>	Sixth
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/16</a>	Eleventh
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	4, 33
		Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	16, 17
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	27, 32, 35, 56(viii)
		Resolution <a href="#">2445 (2018)</a>	17
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2408 (2018)</a>	14
		Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	53
<b>Thematic</b>	Maintenance of international peace and security	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/1</a>	Nineteenth
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/2</a>	Tenth
		Resolution <a href="#">2419 (2018)</a>	16
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/10</a>	Sixteenth, seventeenth
<b>Representation and participation of women in political processes at all levels, including decision-making</b>			
<b>Country and region specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/15</a>	Fourth
		Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	14, 39
	The situation in Burundi	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/7</a>	Seventh
	Central African region	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/17</a>	Fifteenth
	The situation in the Central African Republic	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/14</a>	Fourth
		Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	57
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	6, 8, 10, 39
	The situation in Guinea-Bissau	Resolution <a href="#">2404 (2018)</a>	4(d)
	The question concerning Haiti	Resolution <a href="#">2410 (2018)</a>	17

	The situation concerning Iraq	Resolution <a href="#">2421 (2018)</a>	2(e)
	The situation in Libya	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/11</a>	Fifth
		Resolution <a href="#">2434 (2018)</a>	4
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	38(c)(iv), 64
	The situation in the Middle East	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/5</a>	Twelfth
		Resolution <a href="#">2433 (2018)</a>	24
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/3</a>	Fifth
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/16</a>	Sixth
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	17
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	27, 32
		Resolution <a href="#">2445 (2018)</a>	18
	The situation in Somalia	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/13</a>	Fifth
		Resolution <a href="#">2408 (2018)</a>	5, 11, 14
<b>Thematic</b>	Maintenance of international peace and security	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/1</a>	Nineteenth
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/2</a>	Tenth
		Resolution <a href="#">2419 (2018)</a>	16
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/10</a>	Sixteenth
<b>Conflict-related sexual violence and gender-based violence</b>			
<b>Country and region specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	38
	The situation in Burundi	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/7</a>	Eleventh
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2399 (2018)</a>	21(c), 39
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	15, 16, 36(i)(b), 37(i)(b), 41, 45, 59(i)
	The situation in Guinea-Bissau	Resolution <a href="#">2404 (2018)</a>	14
	The situation in Liberia	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/8</a>	Ninth
	The situation in Libya	Resolution <a href="#">2434 (2018)</a>	4
		Resolution <a href="#">2441 (2018)</a>	11, 14
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	10, 38(d)(iii), 38(e)(ii), 61, 63
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	7(a)(v), 7(a)(vii), 7(c)(ii), 24, 26, 31
		Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	25, 26
		Resolution <a href="#">2428 (2018)</a>	14(d), 14(e), 22
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	7(ii), 11(i), 19(iii), 27, 35, 39, 44, 56(i), 56(vii)
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2408 (2018)</a>	23

		Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	44, 49
		Resolution <a href="#">2444 (2018)</a>	50
	Maintenance of international peace and security	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/2</a>	Tenth
		Resolution <a href="#">2419 (2018)</a>	8
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution <a href="#">2436 (2018)</a>	18
<b>Gender mainstreaming, gender expertise and gender-sensitive responses</b>			
<b>Country and region specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	38
	Central African region	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/17</a>	Eighth
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2399 (2018)</a>	35
		Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	57
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	39
	The situation in Guinea-Bissau	Resolution <a href="#">2404 (2018)</a>	4(d)
	The question concerning Haiti	Resolution <a href="#">2410 (2018)</a>	17
	The situation concerning Iraq	Resolution <a href="#">2421 (2018)</a>	2(e)
	The situation in Libya	Resolution <a href="#">2434 (2018)</a>	4
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	64
	The situation in the Middle East	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/5</a>	Sixth
		Resolution <a href="#">2433 (2018)</a>	24
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/3</a>	Third
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/16</a>	Twelfth
	Peace and security in Africa	Resolution <a href="#">2439 (2018)</a>	9
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/4</a>	Fifth, eighth
		Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	14, 25, 33
		Resolution <a href="#">2428 (2018)</a>	20
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	27
		Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	22
Resolution <a href="#">2444 (2018)</a>		12	
<b>Thematic</b>	Maintenance of international peace and security	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/1</a>	Nineteenth
		<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/2</a>	Tenth
	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	Resolution <a href="#">2417 (2018)</a>	3
	United Nations peacekeeping operations	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/10</a>	Sixteenth
Resolution <a href="#">2436 (2018)</a>		18	
<b>Women's Protection and Women's Protection Advisers</b>			
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	39, 41

	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	38(d)(iii)
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2406 (2018)</a>	7(a)(i), 7(a)(vi)
		Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	28
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	35
<b>Thematic</b>	United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution <a href="#">2436 (2018)</a>	7
<b>Role of women in countering terrorism and violent extremism</b>			
<b>Country and region specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	30
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/16</a>	Twelfth
<b>Thematic</b>	Maintenance of international peace and security	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/2</a>	Tenth
	Threats to international peace and security	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/9</a>	Seventh
<b>Participation of women in peacekeeping operations</b>			
<b>Country and region specific</b>	The situation in Cyprus	Resolution <a href="#">2430 (2018)</a>	12
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	57
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	51
	The situation in Mali	Resolution <a href="#">2423 (2018)</a>	58
	The situation in the Middle East	Resolution <a href="#">2426 (2018)</a>	10
		Resolution <a href="#">2433 (2018)</a>	23
	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution <a href="#">2416 (2018)</a>	27
		Resolution <a href="#">2429 (2018)</a>	26
	The situation in Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a>	22
	The situation concerning Western Sahara	Resolution <a href="#">2414 (2018)</a>	15
	Resolution <a href="#">2440 (2018)</a>	12	
<b>Thematic</b>	United Nations peacekeeping operations	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/10</a>	Seventeenth
		Resolution <a href="#">2436 (2018)</a>	19
		Resolution <a href="#">2447 (2018)</a>	14
<b>Participation of women in the security sector and in security sector reform (SSR)</b>			
<b>Country and region specific</b>	The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution <a href="#">2405 (2018)</a>	19, 21
	The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2448 (2018)</a>	40(b)(iv)
	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Resolution <a href="#">2409 (2018)</a>	37(ii)(b)
	Peace consolidation in West Africa	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/3</a>	Twelfth

### **31. Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts**

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings under the item entitled “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and issued one presidential statement. Three of the meetings took the form of briefings and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.<sup>508</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes is given in the table below.

The Council’s deliberations during 2018 continued to focus on topics addressed in previous years, such as, the sanctions measures against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da’esh) and Al-Qaida, the phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters and the countering of the threat of terrorism through the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and international cooperation. The discussions also focused on the response to extremist propaganda and the underlying conditions causing young men and women to be lured by violent extremism, the implementation of resolution [2341 \(2017\)](#) on the protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks as well as the establishment of an investigative mechanism to document crimes committed by ISIL (Da’esh) in Iraq.<sup>509</sup>

The Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) briefed the Council twice, on 8 February and 23 August 2018. During his first briefing, he noted that while the fight against ISIL was entering a new phase, the Secretary-General’s report showed that the group and its affiliates continued to pose a significant and evolving threat around the world. ISIL (Da’esh) was no longer focused on conquering and holding territory but was instead forced to adapt and focus primarily on smaller and more motivated groups of individuals who remained committed to inspiring, enabling and carrying out attacks. In addition, returning foreign terrorist fighters, and those who had relocated to other regions, continued to present a considerable threat to international security. He added that while the structure of ISIL’s (Da’esh) global propaganda machinery continued to

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<sup>508</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>509</sup> For more information on the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da’esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, see part I, sect. 36, “Threats to international peace and security”, part VI, sect. II, “Investigation of disputes and fact-finding” and part IX, sect. III, “Investigative bodies”.



deteriorate, ISIL's (Da'esh) members and sympathizers were still able to use social media and other encrypted technology and communication tools, to communicate, coordinate and facilitate attacks. It was further noted that ISIL's (Da'esh) ability to generate revenue had been considerably weakened, largely owing to its loss of control over oil and gas fields in the Syrian Arab Republic, leading to fallen revenues by more than 90 per cent since 2015.<sup>510</sup>

In his second briefing, the Under-Secretary-General reiterated that ISIL remained a serious and significant concern and that its evolution from a proto-State structure into a covert network was bringing new challenges. The Under-Secretary-General highlighted how the United Nations system was strengthening the coordination, coherence and effectiveness of its counter-terrorism efforts in support of Member States. He also reported on his visit to Afghanistan from 14 to 15 August 2018, in which he held high-level consultations with the President, the Foreign Minister and other Cabinet members and senior officials of the Government of Afghanistan responsible for countering terrorism.<sup>511</sup> At that meeting, the Council was briefed also by the Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) as well as by a Senior Research Fellow at the International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence (ICSR).

In her briefing, the Executive Director of CTED highlighted three key challenges associated with the issue of returning and relocating foreign terrorist fighters, namely, the difficulties in conducting comprehensive risk assessments and prosecutions of foreign terrorist fighter returnees, as requested by resolution [2396 \(2017\)](#), the new demands posed by the imprisonment of returned foreign terrorist fighters including the potential for in-prison radicalization, and the risks posed by the release of imprisoned foreign terrorist fighters and their potential to re-engage in terrorist activities.<sup>512</sup> The representative of the ICSR presented research on the strategic, tactical and operational engagement of women and minors by ISIL (Da'esh), an issue which she stressed required immediate and urgent attention.<sup>513</sup>

The Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism (CTC) briefed the Council once, on 13 February 2018, to

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<sup>510</sup> [S/PV.8178](#), p. 2.

<sup>511</sup> [S/PV.8330](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>512</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5.

<sup>513</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 6.

provide an update on the implementation of resolution [2341 \(2017\)](#) relating to the protection of critical infrastructure from terrorist attacks.<sup>514</sup> The Chair encouraged Member States to develop national strategies for reducing risks and incorporate those strategies into their national counter-terrorism plans. He stressed the importance that governments and the private sector share information on threats, vulnerability and measures to mitigate risks, and the continued need to implement other relevant Security Council resolutions, such as resolution [2309 \(2016\)](#), on civil aviation, and resolution [2322 \(2016\)](#), on international judicial cooperation, in the work to protect critical infrastructure.<sup>515</sup>

On 21 December 2018, the Council issued a presidential statement of one paragraph noting that it had reviewed the implementation of the sanctions measures concerning ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida, as described in paragraph 1 of resolution [2368 \(2017\)](#) in accordance with paragraph 104 of resolution [2368 \(2017\)](#), and that no further adjustment to the measures were necessary.<sup>516</sup> According to the presidential statement, the Security Council would further continue to evaluate the implementation of such measures and make adjustments, as necessary.<sup>517</sup> At the meeting, the representative of Sweden welcomed the adoption of the presidential statement also on behalf of France, Kuwait, the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the United Kingdom on the review of resolution [2368 \(2017\)](#). He reiterated their strong support for the mandate of the Ombudsperson of the ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee and further welcomed the continued discussions on how to ensure respect for due process standards across sanctions regimes.<sup>518</sup> He also encouraged the Council to consider the proposals put forward by the Group of Like-Minded States on Targeted Sanctions in its letter to the Council of 7 December during further evaluation of the implementation of the measures.<sup>519</sup>

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<sup>514</sup> [S/PV.8180](#), p. 2.

<sup>515</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 2-3.

<sup>516</sup> [S/PRST/2018/21](#).

<sup>517</sup> For more information see part VII, sect. III.

<sup>518</sup> [S/PV.8437](#), p. 2.

<sup>519</sup> [S/2018/1094](#). For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning ISIL (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities as well as the Ombudsperson see part IX, sect. I.B (c).

**Meetings: Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts**

<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.8178</a> 8 February 2018	Sixth report of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat ( <a href="#">S/2018/80</a> )			Under-Secretary-General, Office of Counter-Terrorism	All Council members, Under-Secretary-General	
<a href="#">S/PV.8180</a> 13 February 2018					All Council members <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8330</a> 23 August 2018	Seventh report of the Secretary-General on the threat posed by ISIL (Da'esh) to international peace and security and the range of United Nations efforts in support of Member States in countering the threat ( <a href="#">S/2018/770</a> )			Under-Secretary-General, Office of Counter-Terrorism, Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate, Senior Research Fellow, International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation and Political Violence	All Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8437</a> 21 December 2018					One Council member (Sweden)	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/21</a>

<sup>a</sup>The representative of Peru spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#).

<sup>b</sup>The United Kingdom was represented by its Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

## 32. Briefings

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings, in the form of briefings that were not explicitly connected to any specific item before it. More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers, is given in the tables below.

In 2018, two of the meetings were held under the item “Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”. On 3 October 2018, the Council held a joint briefing of the three committees related to counterterrorism, namely, the Committee established pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#), the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#). The briefing covered the work of the three committees, including their ongoing cooperation and that of their groups of experts in detecting and countering the spread of terrorism, in particular the evolving threat to international peace and security posed by Da’esh, Al-Qaida and affiliates, stemming the flow of foreign terrorist fighters as well as addressing the threat posed by returning and relocating foreign fighters, countering terrorism financing and preventing the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons of mass destruction, their means of delivery and related materials by and to non-State actors and the use of such weapons for terrorist purposes.<sup>520</sup> In addition, on 17 December 2018, the Council held the customary end-of-the-year briefing by the outgoing Chairs of the various subsidiary bodies.<sup>521</sup>

Consistent with prior practice, the Council held one meeting under the item “Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe”.<sup>522</sup> During the briefing, the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) briefed the Council on the situation in and around Ukraine, as well as on other priorities of the OSCE for the year, including the protracted conflict in Georgia, Nagorno-Karabakh and Transnistria. Additionally, the Chairperson-in-Office

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<sup>520</sup> [S/PV.8364](#).

<sup>521</sup> [S/PV.8428](#).

<sup>522</sup> [S/PV.8200](#).

briefed the Council on the role of the OSCE in addressing security concerns in the Mediterranean and on other priorities for the year, including transnational threats such as terrorism; radicalization; illicit trafficking of arms, drugs, cultural goods and hazardous waste; the links between terrorism and organized crime; human trafficking; migration; corruption; and cybersecurity.

As in previous years, the Council heard a briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice in closed session.<sup>523</sup>

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<sup>523</sup> [S/PV.8380](#).

**Meetings: Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council**

<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>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8364</a> 3 October 2018					Chair of the Committee pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">1267 (1999)</a> , <a href="#">1989 (2011)</a> and <a href="#">2253 (2015)</a> concerning the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities; Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1373 (2001)</a> concerning counter-terrorism; Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1540 (2004)</a> <sup>a</sup> ; all other Council members	
<a href="#">S/PV.8428</a> 17 December 2018					Chair of the Committee pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">751 (1992)</a> concerning Somalia, the Committee pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">1267 (1999)</a> , <a href="#">1989 (2011)</a> and <a href="#">2253 (2015)</a> concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, and the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1988 (2011)</a> ; Chair of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa; Deputy Permanent Representative of the Plurinational State of Bolivia on behalf of the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1540 (2004)</a> ; Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1718 (2006)</a> ; Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1970 (2011)</a> concerning Libya, the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">2374 (2017)</a> concerning Mali and the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict	

**Meetings: Briefings by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe**

<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>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8200</a> 8 March 2018					Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy	All Council Members <sup>b</sup> , Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE

**Meetings: Briefings by the President of the International Court of Justice**

<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>Decisions and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8380</a> 24 October 2018 (closed)					President of the International Court of Justice	Council members, President of the International Court of Justice

<sup>a</sup> Before his briefing, the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) concerning non-proliferation delivered a joint statement on behalf of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) concerning non-proliferation, in which he highlighted the continuing cooperation among the three committees and their respective expert groups.

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

### 33. Security Council mission

During the period under review, the Security Council dispatched three missions to the field to (i) Afghanistan, (ii) Bangladesh and Myanmar and (iii) the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The missions were composed of representatives of all members of the Council. Further to the missions, the Council held three meetings under the item entitled “Security Council mission”, at which it heard briefings by the representatives of the Council members leading or co-leading the missions. More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers, is given in the table below.<sup>524</sup>

During the missions, as reported during the briefings, Council members met with Government officials,<sup>525</sup> members of Parliament,<sup>526</sup> representatives of political parties including, in some cases, the political opposition,<sup>527</sup> and civil society organizations,<sup>528</sup> including women’s non-governmental organizations.<sup>529</sup>

In Afghanistan and in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Council members had meetings respectively with the leadership of the United Nations field missions, namely, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO).<sup>530</sup> In Afghanistan, Council members met also with the Chair of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, electoral management bodies, as well as the leadership of NATO’s Resolute Support Mission.<sup>531</sup> In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Council members met with representatives of the Majorité présidentielle and the

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<sup>524</sup> For more information on the composition and reports of the missions, see part VI, sect. II.A, “Security Council missions”.

<sup>525</sup> [S/PV.8158](#) (Afghanistan); [S/PV.8255](#) (Bangladesh and Myanmar); [S/PV.8369](#) (Democratic Republic of the Congo).

<sup>526</sup> [S/PV.8158](#) (Afghanistan).

<sup>527</sup> [S/PV.8158](#) (Afghanistan); [S/PV.8369](#) (Democratic Republic of the Congo).

<sup>528</sup> [S/PV.8158](#) (Afghanistan); [S/PV.8255](#) (Bangladesh and Myanmar); [S/PV.8369](#) (Democratic Republic of the Congo).

<sup>529</sup> [S/PV.8158](#) (Afghanistan); [S/PV.8369](#) (Democratic Republic of the Congo).

<sup>530</sup> Ibid.

<sup>531</sup> [S/PV.8158](#) (Afghanistan). See also letter dated 6 August 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan transmitting the assessment of the work of the Security Council during the Presidency of Kazakhstan in January 2018 ([S/2018/575](#)).



opposition, as well as with a group of women candidates, the Independent National Electoral Commission, and the Conférence épiscopale nationale du Congo (CENCO).<sup>532</sup> In Bangladesh, Council members travelled to Cox's Bazar where they met with the United Nations working group and representatives of the Government and visited two refugee camps, including the Kutupalong refugee camp, the largest refugee camp in the world.<sup>533</sup> In Myanmar Council members met with State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, with the Commander-in-Chief of the Myanmar Armed Forces, and with the members of the Committee for Implementation of Recommendations of the Advisory Board on Rakhine State.<sup>534</sup>

At the briefing on the mission to Bangladesh and Myanmar, held on 14 May 2018, in addition to the representatives of the Council members who lead or co-lead the mission, other members of the Council as well as the representatives of Bangladesh and Myanmar made statements.<sup>535</sup>

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<sup>532</sup> [S/PV.8369](#) (Democratic Republic of the Congo).

<sup>533</sup> [S/PV.8255](#) (Bangladesh).

<sup>534</sup> [S/PV.8255](#) (Myanmar).

<sup>535</sup> [S/PV.8255](#), p. 2 (Kuwait), p. 3 (Peru), p. 5 (United Kingdom), p. 6 (China), p. 7 (United States), p. 8 (Sweden), p. 10 (France), p. 11 (Kazakhstan), p. 12 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 13 (Russian Federation), p. 15 (Netherlands), p. 16 (Poland), p. 16 (Myanmar), p. 19 (Bangladesh).

**Meetings: Security Council mission**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8158</a> 17 January 2018	Briefing by Security Council mission to Afghanistan (12 to 15 January 2018)	Letter dated 11 January 2018 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/37</a> )  Report of the Security Council mission to Afghanistan ( <a href="#">S/2018/419</a> )		One Council member (Kazakhstan)
<a href="#">S/PV.8255</a> 14 May 2018	Briefing by Security Council mission to Bangladesh and Myanmar (28 April to 2 May 2018)	Letter dated 26 April 2018 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/391</a> )  (Report not yet issued)	Bangladesh, Myanmar	12 Council members <sup>a</sup> , all invitees
<a href="#">S/PV.8369</a> <u>11 October 2018</u>	Briefing by Security Council mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (5 to 7 October 2018)	Letter dated 3 October 2018 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/890</a> )  Report of the Security Council mission to the Democratic Republic of the Congo ( <a href="#">S/2018/1030</a> )		Three Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Equatorial Guinea, France)

<sup>a</sup> China, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States.

## **34. Items relating to non-proliferation**

### **A. Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction**

During the period under review, the Security Council held two meetings, including one high-level meeting, in relation to the item entitled “Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction”. Both meetings took the form of briefings.<sup>536</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

On 18 January 2018, the Council held a high-level meeting under the sub-item entitled “Confidence-building measures” further to a concept note circulated by Kazakhstan.<sup>537</sup> The Secretary-General noted that the threats posed by weapons of mass destruction and their means of delivery were taking place in an environment of increasing military budgets and the over-accumulation of weapons, coupled with a serious growth in regional tensions. He added that in such a geopolitical context, confidence-building measures that support arms control, non-proliferation and the elimination of weapons of mass destruction were extremely important. In this context, he expressed his belief that the United Nations could play a central role in assisting Member States in developing, augmenting and supporting confidence-building measures. He added that these measures were not an end in themselves and that preventing, mitigating and resolving conflict required comprehensive political solutions, including verifiable disarmament and non-proliferation. He expressed his intention to explore opportunities to generate new direction and impetus for the global disarmament agenda. The Secretary-General further stressed that going forward, the Security Council in particular could provide leadership by demonstrating unity and continuing to highlight the importance of dialogue and diplomacy as an essential means for building confidence.<sup>538</sup> Further to the Secretary-General’s briefing, speakers focused, among other issues, on the strengthening of the non-proliferation regime, including the implementation of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and the entry into force of the

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<sup>536</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>537</sup> See [S/2018/4](#).

<sup>538</sup> [S/PV.8160](#), pp. 3-4.

Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as well as the recently adopted Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons.<sup>539</sup>

On 12 April 2018, the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) briefed the Council, focusing on the progress made by Member States in implementing the resolution, including the outcome of the 2016 comprehensive review and the subsequent resolution [2325 \(2016\)](#). He noted that a report on the implementation of resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) from all Member States remained one of the highest priorities for the Committee together with the voluntary national action plans. The Chair also provided an overview of the outreach activities of the Committee as well as those events that had been attended by its members and the members of the Group of Experts.<sup>540</sup> Speakers stressed the need for States to fully implement resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), subsequent relevant resolutions, including the recently adopted resolution [2325 \(2016\)](#). On the same day, the Chair of the Committee transmitted to the President of the Security Council its seventeenth programme of work for the period from 1 February 2018 to 31 January 2019, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution [2325 \(2016\)](#).<sup>541</sup>

In 2018, the Council was also briefed by the Chair of the Committee under a separate item of the agenda entitled “Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”.<sup>542</sup>

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<sup>539</sup> The Treaty was adopted at the United Nations on 7 July 2017 and opened for signature by the Secretary-General on 20 September 2017. [A/CONF.229/2017/8](#)

<sup>540</sup> [S/PV.8230](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>541</sup> [S/2018/340](#).

<sup>542</sup> See [S/PV.8364](#) and [S/PV.8428](#). For more details, see part I, sect. 32 concerning “Briefings”.

**Meetings: Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction**

<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.8160</a> 18 January 2018	Confidence-building measures  Letter dated 2 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/4</a> )				Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8230</a> 12 April 2018					All Council members <sup>b</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Kazakhstan was represented by its President; Kuwait was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Poland was represented by its President; the Russian Federation was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; the United Kingdom was represented by its Minister of State for Asia and the Pacific; the United States was represented by its Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Member of President's Cabinet .

<sup>b</sup> The representative of Bolivia (Plurinational State of) spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#).

## **B. Non-proliferation**

In 2018, the Security Council held two meetings under the item entitled “Non-proliferation” and did not adopt any decision. All meetings took the form of briefings. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Security Council twice in relation to the fifth and sixth reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#).<sup>543</sup>

On 27 June 2018, she stated that the International Atomic Energy Agency had reported to the Council that Iran continued to implement its nuclear-related commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA). She informed the Council that on 8 May 2018, the United States had announced its withdrawal from the agreement. She underlined that the Secretary-General deeply regretted this setback and that he believed that issues not directly related to the Plan should be addressed without prejudice to preserving the agreement and its accomplishments. She also stated that the Secretary-General called on Iran to consider carefully the concerns expressed by Member States about its activities allegedly contrary to the restrictive measures contained in annex B to resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#).<sup>544</sup>

On 12 December 2018, the Under-Secretary-General stated that the Secretary-General welcomed the reaffirmation by JCPOA participants of their commitments to its full and effective implementation and that it was essential that the Plan continued to work for all participants, including by delivering tangible economic benefits for the Iranian people. It was further reported that the Secretary-General regretted the reimposition by the United States of the sanctions lifted pursuant to the Plan, after its withdrawal.<sup>545</sup>

At the same meeting, the Secretary of State of the United States stated that the Charter of the United Nations bestowed upon the Council the primary responsibility for the

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<sup>543</sup> [S/2018/602](#) and [S/2018/1089](#).

<sup>544</sup> [S/PV.8297](#), p. 2.

<sup>545</sup> [S/PV.8418](#), p. 2.

maintenance of international peace and security and that his country would seek to work with all other members to reimpose the ballistic missile restrictions outlined in resolution [1929 \(2010\)](#).<sup>546</sup> The representative of Iran stressed that the JCPOA had been seriously challenged by the unilateral and unlawful conduct of the United States in withdrawing from the JCPOA and reimposing illegal sanctions, which was a clear violation of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#).<sup>547</sup>

At both meetings in June and December 2018, the representative of the Netherlands briefed the Council as the facilitator for the implementation of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#). The representative of the European Union also briefed the Council at both meetings on behalf of the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy as Coordinator of the JCPOA.

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<sup>546</sup> Ibid., p. 8.

<sup>547</sup> Ibid., p. 24.

**Meetings: Non-proliferation**

<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.8297</a> 27 June 2018	Letter dated 12 June 2018 from the Security Council Facilitator for the implementation of resolution <a href="#">2231 (2015)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/601</a> )  Fifth report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution <a href="#">2231 (2015)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/602</a> )  Letter dated 21 June 2018 from the Security Council Facilitator for the implementation of resolution <a href="#">2231 (2015)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/624</a> )		Germany	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members <sup>a</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8418</a> 12 December 2018	Letter dated 30 November 2018 from the Security Council Facilitator for the implementation of resolution <a href="#">2231 (2015)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1070</a> )  Sixth report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution <a href="#">2231 (2015)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/1089</a> )  Letter dated 11 December 2018 from the Security Council Facilitator for the implementation of resolution <a href="#">2231 (2015)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1106</a> )		Germany, Islamic Republic of Iran	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members <sup>a</sup> , all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> The representative of the Netherlands briefed the Council in his capacity as facilitator for the implementation of resolution [2231 \(2015\)](#).



## **C. Non-proliferation / Democratic People's Republic of Korea**

During the period under review, the Security Council held three meetings, including a high-level meeting,<sup>548</sup> and adopted a resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter. Two of the three meetings held over the period took the form of briefings.<sup>549</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

On 21 March 2018, by resolution [2407 \(2018\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts for 13 months, until 24 April 2019. The Council further decided that the mandate of the Panel would apply also with respect to the measures imposed in resolutions [2270 \(2016\)](#), [2321 \(2016\)](#), [2356 \(2017\)](#), [2371 \(2017\)](#), [2375 \(2017\)](#), and [2397 \(2017\)](#), and expressed its intent to review the mandate and take appropriate action regarding a further extension no later than 24 March 2019.<sup>550</sup>

On 17 September 2018, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council. She remarked that whilst there had been positive developments with regard to the nuclear-weapon and ballistic missiles programme in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea over the recent months, there continued to be signs of development and maintenance of both programmes. She expressed hope that the positive developments together with the various summits held between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the Republic of Korea and between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the United States would contribute to advancing sustainable peace and complete and verifiable denuclearization on the Korean peninsula in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions. In addition, she briefed on the United Nations Command, also referred to as Unified Command, which was established in accordance with resolution [84 \(1950\)](#). She explained that in resolution [84 \(1950\)](#), the Council recommended that all Member States providing military forces and other assistance to the Republic of Korea made such forces and

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<sup>548</sup> [S/PV.8363](#).

<sup>549</sup> For more information on meeting formats, see part II, sect. I. A. 2.

<sup>550</sup> Resolution [2407 \(2018\)](#), para. 1. For more information on the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1718 \(2006\)](#), see part IX, sect. I.B. 1. (i).

other assistance available to a “unified command under the United States of America”, which would designate the commander of such forces.<sup>551</sup> She noted that the United Nations Command was not a United Nations operation or body, nor did it come under the command and control of the United Nations.<sup>552</sup> During the ensuing discussion, some speakers noted that the United Nations Command was a legacy of the Cold War era.<sup>553</sup> While some speakers questioned its current legitimacy and legality,<sup>554</sup> others deemed inappropriate to openly debate the legal status of the United Nations Command or its action on a specific issue that was not part of the agenda.<sup>555</sup> Speakers welcomed the inter-Korean dialogue and in particular, the upcoming inter-Korea summit as well as the Singapore summit between the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the United States.<sup>556</sup> Most speakers underlined the importance of the full implementation of the sanctions measures in facilitating the diplomatic efforts and stressed that the unity of the Council remained critical.<sup>557</sup> Referring to a mid-term report of the Panel of Experts and the related controversy over its content, the speakers reaffirmed the instrumental role of the Panel of Experts in monitoring and facilitating the effective implementation of the sanctions measures and stressed the need to uphold its independence and impartiality in fulfilling its role.<sup>558</sup>

On 27 September 2018, the Council held a high-level meeting presided by the Secretary of State of the United States of America. At the meeting, speakers commended the continuing diplomatic efforts in denuclearizing the Korean peninsula, in particular the convening of the presidential summits. Speakers also dwelled on the continuing sanctions violations with differing views as to the need for the modification of the existing sanctions

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<sup>551</sup> Resolution [84 \(1950\)](#), paras. 3 and 4.

<sup>552</sup> [S/PV.8353](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>553</sup> *Ibid.* p. 9 (China), p. 12 (United Kingdom), and p. 20 (Russian Federation).

<sup>554</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 9 (China) and p. 20 (Russian Federation).

<sup>555</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 22 (Republic of Korea).

<sup>556</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 6 (Sweden), pp. 7-9 (China), p. 9 (Kuwait), p. 10 (Equatorial Guinea); p. 12 (Côte d’Ivoire), p. 14 (Poland), p. 15 (Netherlands), p. 16 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), pp. 17-18 (Ethiopia), p. 22 (Republic of Korea) and p. 22 (Japan).

<sup>557</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6 (Sweden), p. 9 (China), pp. 9-10 (Kuwait), p. 10 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 11 (United Kingdom), pp. 12-13 (Côte d’Ivoire), Peru (p. 13), p. 14 (Poland), p. 15 (Netherlands), p. 16 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 17 (Kazakhstan), p. 18 (Ethiopia), p. 22 (Republic of Korea), pp. 22-23 (Japan).

<sup>558</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5 (United States), p. 6 (Sweden), p. 7 (France), p. 11-12 (United Kingdom), p. 12 (Côte d’Ivoire), p. 14 (Poland) and p. 15 (Netherlands).

measures. Nevertheless, many speakers reiterated the need for the Council to remain united in its approach towards the denuclearization of the peninsula.<sup>559</sup>

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<sup>559</sup> [S/PV.8363](#), p. 4 (Kuwait), p. 4 (China), p. 7 (Netherlands), p. 8 (Ethiopia), p. 8 (Poland), 13 (Kazakhstan), p. 15 (Peru), p. 16 (Sweden) and p. 20 (Japan).

**Meetings: Non-proliferation / Democratic Republic of Korea**

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV. 8210</a> 21 March 2018	Note by the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/171</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/238</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2407 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8353</a> 17 September 2018			Japan, Republic of Korea	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8363</a> 27 September 2018			Japan, Republic of Korea		All Council members, <sup>a</sup> all invitees <sup>b</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> 14 Council members were represented at the Ministerial level: the United States was represented by its Secretary of State; Kuwait was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; China was represented by its State Councilor and Minister for Foreign Affairs; the United Kingdom was represented by its Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; Equatorial Guinea was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, the Netherlands, Peru Poland, the Russian Federation and Sweden were represented by their Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>b</sup> The Republic of Korea and Japan were represented by their Minister for Foreign Affairs.

### 35. Peacebuilding and sustaining peace

During the period under review, the Council held five meetings (including two high-level meetings), adopted one resolution and issued one presidential statement under the item entitled “Peacebuilding and sustaining peace”. Two of the meetings took the form of briefings, two were convened for the adoption of a decision, and one was a debate.<sup>560</sup> As in past years, in 2018, the presentation of the annual report of the Peacebuilding Commission in a formal meeting of the Council in June was followed by an informal interactive dialogue.<sup>561</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, the Council heard briefings from a variety of speakers. The Secretary-General participated in the two high-level meetings. In his briefings, he emphasised that the Peacebuilding Commission provided a platform for complementarity and partnership across the pillars of the United Nations and underlined its convening and bridging role among diverse actors and stakeholders in bringing national and local voices to the table.<sup>562</sup> He briefed on his recommendations and options to bolster the work of the Organization on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, as laid out in his most recent report ([S/2018/43](#)) and underscored the need for more holistic and inclusive approaches, new and strengthened partnerships, and adequate and predictable resources for peacebuilding and development actors during the conflict cycle.<sup>563</sup> The Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union addressed in his briefings the African Union’s work through the Policy on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development and the plans to scale up the stabilization efforts on the continent.<sup>564</sup> The Chairperson of the African Union Commission focused on the African Union framework document on post-conflict reconstruction and development, the African Solidarity Initiative and the partnership with the United Nations.<sup>565</sup> The Council was also briefed by the current and former Chairs of the Peacebuilding Commission on the role of

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<sup>560</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>561</sup> Ibid.

<sup>562</sup> [S/PV.8243](#), pp. 2-3 and [S/PV.8413](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>563</sup> [S/PV.8243](#), p. 3 and [S/PV.8413](#), p. 3.

<sup>564</sup> [S/PV.8243](#), p. 6.

<sup>565</sup> [S/PV.8413](#), pp. 4-5.

the Commission in peacebuilding and sustaining peace and improving its role as an advisory body to the Council, as well as on the most recent session of the Commission regarding efforts to mobilize stakeholders and assist countries and regions in pursuing their peacebuilding priorities.<sup>566</sup>

In 2018, the Council's discussions focused on the need for an integrated approach to conflict prevention.<sup>567</sup> Several speakers called for more coherence with regard to peacebuilding activities,<sup>568</sup> and warned against the temptation to apply one-size-fits-all approaches.<sup>569</sup>

The decisions of the Council addressed some of the issues mentioned above. On 26 April 2018, in parallel to the high-level event at the General Assembly on peacebuilding and sustaining peace and the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution [72/276](#), the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2413 \(2018\)](#).<sup>570</sup> In the resolution, the Council welcomed presentation of the Secretary-General's report on Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace, and took note of the General Assembly's decision to invite the relevant bodies and organs of the United Nations to further advance, explore and consider the implementation of the recommendations and options contained in the report of the Secretary-General.<sup>571</sup> In the resolution, the Council also took note of the General Assembly's decision to request the Secretary-General to present an interim report during the seventy-third session, further elaborating on his recommendations and options, as well as a detailed report during the seventy-fourth session in connection with the next comprehensive review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture.<sup>572</sup>

On 18 December 2018, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it recalled its resolution earlier in the year.<sup>573</sup> The Council recognized that development, peace and

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<sup>566</sup> [S/PV.8243](#), pp. 3-5; [S/PV.8301](#), pp. 2-5.

<sup>567</sup> [S/PV.8243](#), pp. 11-12 (Netherlands); p. 14 (France); p. 20 (Kazakhstan); and pp. 24-25 (Ethiopia); [S/PV.8413](#), pp. 10-11 (Netherlands); p. 20 (Kuwait); pp. 23-24 (Sweden); p. 26 (Ethiopia); and p. 30 (Japan).

<sup>568</sup> [S/PV.8243](#), pp. 7-8 (Peru); p. 12 (Netherlands); p. 19 (Poland); p. 22 (United States); pp. 24-25 (Ethiopia); [S/PV.8413](#) p. 18 (Poland); p. 23 (Sweden); p. 24 (Kazakhstan); pp. 25-26 (Ethiopia); p. 32 (Senegal).

<sup>569</sup> [S/PV.8243](#), p. 8 (Peru); p. 23 (Russian Federation); [S/PV.8413](#) p. 9 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 17 (Russian Federation).

<sup>570</sup> The day before, on 25 April 2018, the Council had held a high-level briefing ([S/PV.8243](#)) at the same time as the high-level event convened on 24 and 25 April by the President of the General Assembly in accordance with General Assembly resolution [70/262](#) and Security Council resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#).

<sup>571</sup> Resolution [2413 \(2018\)](#), paras. 1 and 2.

<sup>572</sup> Resolution [2413 \(2018\)](#), paras. 3 and 4.

<sup>573</sup> [S/PRST/2018/20](#), first paragraph.

security and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing and recognized that effective peacebuilding must involve the entire United Nations system.<sup>574</sup> The Council also acknowledged the progress achieved by the Peacebuilding Commission and underscored that it had an important role as a dedicated intergovernmental advisory body to bring coherence to international peacebuilding efforts.<sup>575</sup> The Council also noted the importance of the informal interactive dialogues between the Council and the Peacebuilding Commission as a useful venue for exercising the advisory role of the Commission, including the dialogues with the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa.<sup>576</sup> In this regard, the Council encouraged the Peacebuilding Commission to present concise, targeted, context-specific and applicable recommendations to the Council, upon its request, on issues related to peacebuilding and sustaining peace in countries considered by both bodies. The Council emphasized also the need for further harnessing the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in advancing and supporting an integrated and coherent approach with respect to multidimensional peacekeeping mandates.<sup>577</sup> Furthermore, the Council acknowledged the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in advising the Council, upon its request, during transitions related to the withdrawal of peacekeeping operations and special political missions.<sup>578</sup> In the presidential statement, the Council welcomed the Peacebuilding Commission's collaboration with regional and sub-regional organizations and emphasized that inclusivity was key to advancing national peacebuilding processes and objectives, including the full and effective participation of women and youth.<sup>579</sup>

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<sup>574</sup> Ibid., seventh and eighth paragraphs.

<sup>575</sup> Ibid. ninth paragraphs.

<sup>576</sup> Ibid., tenth paragraph.

<sup>577</sup> Ibid., twelfth and thirteenth paragraphs.

<sup>578</sup> Ibid., fifteenth paragraph.

<sup>579</sup> Ibid., seventeenth, eighteenth and nineteenth paragraphs.

**Meetings: Peacebuilding and sustaining peace**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8243</a> 25 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace ( <a href="#">S/2018/43</a> ) Letter dated 9 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/325</a> )			State Secretary for Regional Affairs and Multilateral Global Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania (Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission), Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union	Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>a</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8245</a> 26 April 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on peacebuilding and sustaining peace ( <a href="#">S/2018/43</a> ) Letter dated 9 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/325</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by Peru ( <a href="#">S/2018/373</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2413 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8301</a> 29 June 2018	Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its eleventh session ( <a href="#">S/2018/83</a> )			Romania (Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission), Republic of Korea (former Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission)	One Council member (Equatorial Guinea) <sup>b</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8413</a> 5 December 2018	Post-conflict reconstruction and peace, security and stability Letter dated 28 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/1063</a> )		Burkina Faso, Japan, Rwanda and Senegal	Chairperson of the African Union Commission	Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>c</sup> , all invitees <sup>d</sup>	



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<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
	<a href="#">S/PV.8430</a>				One Council member (Sweden)	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/20</a>
18 December 2018						

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<sup>a</sup> Côte d'Ivoire, Peru and Sweden were represented by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs; and the Netherlands was represented by its Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>b</sup> Equatorial Guinea spoke on behalf of the African Council Members (Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, and Ethiopia).

<sup>c</sup> Côte d'Ivoire was represented by its President; Equatorial Guinea was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; and the Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation.

<sup>d</sup> Burkina Faso was represented by its Minister for African Integration and Burkinabés Abroad.

### **36. Threats to international peace and security**

During the period under review, the Security Council held six meetings and issued one presidential statement in connection with the item entitled “Threats to international peace and security”. Five of the meetings took the form of briefings and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.<sup>580</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2018, under this item, the Council addressed issues related to the link between counter-terrorism and transnational organized crime and the mandate of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, Da’esh) established pursuant to resolution [2379 \(2017\)](#) and the commencement of its work. Departing from previous practice, the Council also specifically considered conflict-specific and regional issues, namely the situation in the Middle East region, focusing on the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic and the Palestinian question. With respect to the Syrian Arab Republic, discussions focused on the reports of a chemical weapons attack in Douma on 7 April 2018 and the bombing of Syrian military targets by the United States, France and the United Kingdom on 13 April 2018, as well as the work of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons Fact-finding Mission and how the Council should ensure accountability in this context. On the Palestinian question, Council members discussed the escalation of violence between Israel and Gaza in May 2018 and the overall humanitarian conditions in Gaza.

In connection with counter-terrorism, on 8 May 2018, the Council issued a presidential statement, recalling its concern about the close connection between international terrorism and organized crime and strongly encouraging Member States and regional, subregional, and international organizations to enhance cooperation and strategies in the prevention, investigation and prosecution of persons responsible for such crimes and encouraged them to continue conducting research to better understand the nature and scope of

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<sup>580</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

these links.<sup>581</sup> The Council called on Member States to prevent terrorists from benefitting from the financial proceeds of transnational organized crime and gaining support from transnational criminal groups and to prevent the movement of terrorists by effective national border controls.<sup>582</sup> The Council also encouraged the United Nations, as well as regional and subregional organizations, to continue their endeavours in assisting Member States in their capacity-building and in sharing effective practices to prevent and combat terrorism that may benefit from transnational organized crime.<sup>583</sup>

Regarding the work of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by ISIL (Da'esh), on 4 December 2018, further to his first report submitted to the Council on 15 November 2018,<sup>584</sup> the Special Adviser and Head of the Investigative Team briefed the Council on the formal commencement of the Investigative Team's activities on 20 August 2018 and its deployment to Iraq, on 29 October 2018.<sup>585</sup> He stated that investigative activities were expected to commence in early 2019 and noted the Team's priorities of, inter alia, standardizing its operating procedures and collecting and analysing evidence gathered by the Iraqi authorities to identify existing gaps. The Special Adviser emphasized the importance of the Investigative Team being established as an independent, objective and trusted source of evidentiary material capable of conducting its work to the highest possible standards in support of the Government of Iraq and other Member States.

Under the new sub-item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", the Council heard briefings on two occasions from the Secretary-General and once each from the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria and the Deputy to the High Representative for

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<sup>581</sup> [S/PRST/2018/9](#), second and third paragraphs. For more information on the work of the Council related to counter-terrorism in 2018, see part I, sect. 31, "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

<sup>582</sup> *Ibid.*, tenth and eleventh paragraphs.

<sup>583</sup> *Ibid.*, twelfth paragraph.

<sup>584</sup> [S/2018/1031](#).

<sup>585</sup> For more information on the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, see part VI, sect. II, "Investigation of disputes and fact-finding" and part IX, sect. III, "Investigative bodies". By an exchange of letters dated 9 and 13 February 2018 between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council, the Council approved the terms of reference of the Investigative Team ([S/2018/118](#) and [S/2018/119](#)). See also letter dated 15 August 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2018/773](#)).

Disarmament Affairs on the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic.<sup>586</sup> At the meeting held on 9 April 2018, the Special Envoy briefed Council members regarding reports of a chemical weapons attack in Douma on 7 April 2018. He noted that a number of States had expressed suspicion that the Syrian Government was responsible for the alleged chemical attack, while others had strongly questioned the credibility of those allegations. The Special Envoy further informed that, hours after the attack, the Russian Federation and the Syrian Government, on one side, and Jaysh Al-Islam, on the other, had reached an agreement encompassing a ceasefire and urged the two governments to ensure the protection of civilians and the implementation of resolution [2401 \(2018\)](#). The Special Envoy called on all sides to ensure respect for international humanitarian and human rights law and emphasized the need for the Council to prevent impunity and any further use of chemical weapons and not to allow an uncontrollable situation to develop in the Syrian Arab Republic.<sup>587</sup> In his briefing, the Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs stated that the Council must unite in the face of the continuing threat of chemical weapons and fulfil its responsibilities, including regarding a dedicated mechanism for accountability.<sup>588</sup>

On 13 April, the Secretary-General stated that the situation in the Middle East was in chaos to such an extent that it had become a threat to international peace and security. In this regard, the Secretary-General stated that existing divisions in the region were reflected in a multiplicity of conflicts, several of which were clearly linked to the threat of global terrorism, including those between Israel and Palestine, in Yemen, Libya, Iraq and Lebanon. He stated that the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic represented the most serious threat to international peace and security and expressed his outrage regarding the continued reports of the use of chemical weapons. In this regard, the Secretary-General referred to his letter to the Council dated 11 April 2018,<sup>589</sup> including his appeal for the Council to fulfil its duties and not give up on efforts to agree upon a dedicated, impartial, objective and independent mechanism for attributing responsibility with regard to the use of chemical weapons.<sup>590</sup>

In his briefing on 14 April, the Secretary-General informed Council members

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<sup>586</sup> For more details, see part I, sect. 27, “The situation in the Middle East”. See also part III, sect. B, “Constitutional discussion relating to Article 2 (4)”.

<sup>587</sup> [S/PV.8225](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>588</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 4.

<sup>589</sup> [S/2018/333](#).

<sup>590</sup> [S/PV.8231](#), pp. 2-3. See also part VI, sect. II, “Investigation of disputes and fact-finding”.

regarding reports of air strikes on three military locations in the Syrian Arab Republic conducted by the United States, France and the United Kingdom on 13 April. He reminded Member States that there was an obligation, particularly when dealing with matters of peace and security, to act consistently with the Charter of the United Nations and with international law in general. The Secretary-General added that there could be no military solution to the crisis.<sup>591</sup> At that same meeting, the Council failed to adopt a draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation due to the lack of the required number of votes. The draft resolution would have condemned the aggression against the Syrian Arab Republic by the United States and its allies in violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations. In their statements after the vote, the representatives of Kuwait, Peru, the Netherlands, and Sweden noted their decision to either vote against or abstain in the vote on the draft resolution as the text in their view did not provide the necessary elements to address the alleged use of chemical weapons.<sup>592</sup> The representatives of Ethiopia and Kazakhstan called for a constructive approach without further aggravating tensions.<sup>593</sup> The representative of France stated that the results of the vote demonstrated that Council members understood the circumstances, reasons for and objectives of the military action taken.<sup>594</sup> The representative of China expressed support for the draft resolution based on its principled position against any unilateral military action in violation of the Charter and international law.<sup>595</sup>

Regarding the Palestinian question, on 30 May 2018, the Council was briefed by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General on the escalation of violence with the shelling of Israel from Gaza by the Hamas Al-Qassam Brigades and Islamic Jihad between 28 and 30 May, Israeli retaliatory fire, and the humanitarian situation in Gaza. The Special Coordinator noted the key priorities in addressing the situation, namely preventing a war with potential regional implications, addressing the urgent humanitarian needs of the population, and supporting Egyptian efforts at reconciliation between the Palestinian Authority and Hamas.<sup>596</sup>

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<sup>591</sup> [S/PV.8233](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>592</sup> [S/PV.8233](#), p. 23 (Sweden), pp. 23-24 (Netherlands), p. 24 (Kuwait), and p. 25 (Peru).

<sup>593</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 23 (Ethiopia and Kazakhstan).

<sup>594</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>595</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 24.

<sup>596</sup> [S/PV.8272](#), p. 4. For more details, see part I, sect. 24, “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”.

**Meetings: Threats to international peace and security**

<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.8225</a> 9 April 2018	The situation in the Middle East		Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria <sup>a</sup> , Deputy to the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs		
<a href="#">S/PV.8231</a> 13 April 2018	The situation in the Middle East		Syrian Arab Republic		Secretary-General, all Council members, invitee	
<a href="#">S/PV.8233</a> 14 April 2018	The situation in the Middle East	Draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation ( <a href="#">S/2018/355</a> )	Syrian Arab Republic		Secretary-General, all Council members, invitee	Draft resolution ( <a href="#">S/2018/355</a> ) not adopted 3-8-4 <sup>b</sup> <a href="#">S/PRST/2018/9</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8247</a> 8 May 2018						
<a href="#">S/PV.8272</a> 30 May 2018			Israel	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, <sup>c</sup> President of the Observer State of Palestine	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8412</a> 4 December 2018	Letter dated 15 November 2018 from the Special Adviser and Head of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1031</a> )		Iraq	Special Adviser and Head of the Investigative Team established pursuant to Security Council resolution <a href="#">2379 (2017)</a>	All Council members and invitees	

<sup>a</sup> The Special Envoy joined the meeting via videoconference from Geneva.

<sup>b</sup> *For*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Russian Federation; *against*: Côte d'Ivoire, France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining*: Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Kazakhstan, Peru.

<sup>c</sup> The Special Coordinator joined the meeting via videoconference from Jerusalem.

### **37. Maintenance of international peace and security**

During the period under review, the Security Council held 16 meetings (including five high-level meetings)<sup>597</sup> under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”.<sup>598</sup> The Council also adopted two resolutions, one of them under Chapter VII of the Charter, and issued two presidential statements. Of the 16 meetings held under the item during the reporting cycle, six were briefings to the Council, four were open debates, three were debates and three were held to adopt Council decisions.<sup>599</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During 2018, the Council held meetings under a broad range of sub-items of both a thematic as well as a regional nature. Examples of the thematic sub-items included (i) Purposes and principles of the Charter in the maintenance of international peace and security; (ii) Youth, peace and security; (iii) Upholding international law within the context of the maintenance of international peace and security; (iv) Mine action; (v) Understanding and addressing climate-related security risks; (vi) Mediation and settlement of disputes, (vii) Corruption and conflict; (viii) Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction; (ix) Root causes of conflict – the role of natural resources; and (x) Strengthening multilateralism and the role of the United Nations. Region-specific sub-items included (i) Building regional partnership in Afghanistan and Central Asia as a model to link security and development; (ii) Comprehensive review of the situation in the Middle East and North Africa and (iii) Migrant smuggling and human trafficking in Libya.

In 2018, whilst the Council held meetings on sub-items that had already been considered in the past under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”, some of them addressed new themes such as corruption and conflict and strengthening multilateralism and the role of the United Nations.<sup>600</sup>

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<sup>597</sup> [S/PV.8162](#), [S/PV.8185](#); [S/PV.8262](#); [S/PV.8307](#) and [S/PV.8362](#).

<sup>598</sup> In addition to the 16 meetings, the provisional agenda for the 8409<sup>th</sup> meeting was not adopted, having failed to obtain the required number of votes ([S/PV.8409](#)). For more information on the adoption of the agenda, see part II sect. II.A.

<sup>599</sup> For further information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.A.

<sup>600</sup> For more information on new sub-items, see part II, sect. II.A.

In relation to corruption and conflict, Council members discussed the challenge posed by corruption in maintaining peace and security, noting the impact that corruption had on the socioeconomic development of a country and stressed the need for good governance.<sup>601</sup> At the meeting, several Council members objected to the consideration of this sub-item, noting that corruption in itself was not a threat to international peace and security, and that other organs were better suited to address it.<sup>602</sup> In connection with strengthening multilateralism and the role of the United Nations, Member States reiterated their commitment to multilateralism, with the United Nations at its center, and highlighted the 2030 Agenda on Sustainable Development, the Paris Agreement and peacekeeping action as paragons of multilateralism.<sup>603</sup>

In 2018, the decisions of the Council addressed some of the themes outlined above. By a presidential statement adopted on 18 January 2018, the Council recognized that development, peace and security and human rights were interlinked and mutually reinforcing and underlined the importance of putting an emphasis on conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, peacebuilding and sustaining peace, sharing best practices as well as formulating forward-looking recommendations and strategies on them in light of the increasingly transnational nature of the causes of conflict.<sup>604</sup> The Council also commended the efforts of the Secretary-General to enhance the performance of the Secretariat's peace and security pillar and encouraged him to continue his efforts to, inter alia, ensure better use of conflict prevention and preventive diplomacy tools in cooperation with regional and sub-regional organizations.<sup>605</sup> In this connection, the Council acknowledged the determined work to strengthen strategic cooperation and coordination among the United Nations and regional and sub-regional organizations that can play an important role in conflict prevention.<sup>606</sup> The Council also reaffirmed the important role of women in peacebuilding and noted the substantial link between women's full and meaningful involvement in efforts to prevent,

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<sup>601</sup> [S/PV.8346](#).

<sup>602</sup> See [S/PV.8346](#), pp. 15 (Russian Federation), 16-17 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)) and 21 (Ethiopia). For more information on the Council's relations with other organs, see part IV.

<sup>603</sup> [S/PV.8395](#).

<sup>604</sup> [S/PRST/2018/1](#), sixth and seventh paragraphs.

<sup>605</sup> *Ibid.*, fifteenth and sixteenth paragraphs.

<sup>606</sup> *Ibid.*, seventeenth paragraph.



resolve and rebuild from conflict and those efforts' effectiveness and long-term sustainability.<sup>607</sup>

Regarding regional partnerships created by Member States in Central Asia and Afghanistan, the Council adopted a presidential statement on 19 January 2018. In the statement, the Council encouraged making conflict prevention and resolution central to the work of the UN system in the region.<sup>608</sup> The Council also recognized that there could not be a purely military solution to Afghanistan and underlined the importance of an inclusive Afghan-led and -owned peace process for the long-term prosperity and stability of Afghanistan.<sup>609</sup> The Council underscored the importance of continued progress on electoral reform towards holding credible and inclusive parliamentary and presidential elections and stressed the importance of advancing regional, interregional and international cooperation to achieve long-term peace, stability and sustainable development in Afghanistan and Central Asia.<sup>610</sup> The Council expressed its support to the joint efforts of the countries in Central Asia towards the enhancement of a zone of peace, cooperation and prosperity.<sup>611</sup> The Council also emphasized that to support Afghanistan emerging sustainably from conflict there was a need for a comprehensive and integrated approach that incorporated and strengthened coherence between all sectors.<sup>612</sup>

Further to the meeting held on 23 April 2018 on youth, peace and security,<sup>613</sup> the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2419 \(2018\)](#) on 6 June 2018, reaffirming its commitment to resolution [2250 \(2015\)](#). In this resolution, the Council recognized the role that youth could play in conflict prevention and resolution and in efforts to peacebuilding and sustaining peace.<sup>614</sup> The Council also recommended the Peacebuilding Commission to include in its discussions and advice, ways to engage youth meaningfully in national efforts to build and sustain peace and expressed its intention to invite civil society including youth-led organizations to brief the Council in country-specific considerations and relevant thematic

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<sup>607</sup> Ibid., nineteenth paragraph.

<sup>608</sup> [S/PRST/2018/2](#), second paragraph.

<sup>609</sup> Ibid., third paragraph.

<sup>610</sup> Ibid., second and fifth paragraphs.

<sup>611</sup> Ibid., eighth paragraph.

<sup>612</sup> Ibid., twentieth paragraph. For further information on the situation in Afghanistan, see part I, sect. 18.

<sup>613</sup> [S/PV.8241](#).

<sup>614</sup> Resolution [2419 \(2018\)](#), paras. 3 and 10.

areas.<sup>615</sup> In the resolution, the Council also requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on its implementation and on the implementation of resolution [2250 \(2015\)](#) no later than May 2020.<sup>616</sup>

Further to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution [2380 \(2017\)](#) on the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons in the Mediterranean sea off the coast of Libya,<sup>617</sup> the Council adopted resolution [2437 \(2018\)](#) under Chapter VII of the Charter, renewing for 12 months the authorization set out in paragraphs 7 to 10 of resolution [2240 \(2015\)](#) and reiterated resolutions [2312 \(2016\)](#) and [2380 \(2017\)](#) and presidential statement of 16 December 2015 ([S/PRST/2015/25](#)).<sup>618</sup> By resolution [2437 \(2018\)](#), the Council also renewed the reporting requests set out in paragraphs 17 and 18 of resolution [2240 \(2015\)](#).<sup>619</sup>

In addition, on 26 November 2018, the Council held a procedural vote further to the request of the Russian Federation for an extraordinary meeting under the sub-item “Violation of the borders of the Russian Federation”. The provisional agenda for this meeting failed to obtain the required number of votes, with four members voting in favor, seven against and four abstaining. After the failed procedural vote, the representative of the Russian Federation made a statement.<sup>620</sup>

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<sup>615</sup> Ibid., paras. 15 and 18.

<sup>616</sup> Ibid., para. 22.

<sup>617</sup> [S/2018/807](#).

<sup>618</sup> Resolution [2437 \(2018\)](#), para. 2.

<sup>619</sup> Ibid., para. 3.

<sup>620</sup> [S/PV.8409](#), pp. 3-5. For more information on discussions concerning the agenda, see part II, sect. II.C.

**Meetings: Maintenance of international peace and security**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8161</a> 18 January 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/1</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8162</a> 19 January 2018	Building regional partnership in Afghanistan and Central Asia as a model to link security and development Letter dated 2 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/7</a> )		13 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>b</sup> , all invitees <sup>c</sup>	<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/2</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8185</a> 21 February 2018	Purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations in the maintenance of international peace and security Letter dated 1 February 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/85</a> )			Former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Mr. Ban Ki-moon	Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>d</sup> , invitee under rule 39	
<a href="#">S/PV.8213</a> 23 March 2018				Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme <sup>e</sup>	All Council members <sup>f</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8241</a> 23 April 2018	Youth, peace and security Identical letters dated 2 March 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the		54 Member States <sup>g</sup>	Eight invitees under rule 39 <sup>h</sup>	All Council members <sup>i</sup> , all invitees <sup>j</sup>	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
	General Assembly and the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/86</a> ) Letter dated 6 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/324</a> )					
<a href="#">S/PV.8262</a> 17 May 2018	Upholding international law within the context of the maintenance of international peace and security. Letter dated 3 May 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Poland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/417/Rev.1</a> )		56 Member States <sup>k</sup>	Seven invitees <sup>l</sup>	All Council members <sup>m</sup> , 55 invitees under rule 37 and all other invitees <sup>n</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8277</a> 6 June 2018		Draft resolution ( <a href="#">S/2018/532</a> ) submitted by 76 Member States <sup>o</sup>	67 Member States <sup>p</sup>		Four Council members (Netherlands, Peru, Sweden, United States)	Resolution <a href="#">2419 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8293</a> 25 June 2018	Comprehensive review of the situation in the Middle East and North Africa Letter dated 1 June 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary General ( <a href="#">S/2018/524</a> )		18 Member States <sup>q</sup>	Permanent Observer for the League of Arab States to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the United Nations, representative of the Delegation of the European Union, Permanent Observer of the Holy See, Deputy Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine	Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>r</sup> , all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8304</a> 29 June 2018	Mine action Report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive approach to mine action ( <a href="#">S/2018/623</a> )			Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peacekeeping Operations	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8307</a> 11 July 2018	Understanding and addressing climate-related security risks		Iraq, Maldives, Nauru, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago.	Co-chair of the International Indigenous Peoples Forum on Climate Change and the Deputy Secretary-General	All Council members <sup>s</sup> , all invitees <sup>t</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8334</a> 29 August 2018	Mediation and settlement of disputes		53 Member States <sup>u</sup>	Archbishop of Canterbury, Co- founder of PAIMAN Alumni Trust, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union, Permanent Observer of the Holy See	Secretary-General, 12 Council members <sup>v</sup> and all invitees <sup>w</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8346</a> 10 September 2018	Corruption and conflict			Founding Director of the Enough Project and co-founder of The Sentry	Secretary-General, all Council members, invitee under rule 39	
<a href="#">S/PV.8362</a> 26 September 2018	Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction				All Council members <sup>x</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8365</a> 3 October 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council Resolution <a href="#">2380 (2017)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2018/807</a> )	Draft resolution <a href="#">S/2018/887</a> , submitted by 19 Member States <sup>y</sup>	16 Member States <sup>z</sup>		Two Council members (France, United Kingdom)	Resolution <a href="#">2437 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8372</a> 16 October 2018	Root causes of conflict – the role of natural resources Letter dated 9 October 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the				Secretary-General, 12 Council members <sup>aa</sup>	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)</i>
	Plurinational State of Bolivia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/901</a> )					
<a href="#">S/PV.8395</a> 9 November 2018	Strengthening multilateralism and the role of the United Nations Letter dated 1 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/982</a> )		50 Member States <sup>bb</sup>	Seven invitees <sup>cc</sup>	Secretary-General, all Council members, all invitees <sup>dd</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8409</a> 26 November 2018 (agenda not adopted)	Violation of the borders of the Russian Federation					Procedural vote (Rule 9) 4-7-4 <sup>ee</sup>

<sup>a</sup> Afghanistan, Belgium, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Tajikistan, Turkey, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan.

<sup>b</sup> Equatorial Guinea was represented by the Secretary of State of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Kuwait was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; the United States was represented by its Deputy Secretary of State; Kazakhstan (President of the Security Council), Poland, the Russian Federation were represented by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs;; the United Kingdom was represented by its Minister of State for Asia and the Pacific; and the Netherlands was represented by its Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs

<sup>c</sup> Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan were represented by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs; and Afghanistan was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>d</sup> Kuwait (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Kazakhstan was represented by its First Deputy Foreign Minister; Côte d'Ivoire and Poland were represented by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs; ; and the United States was represented by its Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet.

<sup>e</sup> The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and the Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Programme participated in the meeting via videoconference from Dublin, Ireland and from Biel, Switzerland, respectively.

<sup>f</sup> The Netherlands (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Minister for Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation.

<sup>g</sup> Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Croatia, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Maldives, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Portugal, Qatar, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uzbekistan and Yemen.

<sup>h</sup> Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, lead author of the Progress Study on Youth, Peace and Security, Member of the Advisory Council of the World Young Women Christian Association, Executive Director of the Organization URU, Central African Republic; State Secretary for Regional Affairs and Multilateral Global Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Romania, in his capacity as Chair of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission; Deputy Secretary General for Economic and Social Issues of the European External Action Service of the European Union; High Representative for the United Nations Alliance of Civilizations, Permanent Observer of the International Organization of the Francophonie.

<sup>i</sup> Poland was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>j</sup> Belgium was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Croatia was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs; Norway was represented by its Secretary of State; Denmark was represented by its Secretary of State for Foreign Policy; Switzerland was represented by its State Secretary of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs; Finland was represented by its Under-Secretary of State, Ministry for Foreign Affairs; Iceland, Maldives, Montenegro and Turkey were represented by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs; Bulgaria, Estonia and Ukraine were represented by their Deputy Ministers for Foreign Affairs; and Kenya was represented by its Cabinet Secretary, Ministry of Public Service, Youth and Gender Affairs;

<sup>k</sup> Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Haiti, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, , Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, Rwanda, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

<sup>l</sup> Chef de Cabinet of the Secretary-General, Senior Judge on, and President Emeritus of, the International Court of Justice, President of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Chargé d'Affaires ad interim of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of Palestine to the United Nations

<sup>m</sup> Poland (President of the Security Council) was represented by its President; Equatorial Guinea was represented by its Vice-President; Kazakhstan was represented by its Minister of Justice; the Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; the United Kingdom was represented by its Minister of State for Africa and the Department of International Development, and the United States was represented by its Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet.

<sup>n</sup> Estonia, Indonesia, Latvia and Lithuania, were represented by their Ministers for Foreign Affairs; Georgia was represented by its First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. The representative of Belgium spoke on behalf of the Group of Like-Minded States on Targeted Sanctions. The representative of Norway spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries. The representative of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement. Although invited under rule 37, the representative of the Maldives did not make a statement.

<sup>o</sup> Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States and Uruguay.

<sup>p</sup> Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Namibia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and Uruguay.

<sup>q</sup> Bahrain, Cyprus, Egypt, Greece, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and United Arab Emirates.

<sup>r</sup> The Russian Federation was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>s</sup> The Netherlands was represented by the Prime Minister of Curacao; Sweden (President of the Security Council) was represented its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Kazakhstan was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>t</sup> Nauru was represented by its President and spoke on behalf of the twelve Pacific Island Developing States; Iraq was represented by its Minister of Water Resources. the representative of the Maldives spoke on behalf of the Alliance of Small Island States; the representative of Trinidad and Tobago spoke on behalf of the Caribbean Community; and the representative of Sudan spoke on behalf of the Arab Group.

<sup>u</sup> Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Djibouti, Egypt, Estonia, Fiji, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, Norway, Oman, Pakistan,



Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

<sup>v</sup> The United Kingdom (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Minister of State for the Commonwealth and the United Nations. Equatorial Guinea spoke on behalf of the three African Council members.

<sup>w</sup> The representative of Norway spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries; the representative of Turkey spoke on behalf of Friends of Mediation; the representative of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

<sup>x</sup> Eight Council members were represented at the Head of State or Head of Government level: Bolivia (Plurinational State of) (President), Equatorial Guinea (President), France (President), Netherlands (Prime Minister), Peru (President), Poland (President), United Kingdom (Prime Minister) and United States (President of the Security Council) (President). Seven Council members were represented at the Ministerial level: Côte d'Ivoire (Vice-President), Kuwait (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs); China (State Councilor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Ethiopia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Kazakhstan (Minister for Foreign Affairs); Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Sweden (Minister for Foreign Affairs).

<sup>y</sup> Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, United Kingdom.

<sup>z</sup> Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Libya, Malta, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain.

<sup>aa</sup> Côte d'Ivoire spoke on behalf of the African members of the Security Council.

<sup>bb</sup> Argentina, Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, , Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malaysia, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia, Turkey, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), and Viet Nam.

<sup>cc</sup> Permanent Representative of Qatar, speaking on behalf of the President of the General Assembly; President of the Economic and Social Council; President of the International Court of Justice; Head of the Delegation of the European Union; Permanent Observer of the African Union; Head of Delegation and Permanent Observer of the International Committee of the Red Cross (via videoconference from The Hague); and Permanent Observer of the Holy See.

<sup>dd</sup> The representative of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement; the representative of Singapore spoke on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN); and the representative of Norway spoke on behalf of the Nordic Countries.

<sup>ee</sup> *For*: Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation; *against*: France, Kuwait, Netherlands, Poland, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States; *abstaining*: Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, Peru.

### **38. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security**

During the period under review, the Security Council held three meetings in connection with the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security”. Two of the meetings took the form of briefings, and one was an open debate.<sup>621</sup> The Council did not adopt any decision. More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers is given in the table below.

On 18 July 2018, the Council held a meeting to consider the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union on issues of peace and security. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union briefed the Council on the collaboration between the two organizations. She focused on three aspects of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union on issues of peace and security in Africa.<sup>622</sup> On the complex peace and security challenges facing Africa, she stated that the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union was a necessity, while recognizing also the critical role played by subregional organizations. Regarding the need for partnership and recognizing the imperative of even closer collaboration with the African Union, she noted that the increasing number of joint missions, joint briefings, joint reports and declarations, and joint messages illustrated the progress in this sense. Concerning conflict prevention, she called for more joint analyses and assessments and for the two organizations to align their early warning indicators. Finally, regarding the issues of predictable and sustainable financing for peace support operations of the African Union, she affirmed that it was essential that they be framed within the context of a common political strategy.<sup>623</sup> The African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security highlighted the significant progress made in the partnership between the two organizations and the coherence in decision making. He focused on the commitment to enhance collaboration, cooperation and coordination and

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<sup>621</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>622</sup> [S/2018/678](#).

<sup>623</sup> [S/PV.8314](#), pp. 2-4.

made reference to the agreement to enhance consultations prior to decision-making. He noted, however, that despite the progress achieved, challenges remained, particularly with regard to the relationship between the African Union Peace and Security Council and the Security Council where more work was needed to achieve greater coherence and coordination in dealing with crisis situations. He also recalled the African Union's consistent advocacy for predictable and sustainable financing through United Nations-assessed contributions for African Union-led peace operations and he hoped that the meeting would serve as impetus for the Council to move forward in this regard.<sup>624</sup> At the meeting, speakers noted the strengthening of the collaboration between the United Nations and the African Union and expressed support for the Council's consideration of increased funding for African Union's peace operations.<sup>625</sup> In addition, some speakers made reference to the need to enhance cooperation in the area of conflict prevention and resolution.<sup>626</sup>

On 5 September 2018, the Council held a meeting for the first time under this item in relation to the situation in Nicaragua. At the meeting, the Council heard a briefing by the Chief of Staff to the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States on the efforts that the General Secretariat had undertaken in Nicaragua and on the situation from the perspective of a regional organization. He reported on the consequences of the crisis, as well as on the actions taken by the various organs of the Organization of American States to address the crisis since 18 April 2018, and asserted that there could not be genuine solution for Nicaragua without heeding the voice of its people through the holding of free, fair, democratic and transparent elections. In this regard, he reiterated the invitation to the Government to resume and accelerate the work to ensure the completion of electoral reforms by January 2019.<sup>627</sup> At the meeting, Council members held differing views about the holding of the meeting.<sup>628</sup> Whilst some argued that the internal crisis in the country posed no threat to international peace and security and called to respect sovereignty and to refrain from

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<sup>624</sup> Ibid., pp. 4-6.

<sup>625</sup> Ibid., p. 6 (Sweden), p. 9 (Netherlands), p. 11 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 12 (Kuwait), pp. 13-14 (Russian Federation), p. 15 (China), p. 16 (Poland), p. 17 (United Kingdom), p. 18 (France), p. 19 (Kazakhstan).

<sup>626</sup> Ibid., p. 6 (Sweden), p. 8 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 10 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 12 (Kuwait), p. 14 (Peru), p. 16 (Poland), p. 17 (United Kingdom), p. 19 (Kazakhstan).

<sup>627</sup> [S/PV.8340](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>628</sup> For more information on discussions concerning the agenda, see part II, sect. II.C.

interfering in domestic affairs,<sup>629</sup> other Council members maintained that considering the situation in Nicaragua was consistent with the primary responsibility of the Council for the maintenance of international peace and security.<sup>630</sup> Council members further recognised the key role played by regional organizations in this regard.<sup>631</sup>

On 6 December 2018, the Council held an open debate on the role of States, regional arrangements and the United Nations in the prevention and resolution of conflicts further to the concept note circulated by Côte d'Ivoire.<sup>632</sup> At the meeting, the Council was briefed by the Secretary-General, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the President of the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States.<sup>633</sup> The Secretary-General stated that prevention for the United Nations was an end in itself and should never be seen as the instrument of any other political agenda. He noted that prevention saved lives and made economic sense. He also focused on the United Nations collaboration with regional organizations and on the key role played by them in implementing a global multidimensional strategy to meet the challenges ahead.<sup>634</sup>

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<sup>629</sup> [S/PV.8340](#), pp. 6-7 (Russian Federation), p. 7 (Kuwait), p. 14 (Kazakhstan), p. 15 (Ethiopia), pp. 16-17 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 18 (China). For further details on this discussion, see part VIII, sect. II.

<sup>630</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 8-9 (United Kingdom), p. 10 (France), p. 11 (Netherlands), p. 19 (United States). For further details on this discussion, see part VIII, sect. II.

<sup>631</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7 (Kuwait), p. 8 (United Kingdom), p. 9 (Peru), p. 11 (Netherlands), p. 13 (Poland), p. 15 (Sweden).

<sup>632</sup> See letter dated 28 November 2018 from the Permanent representative of Cote d'Ivoire to the Secretary-General ([S/2018/1064](#)).

<sup>633</sup> [S/PV.8414](#).

<sup>634</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 2-3.

**Meetings: Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security**

<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.8314</a> 18 July 2018	African Union  Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union on issues of peace and security in Africa, including on the work of the United Nations Office to the African Union ( <a href="#">S/2018/678</a> )			Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union, African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security	13 Council members <sup>a</sup> , all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8340</a> 5 September 2018	The situation in Nicaragua		Costa Rica, Nicaragua, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	Chief of Staff to the Secretary-General of the Organization of American States and Mr. Felix Maradiaga (civil society leader and former Secretary-General of the Ministry of Defense of Nicaragua)	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8414</a> 6 December 2018	The role of States, regional arrangements and the United Nations in the prevention and resolution of conflicts  Letter dated 28 November 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2018/1064</a> )		42 invitees <sup>c</sup>	Chairperson of the African Union Commission, President of the ECOWAS Commission, Acting Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members <sup>d</sup> , all invitees <sup>e</sup>	

<sup>a</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United States, United Kingdom. Sweden (President of the Security Council) was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. Equatorial Guinea spoke on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea and Ethiopia.

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

<sup>c</sup> Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belgium, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guatemala, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, South Africa, Sudan, Turkey, Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

<sup>d</sup> Côte d'Ivoire was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>e</sup> Ireland was represented by its Minister for Children and Youth Affairs. Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement., Norway spoke on behalf of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden. the Acting Deputy Head of Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations spoke on behalf of the European Union and the candidate countries the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Albania, the country of the Stabilization and Association Process and potential candidate Bosnia and Herzegovina.