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Regional arrangements

Contents

Introductory note	3
Section I - Consideration of the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations under thematic items	6
Note	6
A. Decisions on thematic issues relating to Chapter VIII of the Charter	6
B. Discussion under thematic issues concerning the interpretation and application of Chapter VIII of the Charter	8
Section II - Recognition of efforts by regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes	17
Note	17
A. Decisions concerning efforts by regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes	17
B. Discussion concerning the pacific settlement of disputes by regional arrangements	23
Section III - Peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements	26
Note	26
A. Decisions concerning peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements	26
B. Discussion concerning peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements	33
Section IV - Authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements	37
Note	37
A. Decisions relating to the authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements and requests for cooperation in implementation of Chapter VII measures	37
B. Discussion concerning the authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements	38
Section V - Reporting by regional arrangements on their activities in the maintenance of international peace and security	40
Note	40
A. Decisions concerning reporting by regional arrangements	40
B. Discussion concerning reporting by regional arrangements	43

Introductory note

Article 52

1. Nothing in the present Charter precludes the existence of regional arrangements or agencies for dealing with such matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security as are appropriate for regional action provided that such arrangements or agencies and their activities are consistent with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations.

2. The Members of the United Nations entering into such arrangements or constituting such agencies shall make every effort to achieve pacific settlement of local disputes through such regional arrangements or by such regional agencies before referring them to the Security Council.

3. The Security Council shall encourage the development of pacific settlement of local disputes through such regional arrangements or by such regional agencies either on the initiative of the states concerned or by reference from the Security Council.

4. This Article in no way impairs the application of Articles 34 and 35.

Article 53

1. The Security Council shall, where appropriate, utilize such regional arrangements or agencies for enforcement action under its authority. But no enforcement action shall be taken under regional arrangements or by regional agencies without the authorization of the Security Council, with the exception of measures against any enemy state, as defined in paragraph 2 of this Article, provided for pursuant to Article 107 or in regional arrangements directed against renewal of aggressive policy on the part of any such state, until such time as the Organization may, on request of the Governments concerned, be charged with

the responsibility for preventing further aggression by such a state.

2. The term enemy state as used in paragraph 1 of this Article applies to any state which during the Second World War has been an enemy of any signatory of the present Charter.

Article 54

The Security Council shall at all times be kept fully informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation under regional arrangements or by regional agencies for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations provides the constitutional basis for the involvement of regional arrangements in the maintenance of international peace and security.¹ While Article 52 encourages the engagement of regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes prior to the Council's consideration, Article 53 allows the Council to utilize regional arrangements for enforcement action under its authority and with its explicit authorization. Finally, Article 54 stipulates that regional arrangements should inform the Council of their activities at all times.

During the period under review, the Security Council continued to encourage and strengthen the cooperation with regional arrangements, pursuant to Chapter VIII, and in particular with the African Union and the European Union. In addition, the Council addressed the question of complementarity between the activities of the Council and regional arrangements in the maintenance of international peace and security.

In connection with the pacific settlement of disputes by regional arrangements, the Council reiterated its full support for the Joint African Union/United Nations Mediation and the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) on

¹ Chapter VIII of the Charter refers to "regional arrangements or agencies". For the purposes of the *Repertoire* the term regional arrangements is understood to encompass regional and subregional organizations as well as other international organizations.

Sudan.² The Council also welcomed the signing of the “Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan³ and commended the expanded efforts of the “Intergovernmental Authority on Development-Plus” configuration.⁴

With regard to peacekeeping operations led by regional organizations, during the review period, the Council authorized the European Union to deploy an operation (EUFOR RCA) to support the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA).⁵ Later in 2014, the Council transferred the authority from MISCA to the newly established United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA).⁶

Whilst the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) concluded its mandate at the end of 2014,⁷ other missions led by regional arrangements remained active and the Council renewed their mandates; namely, for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM),⁸ and the European Union Force (EUFOR)-ALTHEA in Bosnia and Herzegovina.⁹

The practice of the Council under Chapter VIII of the Charter, in 2014 and 2015, is illustrated below in five sections. Each section covers both the decisions adopted by the Council and the discussions held during Council meetings. Section I examines the practice of the Council regarding cooperation with regional and subregional arrangements in the maintenance of international peace and security in connection with items of a thematic nature. Section II deals with recognition by the Council of efforts by regional arrangements in the peaceful settlement of disputes, within the framework of Article 52 of the Charter. Section III deals with the practice of the Council in connection with cooperation with regional organizations in the area of peacekeeping. Section IV describes the practice of the Council in authorizing enforcement actions by regional organizations outside the context of regional peacekeeping operations. Finally, section V refers to the reporting on the activities of regional arrangements in the maintenance of international peace and security.

² Resolution [2138 \(2014\)](#), eleventh preambular paragraph.

³ Resolution [2241 \(2015\)](#), third preambular paragraph.

⁴ *Ibid.*, fourth preambular paragraph.

⁵ Resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), paras. 43 and 44.

⁶ Resolution [2149 \(2014\)](#), para. 21.

⁷ Resolution [2120 \(2013\)](#), para. 1.

⁸ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 23; and resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), para. 3.

⁹ Resolution [2183 \(2014\)](#), para. 10; and resolution [2247 \(2015\)](#), para. 3.

Section I - Consideration of the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations under thematic items

Note

This section examines the practice of the Security Council in 2014 and 2015 in cooperating with regional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security, within the framework of Chapter VIII of the Charter, in connection with items of a thematic nature. The section is organized under two headings: (a) decisions on thematic items relating to Chapter VIII of the Charter and (b) discussions under thematic items concerning the interpretation and application of Chapter VIII of the Charter.

A. Decisions on thematic issues relating to Chapter VIII of the Charter

During the period under review, the Council explicitly recalled and referred to Chapter VIII in a number of decisions on thematic items.¹⁰ Specifically, the Council reiterated that the growing contribution made by regional and subregional organizations could complement the work of the United Nations in maintaining international peace and security,¹¹ and that cooperation with regional and subregional arrangements consistent with Chapter VIII, could improve collective security.¹² In this connection, the Council cited Chapter VIII in seeking to further strengthen cooperation in particular with the European Union,¹³ and the African Union Peace and Security Council.¹⁴ The Council recognized that regional organizations were well

¹⁰ Resolution [2151 \(2014\)](#), para. 16; resolution [2167 \(2014\)](#), first and third preambular paragraphs, and paras. 1, 2 and 4; resolution [2171 \(2014\)](#), paras. 21 and 22; [S/PRST/2014/4](#), second paragraph; [S/PRST/2014/27](#), fourth and fifth paragraphs; and [S/PRST/2015/22](#), seventh paragraph.

¹¹ Resolution [2167 \(2014\)](#), para. 1.

¹² [S/PRST/2014/4](#), second paragraph; [S/PRST/2014/27](#) fifth paragraph; and [S/PRST/2015/22](#), seventh paragraph. Provisions reiterating the primary responsibility of the Council in the maintenance of international peace and security in relation to the role of regional arrangements are featured in part V of this Supplement.

¹³ [S/PRST/2014/4](#), nineteenth paragraph.

¹⁴ [S/PRST/2014/27](#), fourth paragraph.

positioned to understand the root causes of conflicts owing to their knowledge of the region.¹⁵

By resolution [2167 \(2014\)](#), the Council expressed its determination to take effective steps to further enhance the relationship between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in particular the African Union, in accordance with Chapter VIII,¹⁶ and encouraged the continuing involvement of regional and subregional organizations in the peaceful settlement of disputes.¹⁷ By resolution [2171 \(2014\)](#), the Council expressed its commitment to consider and use the tools of the United Nations system to ensure that early warning of potential conflicts translates into early, concrete preventive action, including towards the goal of protecting civilians by or in coordination with the most appropriate United Nations or regional actor.¹⁸ In this sense, in accordance with Chapter VIII, the Council encouraged the peaceful settlement of local disputes through regional arrangements,¹⁹ and called for enhanced cooperation and capacity building with regional and subregional organizations arrangements to help to prevent armed conflicts.²⁰

The importance of partnerships and cooperation with relevant regional and subregional arrangements and organizations in supporting security sector reform,²¹ as well as peacekeeping operations,²² was also underlined by the Council. In particular, the Council encouraged the ongoing efforts of the African Union and subregional organizations to strengthen their peacekeeping capacity and to undertake peacekeeping operations on the continent, in accordance with Chapter VIII.²³

As in previous years, the lack of predictable, sustainable and flexible funding was acknowledged as a major constraint for some regional organizations,²⁴ but the Council maintained its view that regional organizations had the responsibility to secure human, financial, logistical and other resources.²⁵

¹⁵ Ibid., sixth paragraph.

¹⁶ Resolution [2167 \(2014\)](#), para. 2.

¹⁷ Ibid., para. 3.

¹⁸ Resolution [2171 \(2014\)](#), para. 20.

¹⁹ Ibid., para. 21.

²⁰ Ibid., para. 22.

²¹ Resolution [2151 \(2014\)](#), para. 16.

²² Resolution [2167 \(2014\)](#), para. 1.

²³ Ibid., para. 4.

²⁴ Ibid., eighteenth preambular paragraph; [S/PRST/2014/27](#), thirteenth paragraph.

²⁵ [S/PRST/2014/27](#), twelfth paragraph.

In addition to explicit references to Chapter VIII, the Council implicitly recognized and referred to the role of regional and subregional arrangements in its decisions adopted under thematic items. Some of these decisions dealt with issues concerning women and peace and security,²⁶ as well as with the contribution of regional organizations to protecting children affected by armed conflicts.²⁷ The Council further underlined the importance of partnerships and cooperation with regional, subregional, and international partners in delivering rule of law activities,²⁸ and highlighted that these arrangements could contribute to accountability through the support for enhancing the capacity of national justice systems.²⁹ Moreover, the role of regional organizations was highlighted by the Council in connection with emerging issues, such as the protection of journalists in conflict situations³⁰ and small arms and light weapons.³¹ The Council called further on relevant regional organizations to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national and regional institutions to address terrorism benefitting from transnational organized crime.³² Lastly, the Council referred to the role of regional and subregional organizations in connection with threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.³³

B. Discussion under thematic issues concerning the interpretation and application of Chapter VIII of the Charter

In a number of Council meetings held in 2014 and 2015, speakers discussed the role of regional and subregional organizations, inter alia, in the areas of security sector reform,³⁴ conflict prevention and resolution,³⁵ and the maintenance of

²⁶ Resolution [2242 \(2015\)](#), paras. 2 and 15 and [S/PRST/2014/21](#), twelfth and thirteenth paragraphs.

²⁷ Resolution [2143 \(2014\)](#), para. 25; resolution [2225 \(2015\)](#), paras. 5 and 9.

²⁸ [S/PRST/2014/5](#), seventh and twelfth paragraphs.

²⁹ *Ibid.*, twelfth paragraph.

³⁰ Resolution [2222 \(2015\)](#), twentieth preambular paragraph and paras. 15 and 16.

³¹ Resolution [2220 \(2015\)](#), paras. 1, 5, 11, 17, 18 and 21.

³² Resolution [2195 \(2014\)](#), para. 8.

³³ Resolution [2133 \(2014\)](#), paras. 6 and 8, resolution [2161 \(2014\)](#), seventh preambular paragraph and para. 69; resolution [2170 \(2014\)](#), seventh preambular paragraph, resolution [2178 \(2014\)](#), sixteenth and seventeenth preambular paragraphs and para. 11; and resolution [2199 \(2015\)](#), ninth preambular paragraph and paras. 14 and 24.

³⁴ [S/PV.7161](#), [S/PV.7343](#), and [S/PV.7402](#).

³⁵ [S/PV.7112](#), [S/PV.7247](#), [S/PV.7343](#), [S/PV.7402](#), [S/PV.7505](#), [S/PV.7527](#), and [S/PV.7561](#).

international peace and security.³⁶ In the discussions, speakers urged the Council to deepen the progress made in terms of cooperation with regional arrangements under Chapter VIII and concentrated also on the respective roles and responsibilities. The following case studies feature the key elements of such discussions under the following items: Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security (case 1), Maintenance of international peace and security (case 2), and Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (case 3).

Case 1

Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security

On 14 February, at its 7112th meeting on cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, which focused in particular on the European Union, the Council heard interventions by the Secretary-General and by the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy of the European Union.³⁷ In the discussion, many speakers explicitly referred to Chapter VIII of the Charter.³⁸ The representatives of Argentina and Australia stated that cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in matters related to the maintenance of international peace and security was an integral part of the collective security envisioned in the Charter.³⁹ The representative of Lithuania emphasized that the interaction and synergies of the United Nations, the European Union and other regional and subregional organizations, were “critical” in solving conflicts and also “key” for prevention, as regional organizations could be particularly helpful in the early identification of potential crises and mediation.⁴⁰ While

³⁶ [S/PV.7105](#), [S/PV.7161](#), [S/PV.7161\(Resumption1\)](#), [S/PV.7361](#), [S/PV.7389](#), [S/PV.7432](#), [S/PV.7499](#), [S/PV.7505](#), [S/PV.7508](#), [S/PV.7527](#), [S/PV.7531](#), [S/PV.7561](#), [S/PV.7564](#), and [S/PV.7585](#).

³⁷ [S/PV.7112](#), pp. 2-6.

³⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 7 (Lithuania), p. 9 (Argentina), pp. 11-12 (Australia), pp. 12-13 (Nigeria), p. 13 (Jordan), p. 14 (Rwanda), p. 16 (Chile), p. 18 (Chad), p. 19 (Russian Federation), and p. 20 (China).

³⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 9 (Argentina) and p. 11 (Australia).

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 7.

underlining that regional and subregional arrangements complement the work of the United Nations, bringing to bear knowledge of specific regional circumstances and an understanding of the causes of conflicts, the representative of Argentina noted the contribution made by such organizations to the maintenance of international peace and security under Chapter VIII through the deployment of peacekeeping operations authorized by the Council.⁴¹ She also echoed the important role that regional and subregional arrangements could play in prevention, resolution and mediation processes, as well as in post-conflict peacebuilding, recovery, reconstruction and development.⁴² The representative of Nigeria defined Chapter VIII of the Charter as “visionary” since it had laid the foundation for the United Nations and regional organizations to work together to prevent, manage and resolve crises. Moreover, he stressed that regional and subregional organizations could contribute their usually proximate understanding of local and regional conflicts and root causes, as well as their capacity to respond.⁴³ On a similar note, the representative of Chad called for further strengthening the cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in the areas of early warning, conflict prevention and peace-making, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, noting that the activities in those areas could be effectively complementary, in accordance with Chapter VIII.⁴⁴ He emphasized that strengthening regional capacities in maintaining international peace and security should enable regional and subregional organizations to develop the skills needed to deal with issues involving human rights, impunity and the protection of children and women, and called on the United Nations and the European Union to provide their expertise and financial support to the African Union in such areas.⁴⁵

The representative of Australia underscored that despite having been drafted decades before the emergence of regional organizations such as the European Union and the African Union, Chapter VIII had proven to be “prescient” and “utilitarian”, and concluded that the European Union-United Nations relationship showed the continued relevance, utility, and adaptability of Chapter VIII.⁴⁶ The representative of

⁴¹ Ibid., p. 9.

⁴² Ibid.

⁴³ Ibid., p. 12.

⁴⁴ Ibid., p. 18.

⁴⁵ Ibid.

⁴⁶ Ibid., pp. 11-12.

Rwanda highlighted that cooperation between the United Nations and the European Union was one of the most advanced cooperation schemes in place between the United Nations and regional organizations as it covered the vast array of activities related to the maintenance of peace and stability.⁴⁷ This fact notwithstanding, he stated that said cooperation had yet to reach its full potential. He added that increasingly, European Union missions were deployed where the United Nations was already engaged, citing Afghanistan, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Somalia as examples, and yet the two organizations did not necessarily coordinate with each other, creating in some situations “parallel or co-located missions”, with minimal or even non-existent cooperation. He concluded that enhancing cooperation between the two organizations, would increase efficiency and avoid the duplication of efforts.⁴⁸

The representative of the Russian Federation stated that the cooperation of the United Nations with regional and subregional organizations must be based on the firm foundation of the Charter, in particular Chapter VIII, and noted that despite the increasing need for effective mechanisms for the division of labour between the United Nations and regional organizations, including the European Union, the primary role of the Security Council in maintaining international peace and security remained “unshakeable” since it was enshrined in the Charter and could not be reviewed.⁴⁹ On a similar note, the representative of China restated that whereas regional and subregional organizations were playing an increasingly significant role in maintaining peace and security and in promoting the economic development of their respective regions, the Council bore the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security. He also expressed support for the efforts of the United Nations and the Council, in accordance with Chapter VIII, to deepen cooperation with the European Union and other regional and subregional organizations and declared that attention had to be paid to coordination and harmonization in order to give full play to the respective comparative advantages.⁵⁰

⁴⁷ Ibid., p. 14.

⁴⁸ Ibid., p. 15.

⁴⁹ Ibid., pp.19- 20.

⁵⁰ Ibid., p. 20.

Case 2

Maintenance of international peace and security

At its 7161st meeting, on 28 April 2014, the Council held a debate on “Security sector reform: challenges and opportunities”, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”. In the discussion, the representative of China affirmed that the United Nations should strengthen its cooperation with and support for regional and subregional organizations in the area of security sector reform through workshops, training courses and personnel exchange.⁵¹ The representative of Slovakia expressed support for the “forging of partnerships” between the United Nations and regional organizations, noting that it was natural to seek ways for fostering cooperation in the domain of security sector reform between the United Nations and the African Union, as well as the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).⁵² The representative of Chile stressed that security sector reform initiatives should incorporate coherent and integrated planning and implementation, including general guidelines, civilian capacity-building and strengthened mechanisms for coordination and cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in accordance with Chapter VIII.⁵³ The representative of Guatemala stated further that the United Nations, in cooperation with bilateral, regional and subregional partners, could provide technical assistance for security sector reform also through peacekeeping operations.⁵⁴ The representative of Tanzania reiterated the importance of regional actors in conflict prevention, resolution, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, encouraging the international community and the countries concerned to make effective use of the enormous resources that neighbouring countries could offer in terms of knowledge and skills in the area of security sector reform and in other areas.⁵⁵ The representative of Turkey underscored that collaboration with all relevant stakeholders, including regional and subregional organizations, was essential to preventing duplication and to making optimal use of

⁵¹ [S/PV.7161](#), p. 19.

⁵² *Ibid.*, p. 23.

⁵³ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 28.

⁵⁵ [S/PV.7161 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 19.

scarce resources.⁵⁶ The representative of Pakistan stressed, in addition, that the United Nations should deepen its partnerships with international and regional financial institutions to make security sector reform more resilient and self-sustaining.⁵⁷

The representative of Norway emphasized the importance of strengthening regional ownership of security sector reform processes, and encouraged the United Nations to further develop its partnerships with regional organizations, such as the African Union.⁵⁸ The representative of Indonesia stated that regional networks of like-minded countries were vital to understanding the local culture, and could greatly enable programmes to support security sector reform. In this sense he called for regular and more frequent interaction on security sector reform issues between the United Nations system and regional organizations.⁵⁹ Reaffirming the importance of close collaboration with regional organizations, the representative of Switzerland underscored that the contributions of regional organizations must be better linked to the efforts of the United Nations.⁶⁰ Similarly, the representative of Czech Republic stated that successful security sector reform was possible only by adhering to the principles of national ownership and deepening cooperation with regional and subregional organizations and civil society.⁶¹

At its 7247th meeting, on 21 August 2014, the Council held a debate on “Conflict prevention”, under the item of “Maintenance of international peace and security”. Following interventions by Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon and by the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights Navanethem Pillay, several speakers mentioned the relevance and importance of cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in the area of conflict prevention.⁶² The representative of Jordan echoed the importance of cooperation with international and regional

⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 2.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

⁵⁸ [S/PV.7161](#), p. 23.

⁵⁹ [S/PV.7161 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 12.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 13.

⁶¹ *Ibid.*, p. 18.

⁶² [S/PV.7247](#), p. (United Kingdom); p. 9 (China); p. 9 (Chile); p. 12 (Chad), p. 13 (Rwanda), p. 14 (Lithuania), p. 15 (Argentina), pp. 16-17 (Nigeria), p. 18 (Australia), p. 19 (Russian Federation), p. 20 (France), pp.23-24 (Pakistan), p. 26 (European Union), p. 29 (Guatemala), p. 32 (Morocco), p. 36 (Switzerland), p. 38 (Denmark), p. 40 (Indonesia), p. 43 (Slovakia), p. 45 (Colombia), p. 47 (Thailand), p. 48 (Ireland), p. 52 (Montenegro), p. 54 (Viet Nam), p. 55 (Qatar), p. 56 (Turkey), pp. 58-59 (Zimbabwe).

arrangements in the context of Chapter VIII, affirming that there was no competition among such organizations and the United Nations. He defined them as a “catalyst”, and referred to their role as “complementary” to that of the United Nations. He noted however that one element that limited the Council’s ability to prevent conflicts, was the absence of timely and accurate information. In this sense, he encouraged holding Arria formula meetings, and suggested the consideration of new mechanisms in order to receive information from the field.⁶³ The representative of Ethiopia said that the Council should act with flexibility in providing an early and effective response based on early warning signals in potential crisis and conflict situations and highlighted the need for the Council to have closer coordination and complementarity of efforts with regional organizations and mechanisms in accordance with Chapter VIII, especially in light of the fact that regional organizations and mechanisms were closer to potential crisis and conflict situations.⁶⁴ In reiterating that regional and subregional organizations were closer to erupting situations and that they understood the dynamics of the conflict in any given region, the representative of Namibia echoed the importance of cooperation, in accordance with Chapter VIII, in support of conflict-prevention and peacebuilding activities. He expressed support for the “principle of complementarity” between the Council and regional and subregional organizations, and commended the cooperation agreement reached between the Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council, which aimed at enhancing and strengthening closer cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations in conflict prevention and resolution in Africa.⁶⁵

Case 3

Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

At the 7391st meeting, on 24 February 2015, the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) briefed the Council. He recalled that the OSCE was the world’s largest regional security arrangement under

⁶³ Ibid., p. 20.

⁶⁴ Ibid., pp. 39-40.

⁶⁵ Ibid., p. 60.

Chapter VIII of the Charter, and mentioned that the crisis in and around Ukraine continued to dominate security considerations in Europe as it did in 2014 and that its impact had increased. In this connection, he emphasized that the OSCE response to that crisis had once again demonstrated its relevance to European security as the Organization had proved itself capable of substantive engagement under Chapter VIII. Moreover, he emphasized that the OSCE's activities in Ukraine and in areas affected by protracted conflicts underlined the fundamental role of regional organizations in maintaining peace and security in their respective regions, precisely as envisioned in Chapter VIII.⁶⁶

In the discussion, the representative of the Russian Federation underscored that the cooperation between the United Nations and the OSCE was consistent, multilateral in nature, and it encompassed all dimensions of security, including cross-dimensional issues. He concluded that the OSCE should complement the United Nations in dealing with global issues and assist in the implementation in the areas of its regional responsibility.⁶⁷ The representative of Spain recognized the importance of cooperation between the United Nations and the regional security organizations and stressed that, under Chapter VIII, such cooperation should contribute in a marked manner to the maintenance of international peace and security. In that context, he observed that there was broad “manoeuvring room” for cooperation between the United Nations and the OSCE in the fostering of collective security in the OSCE region.⁶⁸

The representative of Chad reiterated that the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter defined the framework for cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, and indicated that the OSCE played an essential role in maintaining peace and security in Europe.⁶⁹ The representative of Nigeria highlighted the significant progress made by the OSCE as a regional organization, and noted its close cooperation with the United Nations in the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in accordance with Chapter VIII.⁷⁰ The representative of Venezuela said that under Chapter VIII, effective measures could be taken on the

⁶⁶ [S/PV. 7391](#), pp. 2-4.

⁶⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 5.

⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.

⁶⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 13.

⁷⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 14.

ground through the contribution of regional and subregional organizations and the OSCE. He added further that such work would always be in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter, under a system of coordination and complementary actions.⁷¹

⁷¹ Ibid., p. 16.

Section II - Recognition of efforts by regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes

Note

This section deals with recognition by the Security Council of efforts by regional and subregional organizations in the pacific settlement of local disputes, within the framework of Article 52 of the Charter. The section is divided into two subsections: (a) decisions concerning efforts by regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes; and (b) discussions concerning the pacific settlement of disputes by regional arrangements.

A. Decisions concerning efforts by regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes

In a number of decisions adopted in 2014 and 2015 described in further detail below, the Security Council commended, welcomed, encouraged, and supported the efforts undertaken by a wide range of regional and subregional organizations in the pacific settlement of disputes. The Council also called upon parties to engage in the political process led by regional and subregional arrangements, independently or jointly with the United Nations. In these decisions, there was no explicit reference to Article 52 of the Charter.

With regard to the situation in Burundi, the Council welcomed the resumption of the dialogue between all the Burundian parties, under the facilitation of the African Union, the United Nations, the East African Community (EAC) and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), and reemphasized the importance of these mediation efforts.⁷² Acknowledging that the Burundian parties needed to take further steps to adhere to the decisions of the EAC and the African Union Peace and Security Council, the Council called on the parties to urgently participate in an inclusive dialogue on how to create conditions conducive to free, fair, transparent and

⁷² [S/PRST/2015/13](#), fifth paragraph and [S/PRST/2015/18](#), seventh paragraph.

credible elections.⁷³ Subsequently, by resolution [2248 \(2015\)](#) the Council called for the reinforcement of the mediation efforts led by President Museveni of Uganda on behalf of the EAC and as endorsed by the African Union.⁷⁴ The Council further urged the Government of Burundi to cooperate with the mediation in order to find a consensual and nationally owned solution to the crisis in the country.⁷⁵

In connection with the Central African Region, the Council strongly reiterated its calls for the United Nations, African Union and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), to continue to work together, to further develop and maintain a common operating picture of the Lord's Resistance Army's current capabilities and areas of operation, as well as to investigate its logistical networks and possible sources of military support and illicit financing.⁷⁶ The Council commended the role of the ECCAS Heads of States in the ECCAS-led international mediation process in the Central African Republic.⁷⁷ In addressing the situation in the Central African Republic, the Council emphasized that the continued role of the region, including the Secretary-General of ECCAS and its mediator, as well as of the African Union, together with the United Nations, was critical for the promotion of lasting peace and stability in the country.⁷⁸

In its decisions on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire, the Council commended the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) for their efforts to consolidate peace and stability in Côte d'Ivoire, and encouraged them to continue to support the Ivorian authorities in addressing key challenges, especially the underlying causes of conflict and insecurity in the border area, and in promoting justice and national reconciliation.⁷⁹

In connection with the situation in Liberia, the Council expressed appreciation to the international community, including ECOWAS, the African Union and the Mano River Union, for their support to consolidate peace, security and stability in the country, welcoming, in particular, the contributions that supported Liberia's efforts on

⁷³ [S/PRST/2015/13](#), sixth paragraph.

⁷⁴ Resolution [2248 \(2015\)](#), fifteenth preambular paragraph.

⁷⁵ *Ibid.*, para. 3.

⁷⁶ [S/PRST/2014/25](#), tenth paragraph.

⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, fifteenth paragraph.

⁷⁸ [S/PRST/2014/28](#), thirtieth paragraph and [S/PRST/2015/17](#), fifteenth paragraph.

⁷⁹ Resolution [2162 \(2014\)](#), twenty-second preambular paragraph; and resolution [2226 \(2015\)](#), twentieth preambular paragraph.

security sector reform, rule of law and national reconciliation, as well as in the post-Ebola recovery period.⁸⁰

With respect to the situation in Libya, the Council encouraged the Arab League, the African Union and all those with influence on the parties, to support an immediate cessation of hostilities and constructive engagement with peaceful and inclusive political dialogue.⁸¹

In connection with the situation in Mali, the Council welcomed the signing of the cease-fire agreement of 23 May 2014, brokered under the auspices of the African Union Chair Mauritanian President Mohammed Ould Abdel Aziz and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Mali.⁸² The Council commended the efforts of all regional and international actors, including those who facilitated discussions with the signatory and adherent armed groups of the Ouagadougou Preliminary Agreement, to solve the crisis in Mali, mentioning the efforts of Burkina Faso as ECOWAS mediator.⁸³ Moreover, the Council commended the role and contribution of the African Union, ECOWAS and of the neighbouring countries to the stabilization of Mali.⁸⁴

With respect to South Sudan, by resolution [2155 \(2014\)](#), the Council commended the initiative of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), as supported by the United Nations and the African Union, in establishing a forum for political and security dialogue.⁸⁵ In addition, the Council expressed its expectation that all parties participated in such process and respected the decisions reached by IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government on 13 March 2014.⁸⁶ By the same resolution, the Council encouraged the efforts of IGAD and the United Nations to reach a peace agreement between the parties.⁸⁷ By resolution [2156 \(2014\)](#) the Council expressed its full support for the efforts of the African Union aimed at easing tension, facilitating the resumption of negotiations on post-secession relations,

⁸⁰ Resolution [2239 \(2015\)](#), twelfth preambular paragraph.

⁸¹ Resolution [2174 \(2014\)](#), fourth preambular paragraph.

⁸² Resolution [2164 \(2014\)](#), tenth preambular paragraph.

⁸³ *Ibid.*, seventh preambular paragraph.

⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, twenty-fourth preambular paragraph.

⁸⁵ Resolution [2155 \(2014\)](#), seventh preambular paragraph.

⁸⁶ *Ibid.*

⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, para. 2.

and at the normalization of relations between Sudan and South Sudan.⁸⁸ The Council recalled that pursuant to resolution [2046 \(2012\)](#) the parties must resume negotiations to reach agreement on the final status of Abyei under the auspices of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel, and in this regard, called upon all parties to engage constructively in the process mediated by the AUHIP.⁸⁹ By [S/PRST/2014/26](#), the Council commended the work of IGAD in leading the mediation since the onset of the crisis, as well as the initiatives by the African Union.⁹⁰ In 2015, by resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#), the Council welcomed the China-mediated “Five-Point Plan” agreed upon by the government of South Sudan and the Sudanese People’s Liberation Movement/Sudanese People’s Liberation Army in Opposition (SPLM/SPLA-IO). The “Five-Point Plan” prescribed, inter alia, accelerating the negotiations towards the formation of a transitional government, the adoption of concrete steps to relieve the humanitarian situation in conflict-affected areas, and strong support for and active participation in the IGAD-led mediation efforts.⁹¹ Furthermore, the Council recognized the work of the African Union Commission of Inquiry in investigating and documenting violations as well as abuses of international human rights law and international humanitarian law in South Sudan, and welcomed the engagement of the African Union to ensure justice and accountability, as well as healing and reconciliation for South Sudan.⁹² The Council commended IGAD, as supported by the United Nations and the African Union, for its relentless work in establishing a forum for political and security dialogue, establishing and operationalizing the Monitoring and Verification Mechanism (MVM) for the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement, and leading multi-stakeholder political negotiations to establish a Transitional Government of National Unity.⁹³ The Council welcomed IGAD’s intention, to implement a common plan and to table a reasonable and comprehensive solution to end the crisis in South Sudan.⁹⁴ By resolution [2223 \(2015\)](#), the Council welcomed the decision by the African Union Peace and Security Council adopted on 24 March 2015, which established the African Union High Level Ad Hoc Committee for South

⁸⁸ Resolution [2156 \(2014\)](#), eighth preambular paragraph.

⁸⁹ *Ibid.*, twelfth preambular paragraph.

⁹⁰ [S/PRST/2014/26](#), fourth paragraph.

⁹¹ Resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#), sixteenth preambular paragraph.

⁹² *Ibid.*, twenty-second preambular paragraph.

⁹³ [S/PRST/2015/9](#), fourth paragraph.

⁹⁴ *Ibid.*, sixth paragraph.

Sudan, and encouraged continued close cooperation between the United Nations, IGAD and the African Union in mediation efforts and peace negotiations.⁹⁵ The Council commended the efforts of the “IGAD-Plus” configuration, involving nineteen nations and organizations including the United Nations, to develop and achieve a comprehensive solution to deliver a peace to South Sudan, and urged the continued close engagement of IGAD and “IGAD-Plus” partners.⁹⁶ Finally, by resolution [2241 \(2015\)](#) the Council welcomed the signing of the “Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan”, by President Salva Kiir Mayardit, the Chairman of the SPLM/SPLA-IO, and other stakeholders, and recognized these signatures as a commitment by the parties to implement the Agreement.⁹⁷ In this regard, the Council commended the expanded efforts of the “IGAD-Plus” configuration in facilitating the signing of the Agreement, and urged enhanced support by the international community, and in particular by IGAD and the African Union, during the peace implementation.⁹⁸

During the period under review and in relation to the Sudan, the Council reiterated its full support for the Joint African Union/United Nations Mediation, the AUHIP on Sudan. The Council further expressed strong support for the political process under the African Union/United Nations-led mediation,⁹⁹ and encouraged the Joint Special Representative to continue his efforts to increase the inclusiveness of the political process, guided by the Framework for African Union and United Nations Facilitation of the Darfur Peace Process. In this regard, the Council also encouraged him to coordinate with the AUHIP and the United Nations Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan to synchronize mediation efforts.¹⁰⁰ The Council also underlined, without prejudice to its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, the importance of the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union, consistent with Chapter VIII, with regard to the maintenance of peace and security in Africa, particularly in the Sudan.¹⁰¹ By resolution [2228 \(2015\)](#)

⁹⁵ Resolution [2223 \(2015\)](#), thirteenth preambular paragraph.

⁹⁶ [S/PRST/2015/16](#), second paragraph.

⁹⁷ Resolution [2241 \(2015\)](#), third preambular paragraph.

⁹⁸ Resolution [2252 \(2015\)](#), fifth preambular paragraph.

⁹⁹ Resolution [2138 \(2014\)](#), eleventh preambular paragraph.

¹⁰⁰ Resolution [2148 \(2014\)](#), thirteenth preambular paragraph.

¹⁰¹ Resolution [2173 \(2014\)](#) seventeenth preambular paragraph; and resolution [2228 \(2015\)](#), nineteenth preambular paragraph.

the Council defined the 2011 Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD) a viable framework for the peace process in Darfur and expressed support for its implementation, as well as for the AUHIP mediated peace talks.¹⁰²

Table 1 features provisions of decisions referring to regional and subregional organizations in relation to the pacific settlement of disputes. The list of items below is organized in alphabetical order.

Table 1
Decisions concerning the pacific settlement of disputes by regional arrangements

<i>Agenda items</i>	<i>Decisions</i>	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Regional organizations mentioned</i>
The situation in Burundi	S/PRST/2015/13 26 June 2015	fifth paragraph	African Union, East African Community (EAC), International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR)
	S/PRST/2015/18 28 October 2015	seventh paragraph	African Union, EAC
	Resolution 2248 (2015) 12 November 2015	fifteenth preambular paragraph, and para. 3	EAC
Central African region	S/PRST/2014/25 10 December 2014	tenth and fifteenth paragraphs	African Union, Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)
The situation in the Central African Republic	S/PRST/2014/28 18 December 2014	thirtieth paragraph	African Union, ECCAS
	S/PRST/2015/17 20 October 2015	fifteenth paragraph	African Union, ECCAS
The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	Resolution 2162 (2014) 25 June 2014	twenty-second preambular paragraph	African Union, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)
	Resolution 2226 (2015) 25 June 2015	twentieth preambular paragraph	African Union, ECOWAS
The situation in Liberia	Resolution 2239 (2015) 17 September 2015	twelfth preambular paragraph	African Union, ECOWAS, Mano River Union
The situation in Libya	Resolution 2174 (2014) 27 August 2014	fourth preambular paragraph	African Union, League of Arab States
The situation in Mali	Resolution 2164 (2014) 25 June 2014	seventh, tenth, and twenty-fourth preambular paragraphs	African Union, ECOWAS

¹⁰² Resolution [2228 \(2015\)](#), fourteenth preambular paragraph.

<i>Agenda items</i>	<i>Decisions</i>	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Regional organizations mentioned</i>
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution 2138 (2014) 13 February 2014	eleventh preambular paragraph	African Union, African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP)
	Resolution 2148 (2014) 3 April 2014	thirteenth preambular paragraph	African Union, AUHIP
	Resolution 2155 (2014) 27 May 2014	seventh, eighth, twentieth preambular paragraphs, and para. 2	African Union, Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD)
	Resolution 2156 (2014) 29 May 2014	eighth and twelfth preambular paragraphs	African Union, AUHIP
	Resolution 2173 (2014) 27 August 2014	seventeenth preambular paragraph	African Union
	S/PRST/2014/26 15 December 2014	fourth paragraph	African Union, IGAD
	Resolution 2206 (2015) 3 March 2015	sixteenth and twenty-second preambular paragraphs	African Union, IGAD
	S/PRST/2015/9 24 March 2015	fourth and sixth paragraphs	African Union, IGAD
	Resolution 2223 (2015) 28 May 2015	thirteenth preambular paragraph	African Union, IGAD
	Resolution 2228 (2015) 29 June 2015	fourteenth and nineteenth preambular paragraphs	African Union, AUHIP
	S/PRST/2015/16 28 August 2015	second paragraph	IGAD
	Resolution 2241 (2015) 9 October 2015	fourth and thirtieth preambular paragraphs and paras. 2, 5 and 11	IGAD
Resolution 2252 (2015) 15 December 2015	fifth preambular paragraph	African Union, IGAD	

B. Discussion concerning the pacific settlement of disputes by regional arrangements

During the period under review, various Council members referred to the role of regional organizations in the pacific settlement of disputes. Of particular constitutional interest was the discussion in connection with the conflict in South Sudan in light of the mediation efforts of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) during the period under review, as featured in case 4.

Case 4

Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan

At its 7396th meeting, held on 3 March 2015 under the item entitled “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) imposing targeted sanctions against designated individuals. Speaking after the adoption, the representative of the United States noted that resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) supported the mediation efforts of IGAD by laying the framework for targeted sanctions, requiring that the parties meet IGAD’s deadlines for the resolution of all outstanding issues of the conflict, and begin the process of establishing a transitional Government of national unity.¹⁰³ While noting that the parties to the conflict in South Sudan were holding political negotiations in Ethiopia, under the auspices of IGAD, the representative of China expressed support for IGAD’s mediation role, aimed also at alleviating the humanitarian situation in South Sudan.¹⁰⁴

At the 7532nd meeting of the Council, held on 9 October 2015, the Council adopted resolution [2241 \(2015\)](#), with 13 votes in favour and 2 abstentions by the Russian Federation and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. The resolution extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) until 15 December 2015. Speaking after the vote, the representative of China stated that under the active facilitation efforts of IGAD and other international partners, parties to the conflict in South Sudan had signed the “Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan”. He praised the efforts of the African Union and IGAD and emphasized that the peace process in South Sudan had entered a new stage.¹⁰⁵ In explaining the reasons for abstaining, the representative of the Russian Federation noted that the resolution contained a form of an ultimatum regarding sanctions against South Sudan. In this sense, he added that the main purpose of the resolution was to supplement the mandate of the peacekeeping mission with tasks aimed at facilitating the peace process, rather than to frighten the parties with

¹⁰³ [S/PV.7396](#), p. 2.

¹⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 3.

¹⁰⁵ [S/PV.7532](#), p. 3.

sanctions.¹⁰⁶ Moreover, he expressed disagreement with the wording regarding the Council's intention to formulate any kind of assessment of the hybrid court in South Sudan, since the establishment and activities of that judicial body were the "exclusive prerogative of the African Commission".¹⁰⁷ On a similar note, the representative of Venezuela, while expressing support for the work done by the regional authorities, such as IGAD and the African Union in "seeking African solutions to African problems", stressed that the mention of the hybrid court for South Sudan could create confusion over the provisions of the Agreement promoted by IGAD and the African Union.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁶ Ibid., p. 2.

¹⁰⁷ Ibid., p. 2.

¹⁰⁸ Ibid., p. 4.

Section III - Peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements

Note

This section features the practice of the Security Council in connection with the cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations in the area of peacekeeping in connection with Chapter VIII of the Charter. The material in this section is covered under two headings: (a) decisions concerning peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements; and (b) discussions concerning peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements.

A. Decisions concerning peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements

During the period under review, the Council authorized the European Union to deploy an operation (EUFOR RCA) to support the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA).¹⁰⁹ By resolution [2149 \(2014\)](#) of 10 April 2014, the Council decided to establish the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) and that transfer of authority from MISCA to MINUSCA would take place on 15 September 2014.¹¹⁰ Thereafter, EUFOR RCA concluded its mandate on 15 March 2015.

The Council, on the other hand, renewed the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), until 30 May 2016,¹¹¹ and the European Union Force (EUFOR)-ALTHEA, until 10 November 2016.¹¹² On 31 December 2014, the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan concluded its mandate and ceased to exist as such.¹¹³

¹⁰⁹ Resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), para. 43.

¹¹⁰ Resolution [2149 \(2014\)](#), paras. 18 and 21.

¹¹¹ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 23; and resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), para. 3.

¹¹² Resolution [2183 \(2014\)](#), para. 10; and resolution [2247 \(2015\)](#), para. 3.

¹¹³ Resolution [2120 \(2013\)](#), para. 1.

During the period under review, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Force in Kosovo (NATO KFOR) continued its mandate,¹¹⁴ but no decisions were adopted by the Council in this regard.¹¹⁵

Table 2 lists the decisions of the Council in relation to the mandates of peacekeeping missions led by regional organizations during the reporting period. Further below a detailed account of the practice of the Council in relation to peacekeeping missions led by regional organizations is provided.

Table 2

Decisions concerning peacekeeping operations led by regional organizations

<i>Agenda items</i>	<i>Decisions</i>	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Peacekeeping operations</i>
The situation in Afghanistan	Resolution 2189 (2014) 12 December 2014	eighth preambular paragraph	International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), led by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Resolution 2183 (2014) 11 November 2014	paras. 10 and 15	European Union Force (EUFOR)-ALTHEA and NATO
	Resolution 2247 (2015) 10 November 2015	paras. 3 and 6	EUFOR-ALTHEA and NATO
The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution 2134 (2014) 28 January 2014	nineteenth preambular paragraph, and paras. 43 and 44	African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA), and European Union operation (EUFOR RCA)
	Resolution 2149 (2014) 10 April 2014	para. 21, 22, and 37	United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), and MISCA
	S/PRST/2014/28 18 December 2014	tenth paragraph	MINUSCA, and EUFOR RCA
The situation in Somalia	Resolution 2158 (2014) 29 May 2014	sixth, and eighth preambular paragraphs, and paras. 1 (b), 4 and 5	African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)
	Resolution 2182 (2014) 24 October 2014	para. 6, 11, and 23	AMISOM
	Resolution 2232 (2015)	paras. 3, 6 and 24	AMISOM

¹¹⁴ KFOR was originally authorized by resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#).

¹¹⁵ For discussions held during the period under review in this regard, see [S/PV.7108](#), [S/PV.7183](#), [S/PV.7257](#), [S/PV.7327](#), [S/PV.7377](#), [S/PV.7448](#), [S/PV.7510](#), [S/PV.7563](#).

<i>Agenda items</i>	<i>Decisions</i>	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Peacekeeping operations</i>
	28 July 2015		
	Resolution 2244 (2015) 23 October 2015	para. 18	AMISOM

International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)

By resolution [2120 \(2013\)](#), the Council had extended the authorization of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), until 31 December 2014.¹¹⁶

In its resolution [2145 \(2014\)](#) the Council took note of the efforts of the Afghan authorities to enhance the capabilities of the Afghan National Police, stressing the importance of international assistance through financial support and provision of trainers and mentors. In this connection, the Council mentioned inter alia the contribution of the European Union, through its police mission (EUPOL Afghanistan), and NATO, with its Training Mission-Afghanistan, noting the importance of a sufficient and capable police force for Afghanistan's long-term security.¹¹⁷ By resolution [2189 \(2014\)](#), the Council noted the conclusion of ISAF's mandate at the end of 2014, and mentioned that after the completion of the security transition, the Afghan authorities would assume full responsibility for security in the country.¹¹⁸ Moreover, in 2015, the Council underscored the importance of international support in building the capacities and capabilities of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces. In this connection the Council acknowledged the contribution of Afghanistan's partners to peace and security in the country, and welcomed the agreement between NATO and Afghanistan which led to the establishment on 1 January 2015 of the non-combat Resolute Support Mission, for training, advising and assisting the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces (ANDSF).¹¹⁹

¹¹⁶ Resolution [2120 \(2013\)](#), para. 1.

¹¹⁷ Resolution [2145 \(2014\)](#), para. 26.

¹¹⁸ Resolution [2189 \(2014\)](#), eighth preambular paragraph.

¹¹⁹ Resolution [2210 \(2015\)](#), nineteenth preambular paragraph.

European Union Force (EUFOR)-ALTHEA

With regard to Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Council renewed twice, for a period of twelve months, the authorization of the European Union Force (EUFOR)-ALTHEA.¹²⁰ Moreover, the Council authorized Member States to take all necessary measures, at the request of either EUFOR ALTHEA or the NATO Headquarters, in defence of the EUFOR ALTHEA or NATO presence respectively, and to assist both organizations in carrying out their missions. In this connection, the Council recognized the right of both EUFOR ALTHEA and the NATO presence to take all necessary measures to defend themselves from attack or threat of attack.¹²¹

African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) and European Union operation (EUFOR RCA)

In connection with the situation in the Central African Republic, by resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#) of 28 January 2014, the Council welcomed the strong engagement of the European Union, and in particular the decision to contribute financially to the deployment of the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA).¹²² By the same resolution the Council authorized the European Union to deploy an operation (EUFOR RCA) to support MISCA in the Central African Republic, and further authorized EUFOR RCA to take all necessary measures within the limits of its capacities and areas of deployment.¹²³ In this connection, the Council requested the European Union to report on the implementation of EUFOR RCA's mandate, and called upon Member States to take appropriate measures to support the action of the European Union, in particular by facilitating the transfer to the Central African Republic, without obstacles or delay, of all personnel, equipment, provisions, supplies or other goods intended for EUFOR RCA.¹²⁴

By resolution [2149 \(2014\)](#) of 10 April 2014, the Council decided to establish the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central

¹²⁰ Resolution [2183 \(2014\)](#), para. 10; and resolution [2247 \(2015\)](#), para. 3.

¹²¹ Resolution [2183 \(2014\)](#), para. 15; and resolution [2247 \(2015\)](#), para. 6.

¹²² Resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), nineteenth preambular paragraph.

¹²³ *Ibid.*, paras 43 and. 44.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*, paras. 45 and 46.

African Republic (MINUSCA).¹²⁵ By the same resolution, the Council decided that the transfer of authority from MISCA to MINUSCA would take place on 15 September 2014.¹²⁶ Moreover, the Council requested the Secretary-General, in close coordination with the African Union, to deploy a transition team to set up MINUSCA and prepare the seamless transition of authority from MISCA to MINUSCA, as well as to update the Council on this aspect, after a joint mission with the African Union, by no later than 15 August 2014.¹²⁷ Furthermore, the Council decided that for the implementation of their mandates, MISCA, MINUSCA, and EUFOR RCA were exempt from the arms embargo imposed on the Central African Republic.¹²⁸

In its [S/PRST/2014/28](#), the Council commended MISCA and EUFOR RCA for the work done in laying the foundation for increased security ahead of and in support of MINUSCA's deployment.¹²⁹ On the other hand, in light of the continuous provocations, reprisals and threats of violence by armed groups in October 2014, the Council encouraged MINUSCA and EUFOR RCA to use, within their respective mandates, all necessary means to effectively protect civilians and to restore a lasting security.¹³⁰

After nearly a year, EUFOR RCA ended its mandate on 15 March 2015, and on 28 April 2015, in its resolution [2217 \(2015\)](#), the Council commended the transition of authority from MISCA to MINUSCA that had occurred on 15 September 2014, urging former MISCA troop and police contributing countries to expedite the procurement and deployment of remaining additional contingent-owned equipment.¹³¹

African-led International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA)

In connection with the situation in Mali, on 25 April 2013, by resolution [2100 \(2013\)](#), the Council had established the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), and had decided to transfer the authority from the African-led International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA) to MINUSMA

¹²⁵ Resolution [2149 \(2014\)](#), para. 18.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 21.

¹²⁷ *Ibid.*, paras. 26 and 27.

¹²⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 37.

¹²⁹ [S/PRST/2014/28](#), ninth paragraph.

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*, tenth paragraph.

¹³¹ Resolution [2217 \(2015\)](#), paras. 20 and 25.

on 1 July 2013.¹³² By resolution [2164 \(2014\)](#), the Council requested the Secretary-General to accelerate the disbursement of the United Nations Trust Fund established pursuant to resolution [2085 \(2012\)](#) in support of AFISMA, including to enable MINUSMA's new Force laydown.¹³³

African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)

During the period under review, the Council welcomed the positive relationship between the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), underlining the fundamental importance of both missions working closely together in accordance with their respective mandates.¹³⁴ By resolutions [2158 \(2014\)](#) and [2244 \(2015\)](#), the Council reaffirmed the ban on the import and export of Somali charcoal, and called upon AMISOM to continue supporting and assisting the Somali authorities in its implementation, respectively.¹³⁵ The Council encouraged UNSOM, AMISOM and IGAD to continue developing and implementing joint activities, in accordance with their respective mandates, in support of peacebuilding and State-building in Somalia.¹³⁶

In its resolutions [2182 \(2014\)](#) and [2232 \(2015\)](#), the Council authorized the Member States of the African Union to maintain the deployment of AMISOM, until 30 May 2016, in line with its request to the African Union for a maximum level of 22,126 troops, and as part of an overall exit strategy for AMISOM.¹³⁷ In this regard, while stating that after said date a decrease in AMISOM's force strength would be considered, the Council decided that AMISOM should be authorized to take all necessary measures to carry out its mandate, in full compliance with its Member States' obligations under international humanitarian law and human rights law, and in full respect of the sovereignty, territorial integrity, political independence and unity of Somalia.¹³⁸ By the same resolutions, the Council also requested AMISOM and the Somali National Army to give the utmost priority to securing key supply routes

¹³² Resolution [2100 \(2013\)](#), para. 7.

¹³³ Resolution [2164 \(2014\)](#), para. 24.

¹³⁴ Resolution [2158 \(2014\)](#), eighth preambular paragraph.

¹³⁵ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 11; and resolution [2244 \(2015\)](#), para. 18.

¹³⁶ Resolution [2158 \(2014\)](#), para. 4.

¹³⁷ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 23; and resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), para. 3.

¹³⁸ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 23; and resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), para. 3.

essential to improve the humanitarian situation in the most affected areas.¹³⁹

Moreover, by resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#) the Council requested the Somali National Army and AMISOM to document and register all military equipment captured as part of offensive operations or in the course of carrying out their mandates.¹⁴⁰

In 2014 and 2015, the Council reiterated its call for new donors to support AMISOM providing additional funding,¹⁴¹ as well as helicopters for the authorized aviation component.¹⁴² The Council renewed also its call to the African Union to address critical logistical gaps within AMISOM troop-contributing countries,¹⁴³ and stressed the critical need to source contingent owned equipment.¹⁴⁴

Encouraging AMISOM to strengthen the mechanisms to prevent and respond to sexual violence and sexual exploitation and abuse, the Council condemned and called for the immediate cessation of all violations and abuses committed against children by all parties in Somalia.¹⁴⁵ At the same time the Council underlined the need for AMISOM troops to continue receiving appropriate information and pre-deployment training in relation to human rights principles, including gender equality and sexual violence, and to the accountability mechanisms in place.¹⁴⁶

On 28 July 2015, by resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), the Council acknowledged that conditions in Somalia were not appropriate for the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping mission until the end of 2016 at the earliest.¹⁴⁷ The Council also underlined that the security strategy for the following 18 months should be aimed at creating and preserving an enabling environment for the political, and peace and reconciliation processes to unfold in Somalia. In this sense, the Council underscored the importance of supporting the delivery of security for the Somali people, including through the gradual handing over of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the Somali National Army, and subsequently to the Somali police force.¹⁴⁸ By the same resolution the Council stated that a joint AMISOM – UN – Somali planning

¹³⁹ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 29.

¹⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 6.

¹⁴¹ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para 37; and resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), para.16.

¹⁴² Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 30; and resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), para. 14.

¹⁴³ Resolution [2245 \(2015\)](#), para. 11.

¹⁴⁴ Resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), para. 14.

¹⁴⁵ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 35.

¹⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 33.

¹⁴⁷ Resolution [2232 \(2015\)](#), para. 1.

¹⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, paras. 5, and 5 (iii).

mechanism should assess and facilitate the delivery of the security strategy, ensure coordination, as well as the implementation of stabilisation priorities.¹⁴⁹ Furthermore, the Council requested the African Union to undertake a structured and targeted reconfiguration of AMISOM to enable a surge in its efficiency, and requested also the African Union to develop its new Concept of Operations for AMISOM by 30 October 2015, in close collaboration with the UN.¹⁵⁰

Finally, the Council encouraged regional engagement to be carried out jointly by AMISOM-UNSOM teams, and emphasized that the deployment of a civilian planning capacity in regional capitals should be a priority in order to improve joint planning between military and civilian components. In this connection the Council requested AMISOM, and Somali National Security Forces to take appropriate measures to protect UNSOM personnel, facilities, installations, equipment and mission and to ensure the security and freedom of movement of its personnel.¹⁵¹

B. Discussion concerning peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements

During the period under review, the deliberations of the Council in relation to peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements focused on their impact in supporting the principle of national ownership and deepening cooperation and coordination with the United Nations, as illustrated by the selection of case studies featured below in connection with the situation in Afghanistan (case 5); the situation in the Central African Republic (EUFOR RCA) (case 6); and the Central African region (case 7).

Case 5

The situation in Afghanistan

During the 7347th meeting of the Council, on 18 December 2014, under the item entitled “the situation in Afghanistan”, several speakers referred to the

¹⁴⁹ Ibid., para. 9.

¹⁵⁰ Ibid., para. 6.

¹⁵¹ Ibid., para. 24.

International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), whose mandate ended on 31 December 2014. In this regard, the representative of Australia stated that Afghanistan's security transition would be complete at the end of 2014, when ISAF would conclude its mission, and added that over the past 13 years, ISAF and the Afghan National Security Forces had substantially reduced the threat posed by Al-Qaida and its affiliates.¹⁵² The representative of Chile commended the increase in the capacities and competencies of the Afghan national defence and security forces in preparation for the conclusion of ISAF's mandate at the end of 2014, and expressed the hope that the Afghan authorities would be able to effectively take over responsibility for the security of their country.¹⁵³ The representative of the United States recalled that over 13 years, troops and civilian personnel from more than 50 countries had worked alongside Afghan partners to "root out terrorism and try to build a more stable and a more secure Afghanistan". She concluded that Afghanistan continued to face serious threats to security, and that NATO and its partners would continue to train, advise and assist Afghan security forces through the Resolute Support Mission.¹⁵⁴ Her statement was echoed by the representative of Germany who, on the one hand expressed concern over the rise in terrorist acts in Kabul, but on the other hand emphasized the fact that Afghanistan's security forces had, over the past months, fought "in the front lines" and were able also to successfully secure two rounds of presidential elections.¹⁵⁵ The representative of Japan underlined that Afghanistan was at a critical juncture, and that in the area of security, the drawdown of ISAF would mark a "watershed in Afghanistan's road to self-reliance".¹⁵⁶

On a separate note, the representative of the Russian Federation emphasized that NATO's report did not contain any "concrete" reference to the activities carried out by ISAF in terms of assisting Afghan law enforcement officers in the counter-narcotics area.¹⁵⁷

At the 7403rd meeting of the Council, on 16 March 2015, several speakers commented on the situation in Afghanistan, following the departure of ISAF. The

¹⁵² [S/PV.7347](#), p. 9.

¹⁵³ *Ibid.*, p. 19.

¹⁵⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 22.

¹⁵⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 32.

¹⁵⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 29.

¹⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 21.

representative of New Zealand noted that it was a critical time for Afghanistan, as the national unity Government was seeking to establish itself and the country was adjusting to what were described as “post- ISAF realities”.¹⁵⁸ Moreover he noted that, in the short term, it was necessary to help mitigate the severe economic impacts of ISAF’s withdrawal.¹⁵⁹ The representative of the United Kingdom recalled the end of the transition process, which had allowed Afghan forces to shoulder full responsibility for national security and which had enabled the beginning of the new, non-combat NATO support mission. Moreover, he called on the Afghan Government and its partners to enhance their vigilance so as to avoid, after the departure of ISAF, a situation such as that in Iraq, in particular given the allegiance of certain groups to the Islamic State and the presence of foreign fighters on Afghan soil.¹⁶⁰

Case 6

The situation in the Central African Republic

At its 7103rd meeting, on 28 January 2014, in connection with the situation in the Central African Republic, the Council adopted resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#) which authorized the European Union to deploy an operation (EUFOR RCA) to support the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA).¹⁶¹ Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation expressed the hope that EUFOR RCA would contribute to the stabilization of the political and social situation and to the protection of civilians in the country. On the other hand, he stated that given the leading role of MISCA, it would have been “suitable and logical” for the European Union to have entered into a formal agreement with the African Union before the adoption of resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#). In this sense, he stressed that the resolution of those issues would have a great impact on the effectiveness of the African Union’s activities and on the normalization of the situation in the country.¹⁶² The representative of the European Union emphasized that the end goal of EUFOR RCA would be to make a contribution,

¹⁵⁸ [S/PV.7403](#), p. 11.

¹⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

¹⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 17.

¹⁶¹ [S/RES/2134 \(2014\)](#), para. 43.

¹⁶² [S/PV.7103](#), p. 2.

together with MISCA, to the regional and international efforts to protect the most vulnerable populations and to facilitate the movement of civilian stakeholders, adding that this would create conditions conducive to providing humanitarian assistance to those in need. In closing, he stressed the need for close cooperation with partners, in particular with the authorities of the Central African Republic, the African Union, the Economic Community of Central African States, the United Nations and France, so as to ensure high quality cooperation and complementarity in the efforts undertaken to restore stability in the country.¹⁶³

Case 7

Central African region

At the 7171st meeting of the Council on 12 May 2014, in connection with the Central African region, the representative of Chile encouraged coordination between MISCA and the African Union-led Regional Task Force ahead of the transfer of responsibility from the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), on 15 September 2014.¹⁶⁴ The representative of the United States called on MINUSCA to coordinate closely with MISCA, the French and European Union forces, and the African Union-led Regional Task Force, and urged Member States to support MISCA and the African Union, in their efforts to protect civilians alongside France and the European Union.¹⁶⁵ Similarly, the representative of Luxembourg underscored that coordination between the United Nations, the African Union and the States affected by the Lord's Resistance Army was essential, as was knowledge sharing and cooperation between the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, the United Nations Mission in South Sudan and MISCA.¹⁶⁶

¹⁶³ Ibid., p. 3.

¹⁶⁴ [S/PV.7171](#), p. 7.

¹⁶⁵ Ibid., p. 10.

¹⁶⁶ Ibid., p. 15.

Section IV - Authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements

Note

This section features the practice of the Security Council in utilizing regional and subregional arrangements for enforcement action under its authority, as stipulated under Article 53 of the Charter, not covered under Section III above. Hence, the use of force by peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements during the review period is covered in detail in Section III above. For purposes of the *Repertoire*, the cooperation by regional arrangements in the implementation of Chapter VII measures adopted by the Council other than the use of force is also covered in this section. The section is organized under two subsections: (a) decisions concerning the authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements; and (b) discussions concerning the authorization of enforcement action and implementation of other Chapter VII measures by regional arrangements.

A. Decisions relating to the authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements and requests for cooperation in implementation of Chapter VII measures

During the reporting period, the Council did not explicitly refer to Article 53 of the Charter in its decisions.

In 2014, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council reiterated its support to the initiatives taken by the United Nations and the African Union to facilitate regional action against the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in the Democratic Republic of the Congo.¹⁶⁷

In addition, also acting under Chapter VII, the Council renewed its call to Member States and regional organizations to take part in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, by deploying naval vessels, arms, and military aircraft, by providing basing and logistical support for counter-piracy forces, and by seizing and disposing of boats, vessels, arms, and other related equipment used

¹⁶⁷ Resolution [2147 \(2014\)](#), para. 30.

in the commission of piracy and armed robbery at sea, or for which there were reasonable grounds for suspecting such use.¹⁶⁸ Moreover, the Council renewed twice, for a period of 12 months, the authorization granted, including the use of all necessary means, to States and regional organizations cooperating with Somali authorities in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, for which advance notification had been provided by Somali authorities to the Secretary-General.¹⁶⁹

Finally, in connection with the item entitled “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, acting under Chapter VII, the Council imposed targeted sanctions measures against designated individuals in cooperation with regional arrangements.¹⁷⁰

B. Discussion concerning the authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements

During the period under review, Council members discussed the role of regional arrangements in connection with enforcement action and other Chapter VII measures in relation to the reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan, as featured in case 8.

Case 8

Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan

At its 7396th meeting, on 3 March 2015, the Council adopted resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) imposing targeted sanctions in order to support the search for an inclusive and sustainable peace in South Sudan. After the adoption, the representative of Nigeria emphasized that “African leaders were not standing by” while the situation in South Sudan continued to deteriorate, and referred to the efforts of the Prime Minister of

¹⁶⁸ Resolution [2184 \(2014\)](#), para. 11; and resolution [2246 \(2015\)](#), para. 12.

¹⁶⁹ Resolution [2184 \(2014\)](#), para. 13; and resolution [2246 \(2015\)](#), para. 14.

¹⁷⁰ Resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#), ninth, thirteenth and, fifteenth preambular paragraphs; resolution [2241 \(2015\)](#), nineteenth preambular paragraph; and resolution [2223 \(2015\)](#), eighteenth preambular paragraph, and para. 15. For more information on decisions concerning sanctions measures, see sect. III, part VII of this Supplement.

Ethiopia and Chair of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).¹⁷¹ On the other hand, the representative of the Russian Federation underscored that in further considering the South Sudan dossier, it would be necessary to “refrain from rash decisions”, particularly in light of the fact that negotiations between the South Sudanese sides were still ongoing, and any comprehensive measure taken by the Council would have to take into account how the truce plan, agreed upon with the African Union at the end of January, was being implemented. He added also that the Council’s decision to implement sanctions was taken without a clear and unambiguous signal of support from key African players, IGAD and the Africa Union in breach of the “practice” whereby primacy in such matters was given to Africans themselves. He concluded that given the lack of unified support for sanctions against South Sudan by the African countries, the implementation of a Council sanctions regime might be difficult, and could negatively impact the Council’s credibility.¹⁷²

Similarly, at the 7532nd meeting of the Council, on 9 October 2015, the representative of Angola affirmed that the question of sanctions remained very sensitive, underscoring the need for the Council to address it “with extreme care” in order to avoid creating problems rather than resolving them. In this sense, he emphasized that the actions of the Council should be in support of the discussions of the African Union Peace and Security Council, as the main partner of the Security Council in matters related to international peace and security and stability in the African continent.¹⁷³

¹⁷¹ [S/PV.7396](#), p. 3.

¹⁷² *Ibid.*, p. 4 (Russian Federation).

¹⁷³ [S/PV.7532](#), p. 5 (Angola).

Section V - Reporting by regional arrangements on their activities in the maintenance of international peace and security

Note

This section examines reporting by regional arrangements on their activities in the maintenance of international peace and security within the framework of Article 54 of the Charter, and is examined under the following two headings: (a) decisions concerning reporting by regional arrangements; and (b) discussions concerning reporting by regional arrangements.

A. Decisions concerning reporting by regional arrangements

During the period under review, the Council made no explicit reference to Article 54 of the Charter in its decisions. However, resolution [2167 \(2014\)](#) stressed the need for “regional and subregional organizations at all times to keep the Council fully informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation for the maintenance of international peace and security”.¹⁷⁴ Furthermore, in presidential statement [S/PRST/2015/22](#), the Council encouraged regional and sub-regional organizations involved in peace processes, to keep the Council informed of developments, where relevant.¹⁷⁵

Specifically, the Council requested reporting on peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements and on enforcement action undertaken by regional arrangements within the framework of measures adopted by the Council under Chapter VII.

Pursuant to resolution [2120 \(2013\)](#), in connection with the situation in Afghanistan, the Council had requested the leadership of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to keep the Security Council regularly informed on the implementation of its mandate, including through quarterly reports. During the period

¹⁷⁴ Resolution [2167 \(2014\)](#), para. 1.

¹⁷⁵ [S/PRST/2015/22](#), seventh paragraph.

under review, the Council received regular reports from ISAF in March, June, September and November 2014.¹⁷⁶

In connection with the situation in Somalia, the Council requested the Secretary-General and the African Union to review jointly the impact of the temporary surge authorized in resolution [2124 \(2013\)](#) and to set out recommendations on next steps in the military campaign by 30 May 2015, taking into due consideration the political situation in Somalia.¹⁷⁷ By resolutions [2184 \(2014\)](#) and [2246 \(2015\)](#), Member States and regional organizations cooperating with Somali authorities in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea were requested to inform the Council and the Secretary-General in nine months of the progress of actions undertaken.¹⁷⁸

By resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), the Council requested the European Union to report on the implementation of the mandate of the European Union operation in the Central African Republic (EUFOR RCA) and to coordinate its reporting with the reporting by the African Union.¹⁷⁹ Furthermore, the Council requested MISCA, MINUSCA, EUFOR RCA, the African Union Regional Task Force (AU-RTF) and the French forces operating in the Central African Republic to report on measures undertaken in relation to the arms embargo imposed by resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) from which they were exempted.¹⁸⁰

In connection with the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Member States acting through or in cooperation with the European Union, and the Member States acting through or in cooperation with North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), were requested to report to the Council on the activity of EUFOR ALTHEA and NATO Headquarters presence respectively, through the appropriate channels and at least at six-monthly intervals.¹⁸¹

¹⁷⁶ Resolution [2120 \(2013\)](#), para. 8. For reports transmitted pursuant to resolution [2120 \(2013\)](#) during the period under review, see [S/2014/179](#) of 11 March 2014, [S/2014/421](#) of 18 June 2014, [S/2014/678](#) of 17 September 2014, and [S/2014/856](#) of 28 November 2014.

¹⁷⁷ Resolution [2182 \(2014\)](#), para. 24.

¹⁷⁸ Resolution [2184 \(2014\)](#), para. 30, and [2246 \(2015\)](#) para. 32. See [S/2015/776](#) of 12 October 2015 and [S/2016/843](#) of 7 October 2016.

¹⁷⁹ Resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), para. 45. For reports during the period under review, see [S/2014/858](#) of 28 November 2014.

¹⁸⁰ Resolution [2149 \(2014\)](#), para. 37; resolution [2196 \(2015\)](#), para. 1 (b); and resolution [2217 \(2015\)](#), para. 42.

¹⁸¹ Resolution [2183 \(2014\)](#), para. 18. For reports during the period under review, see [S/2014/187](#) of 13 March 2014, [S/2014/531](#) of 25 July 2014, [S/2014/702](#) of 25 September 2014, [S/2016/299](#) of 31 March 2016, and [S/2016/663](#) of 29 July 2016.

During the period under review, on 21 August 2014, by resolution [2171 \(2014\)](#) the Secretary-General was requested to submit a report on actions taken by him to promote and strengthen conflict prevention tools within the United Nations system, including through co-operation with regional and subregional organizations.¹⁸² Moreover, at the end of 2014, the Secretary-General was further requested to present an annual report on ways to strengthen the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union on issues of peace and security in Africa.¹⁸³

By resolution [2241 \(2015\)](#), the Council requested the Secretary-General to report within six months on the technical assistance provided to the African Union and to the Transitional Government of National Unity for the implementation of the “Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan”.¹⁸⁴ In this regard, the Council subsequently invited the African Union to share information on progress made with the Secretary-General to inform his report.¹⁸⁵

Table 3 below contains a list of all decisions adopted during the period under review in connection with the obligation to keep the Council informed of activities undertaken by regional arrangements for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Table 3
Decisions concerning reporting of activities by regional arrangements

<i>Agenda items</i>	<i>Decisions</i>	<i>Paragraphs</i>	<i>Reporting from</i>
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security	S/PRST/2014/27 16 December 2014	forty-fifth paragraph	Secretary-General
Maintenance of international peace and security	Resolution 2171 (2014) 21 August 2014	para. 25	Secretary-General
	S/PRST/2015/22 25 November 2015	seventh paragraph	Regional and sub-regional organizations; Secretary General
United Nations peacekeeping operations	Resolution 2167 (2014) 28 July 2014	para. 1	Regional and sub-regional organizations

¹⁸² Resolution [2171 \(2014\)](#), para. 25. The report was submitted on 27 July 2015 ([S/2015/580](#)).

¹⁸³ [S/PRST/2014/27](#), forty-fifth paragraph.

¹⁸⁴ Resolution [2241 \(2015\)](#), para. 30.

¹⁸⁵ Resolution [2241 \(2015\)](#), para. 30, and resolution [2252 \(2015\)](#), para. 28.

The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Resolution 2183 (2014) 11 November 2014	para. 18	Member States acting through or in cooperation with the EU, and Member States acting through or in cooperation with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)
The situation in the Central African Republic	Resolution 2134(2014) 28 January 2014	para. 45	European Union
	Resolution 2149 (2014) 10 April 2014	para. 37	MISCA, MINUSCA, EUFOR RCA, the AU-RTF and the French forces
	Resolution 2196 (2015) 22 January 2015	para. 1 (b)	MISCA, MINUSCA, EUFOR RCA, the AU-RTF and the French forces
	Resolution 2217 (2015) 28 April 2015	para. 42	MISCA, MINUSCA, EUFOR RCA, the AU-RTF and the French forces
The situation in Somalia	Resolution 2182 (2014) 24 October 2014	para 24	Secretary-General and the African Union
	Resolution 2184 (2014) 12 November 2014	para. 30	Member States and regional organizations
	Resolution 2246 (2015) 10 November 2015	para. 32	Member States and regional organizations
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Resolution 2241 (2015) 9 October 2015	para. 30	Secretary-General and the African Union
	Resolution 2252 (2015) 15 December 2015	para. 28	African Union

B. Discussion concerning reporting by regional arrangements

During the period under review, no reference was made to Article 54 of the Charter in any of the discussions held during the meetings of the Council. This notwithstanding, in some of its meetings, Council members did refer to information sharing by regional arrangements, and other kinds of reports to the Council.

Indeed, at the 7117th meeting of the Council, on 24 February 2014, under the item entitled: “Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe”, the representative of Nigeria emphasized that transnational crimes were not limited by territorial boundaries, and thus combating them required complete cooperation. In this sense, he urged the OSCE to continue to create opportunities for cooperation and information exchanges with regional security agencies, including the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa.¹⁸⁶

¹⁸⁶ [S/PV.7117](#), p. 14.

At the 7391st meeting, held on 24 February 2015, in connection with the same item, the representative of New Zealand emphasized in discussing the situation in Ukraine that, in the absence of mandated reporting from the ground by the Secretary-General, the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission was best placed to provide accurate reporting on the implementation of the ceasefire. She stressed that the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission was an important source of information which enabled the Council to remain properly seized of the situation.¹⁸⁷

¹⁸⁷ [S/PV.7391](#), p. 10.