
Initial proceedings


At its 4384th meeting, on 28 September 2001, the Security Council included in its agenda the item entitled “Security Council resolution 1054 (1996) of 26 April 1996”. The President drew attention to a draft resolution submitted by Bangladesh, Colombia, Jamaica, Mali, Mauritius, Singapore, Tunisia and Ukraine,¹ it was put to the vote and adopted, by 14 votes to none, with 1 abstention (United States), as resolution 1372 (2001), by which the Council, inter alia:

- Noting the steps taken by the Government of the Sudan to comply with the provisions of resolutions 1044 (1996) and 1070 (1996),

Decided to terminate, with immediate effect, the measures referred to in paragraphs 3 and 4 of resolution 1054 (1996) and paragraph 3 of resolution 1070 (1996).

Statements were made by the representatives of the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, the United States and Ireland, as well as the representative of the Sudan.

The representative of the United States stated that his country expected the Sudan to demonstrate a full commitment to anti-terrorism, although it appreciated that the Sudan had been engaged in serious discussion on the issue with the Government of the United States. He also stated that the United States was deeply concerned that the suspects wanted in connection with the 1995 assassination attempt on the life of the President of Egypt in Ethiopia had not been brought to justice and urged the international community to continue the efforts to bring them to justice. The United States also had continuing concerns about the enormous suffering of the Sudanese people in the civil war, which had lasted 18 years. However, he stressed, along with the Russian Federation, the importance of the calls by Egypt and Ethiopia for the lifting of the sanctions, who were the victims of the incident that led to the Security Council actions on the Sudan and who had originally asked for the sanctions. He stated that, in the light of these considerations, his delegation had abstained on the resolution.²

The representatives of the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom and Ireland expressed appreciation for the efforts undertaken by the Government of the Sudan to meet the demands in resolutions 1054 (1996) and 1070 (1996) and welcomed that the Sudan had met the conditions for the lifting of the sanctions.³ The representative of the Russian Federation also noted that the Organization of African Unity, the Coordinating Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement and the Group of Arab States had made official statements that the Sudan had fully met with the demands for the lifting of the sanctions. Through the process in which the Sudan had been committed to meeting the demands of the Council, it had begun to make efforts to normalize the relationship with its neighbours and the entire region.⁴

The representatives of the Russian Federation and the United Kingdom expressed appreciation that the Sudan had ratified all international anti-terrorism conventions.⁵ Noting that the resolution sent a clear signal that the Council was ready to act once it had determined that a country had complied with the demands in a resolution, the representative of the United Kingdom also called on other States that supported terrorism to take note of the example set by the Sudan.⁶

The representatives of the United Kingdom and Ireland further emphasized the necessity of a political settlement for the civil war in the Sudan and of international support for its settlement and urged the Government of the Sudan to engage urgently in negotiations.⁷

The representative of the Sudan stated that the adoption of the resolution was a fruit of the enormous efforts undertaken by his Government in order to

¹ S/2001/916.
² S/PV.4384, p. 3.
³ Ibid., p. 2 (Russian Federation); and p. 3 (United Kingdom, Ireland).
⁴ Ibid., p. 2.
⁵ Ibid., p. 2 (Russian Federation); and p. 3 (United Kingdom).
⁶ Ibid., p. 3.
⁷ Ibid., p. 3 (United Kingdom, Ireland).
cooperate with the international community, especially
the Council, and its commitment to promoting
conditions for international peace and security. He also
sent special thanks to the Non-Aligned Movement
caucus in the Council. He stated that many useful and
constructive bilateral talks, characterized by
professional diplomacy, had been undertaken between
the Sudan and the Council members, although these
had delayed the adoption of the resolution for some
time. He believed that, the resolution represented a
strong impetus for the Sudan to proceed forward and to
cooperate in wider fields, particularly anti-terrorism, in
order to realize justice, peace, security and stability in
the world.\(^8\)

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\(^8\) Ibid., p. 4

17. Letter dated 30 April 2001 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council

Initial proceedings

Decision of 19 December 2001 (4440th meeting):
statement by the President

By a letter dated 30 April 2001 addressed to the
President of the Security Council, the Secretary-
General, recalling the endorsement received by the
Council through a statement of its President of
21 December 2000, to dispatch an Inter-Agency
Mission to West Africa, submitted the report of the
Mission, which visited 11 West African countries from
6 to 27 March 2001. In its report, the Inter-Agency
Mission advocated a comprehensive approach to
durable and sustainable solutions to priority needs and
challenges in West Africa. Several recommendations
were made, including the creation of a mechanism for
systematic and regular consultations among United
Nations entities and with Economic Community of
West African States (ECOWAS) and other subregional
organizations. To enhance the United Nations capacity
and collaboration in the subregion, the report proposed
the establishment of a United Nations office for West
Africa, to be headed by a Special Representative of
the Secretary-General. Other recommendations related to
peace and security, governance and human rights,
humanitarian assistance, economic development and
regional integration.\(^3\)

At its 4439th meeting, on 18 December 2001, the
Security Council included in its agenda without
objection the item entitled “Letter dated 30 April 2001
from the Secretary-General addressed to the President
of the Security Council”.

Statements were made by the Assistant Secretary-
General for Political Affairs, as well as by all Council
members and the representatives of Belgium (on behalf
of the European Union\(^4\)), Egypt, Guinea, Morocco,
Nigeria and Sierra Leone.

In opening the meeting, the President (Mali)
emphasized that the public debate demonstrated the
Council’s commitment to seek lasting solutions to the
priority needs and problems of West Africa. He also
underlined that the report of the Inter-Agency Mission
contained a “clear-sighted and courageous” assessment
of the situation as well as practical, relevant and
feasible recommendations.\(^5\)

In his briefing, the Assistant Secretary-General
for Political Affairs recalled that the report of the
Inter-Agency Mission had recommended that the
United Nations and the international community
consider the adoption of an integrated, global and
regional approach in the effort to prevent and manage
the many conflicts in the region. Outlining the main
challenges facing the United Nations with regard to
West Africa, he focused on the issues of disarmament,
demobilization and reintegration, circulation of light
weapons, children and armed conflicts, peace, justice
and national reconciliation, humanitarian situation and

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\(^1\) S/2001/434.
\(^3\) On the report of the Inter-Agency Mission, see also the
discussion at the 4319th meeting of the Council in
connection with the situation in Sierra Leone (Sect. 15
of the present chapter).

\(^4\) Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary,
Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia,
Slovenia and Turkey aligned themselves with the
statement.

\(^5\) S/PV.4339, p. 2.