19. Letter dated 22 September 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Initial proceedings

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held one meeting in connection with the item entitled “Letter dated 22 September 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2009/487)”. At the meeting, held on 25 September 2009, the representative of Brazil expressed his concern regarding a situation in which the President of Honduras, Jose Manuel Zelaya Rosales, had taken shelter at the Embassy of Brazil in Honduras. He also expressed concern about the physical safety of the President and the security of the Embassy and its staff.

25 September 2009: meeting held at the request of Brazil

In a letter dated 22 September 2009, the representative of Brazil requested an urgent meeting of the Council to inform Council members of the situation in Honduras, in order to prevent any action that might further aggravate the situation. He explained that President Zelaya had entered Honduras by his own means and had made his way peacefully to the Embassy of Brazil, where he had taken shelter. Although his Government still believed that the Organization of American States was the appropriate forum to find a political solution to the situation, owing to the measures taken against the Embassy and the statements by the “de facto authorities”, the Government of Brazil had decided to bring the matter to the Council.

On 25 September 2009, the representative of Brazil was invited to participate in the meeting. He expressed his grave concern that the “same people who perpetrated the coup d’état” in Honduras might threaten the inviolability of the Embassy in order to forcibly arrest President Zelaya. He stressed that it was imperative to ensure that the regime in Honduras fully respected and complied with the Vienna Convention,
and that since the Council had convened the meeting recognizing, in his view, that the situation constituted a threat to the peace and security of the region, any action against the Embassy of Brazil would constitute a flagrant breach of security. He concluded by urging the Council to adopt a statement in order to serve as a deterrent against further aggravation of the crisis.\textsuperscript{311} 

\textsuperscript{311} S/PV.6192, pp. 2-3. At the conclusion of the meeting, the President invited Council members to informal consultations of the whole to continue their discussion.

Meetings: letter dated 22 September 2009 from the representative of Brazil

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Sub-item</th>
<th>Other documents</th>
<th>Invitations</th>
<th>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6192nd</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Rule 37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 September 2009</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Brazil (Minister for Foreign Affairs)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Asia

20. The situation in Timor-Leste

Overview

During 2008 and 2009, the Security Council held nine meetings concerning the situation in Timor-Leste, including one private meeting with the troop-contributing countries,\textsuperscript{312} and adopted two resolutions and two presidential statements. During the meetings, the Council discussed the role and functions of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT), the evolving security and political situation in the country and the response to the assassination attempts against the President and the Prime Minister.

The Council also twice extended the mandate of UNMIT, for periods of one year.\textsuperscript{313}

11 February 2008: statement by the President in regard to assassination attempts against the President and Prime Minister

In a statement by the President dated 11 February 2008,\textsuperscript{314} the Council condemned in the strongest possible terms the attempt on the life of the President of Timor-Leste, José Ramos-Horta, and the attack on the convoy of the Prime Minister, Kay Rala Xanana Gusmão, on 11 February 2008 and stressed that they represented an attack on the legitimate institutions of Timor-Leste. The Council, inter alia, called on the Government of Timor-Leste to bring to justice those responsible for these heinous acts, urged all parties in Timor-Leste to cooperate actively with the authorities in this regard, and to resolve any disputes through political and peaceful means within the framework of the democratic institutions of Timor-Leste.

21 February to 19 August 2008: briefings and statement by the President concerning the response to the assassination attempts

On 21 February 2008, the Council heard a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, who introduced the third report of the Secretary-General on UNMIT.\textsuperscript{315} He informed the Council that since the assassination attempts the security situation had remained calm and that President Ramos-Horta, while still hospitalized, was in stable condition and that doctors were hopeful that he would make a full recovery. He stated that the Parliament had extended the 48-hour state of siege, which imposed a curfew and a ban on public demonstrations, for 10 days. Mechanisms had been established to improve coordination between UNMIT, the international security forces and the Timor-Leste police and military. He stated that it was reassuring

\textsuperscript{312} 6129th meeting, held on 27 May 2009.
\textsuperscript{313} Resolutions 1802 (2008) and 1867 (2009). For more information, see part X, sect. I, in regard to UNMIT.
\textsuperscript{314} S/PRST/2008/5.

\textsuperscript{315} S/2008/26.