

Part II

Provisional rules of procedure and related procedural developments

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Introductory note

Part II covers the practice of the Security Council in relation to its provisional rules of procedure and relevant Articles of the Charter of the United Nations. Since the provisional rules of procedure are routinely applied by the Council at its formal meetings, the focus of part II is on special applications of the rules in the proceedings of the Council, rather than on the standard applications of the rules.

The sections of the present part are in the order of the relevant chapters of the provisional rules of procedure: section I, meetings (Article 28 of the Charter and rules 1 to 5) and records (rules 48 to 57); section II, agenda (rules 6 to 12); section III, representation and credentials (rules 13 to 17); section IV, presidency (rules 18 to 20); section V, Secretariat (rules 21 to 26); section VI, conduct of business (rules 27, 29, 30 and 33); section VII, participation (rules 37 and 39); Section VIII, decision-making and voting (Article 27 of the Charter and rules 31, 32, 34 to 36, 38 and 40); section IX, languages (rules 41 to 47); and section X, provisional status of the rules of procedure (Article 30 of the Charter).

The remaining rules are covered in other parts of the present Supplement, as follows: rule 28, concerning subsidiary organs of the Council, in parts IX and X; and rule 61, concerning relations with other United Nations organs, in part IV.¹

During the period under review, the Council held 445 meetings, of which 50 were private meetings, and adopted 125 resolutions and 52 statements by the President. In 2010, one meeting, concerning the role of the Council in the maintenance of international peace and security, was held at the level of Heads of State or Government.² The Council continued its practice of adopting most of its resolutions unanimously, and 116 of 125 resolutions were adopted in this manner. Two draft resolutions were not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent member. Two open debates were held in connection with the working methods of the Council, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council”. The note by the President dated 19 July 2006 was superseded by an updated note,³ which also incorporated two other notes by the President concerning the working methods of the Council adopted since 2006,⁴ and focused on increased interaction with the Peacebuilding Commission and troop-contributing countries.

¹ There were no instances of the application of rules 58 to 60, concerning the admission of new Members, during the period under review, and therefore the present Supplement contains no material relating to those rules.

² 6389th meeting, held on 23 September 2010, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”.

³ The note by the President of the Council adopted on 19 July 2006 ([S/2006/507](#)) was superseded by a note adopted on 26 July 2010 ([S/2010/507](#)). The wording of the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#))” was accordingly changed to read “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”.

⁴ [S/2007/749](#) and [S/2008/847](#).

I. Meetings and records

Note

Section I covers the practice of the Security Council concerning meetings, publicity and records, in relation to Article 28 of the Charter of the United Nations and rules 1 to 5 and 48 to 57 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council.

Article 28

1. *The Security Council shall be so organized as to be able to function continuously. Each member of the Security Council shall for this purpose be represented at all times at the seat of the Organization.*

2. *The Security Council shall hold periodic meetings at which each of its members may, if it so desires, be represented by a member of the government or by some other specially designated representative.*

3. *The Security Council may hold meetings at such places other than the seat of the Organization as in its judgment will best facilitate its work.*

Rule 1

Meetings of the Security Council shall, with the exception of the periodic meetings referred to in rule 4, be held at the call of the President at any time he deems necessary, but the interval between meetings shall not exceed fourteen days.

Rule 2

The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council at the request of any member of the Security Council.

Rule 3

The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council if a dispute or situation is brought to the attention of the Security Council under Article 35 or under Article 11 (3) of the Charter, or if the General Assembly makes recommendations or refers any question to the Security Council under Article 11 (2), or if the Secretary-General brings to the attention of the Security Council any matter under Article 99.

Rule 4

Periodic meetings of the Security Council called for in Article 28 (2) of the Charter shall be held twice a year, at such times as the Security Council may decide.

Rule 5

Meetings of the Security Council shall normally be held at the seat of the United Nations.

Any member of the Security Council or the Secretary-General may propose that the Security Council should meet at another place. Should the Security Council accept any such proposal, it shall decide upon the place and the period during which the Council shall meet at such place.

Rule 48

Unless it decides otherwise, the Security Council shall meet in public. Any recommendation to the General Assembly regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General shall be discussed and decided at a private meeting.

Rule 49

Subject to the provisions of rule 51, the verbatim record of each meeting of the Security Council shall be made available to the representatives on the Security Council and to the representatives of any other States which have participated in the meeting not later than 10 a.m. of the first working day following the meeting.

Rule 50

The representatives of the States which have participated in the meeting shall, within two working days after the time indicated in rule 49, inform the Secretary-General of any corrections they wish to have made in the verbatim record.

Rule 51

The Security Council may decide that for a private meeting the record shall be made in a single copy alone. This record shall be kept by the Secretary-General. The representatives of the States which have participated in the meeting shall, within a period of

ten days, inform the Secretary-General of any corrections they wish to have made in this record.

Rule 52

Corrections that have been requested shall be considered approved unless the President is of the opinion that they are sufficiently important to be submitted to the representatives on the Security Council. In the latter case, the representatives on the Security Council shall submit within two working days any comments they may wish to make. In the absence of objections in this period of time, the record shall be corrected as requested.

Rule 53

The verbatim record referred to in rule 49 or the record referred to in rule 51, in which no corrections have been requested in the period of time required by rules 50 and 51, respectively, or which has been corrected in accordance with the provisions of rule 52, shall be considered as approved. It shall be signed by the President and shall become the official record of the Security Council.

Rule 54

The official record of public meetings of the Security Council, as well as the documents annexed thereto, shall be published in the official languages as soon as possible.

Rule 55

At the close of each private meeting the Security Council shall issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General.

Rule 56

The representatives of the Members of the United Nations which have taken part in a private meeting shall at all times have the right to consult the record of that meeting in the office of the Secretary-General. The Security Council may at any time grant access to this

record to authorized representatives of other Members of the United Nations.

Rule 57

The Secretary-General shall, once each year, submit to the Security Council a list of the records and documents which up to that time have been considered confidential. The Security Council shall decide which of these shall be made available to other Members of the United Nations, which shall be made public, and which shall continue to remain confidential.

Section I comprises four sub-sections, as follows: A, Meetings, concerning the convening of meetings pursuant to rules 1 to 5, and the format of meetings under rule 48; B, Informal consultations of the whole; C, Other informal meetings; and D, Records, which are maintained in accordance with rules 49 to 57.

During the period under review, the Council held a total of 445 meetings,⁵ including one summit meeting,⁶ and 321 informal consultations of the whole. Members of the Council also continued to hold informal dialogues⁷ and Arria-formula meetings, following previous practice. There was an increase in both the number of meetings and the number of informal consultations of the whole over the previous period, 2008-2009. The question of the format of meetings was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 1).

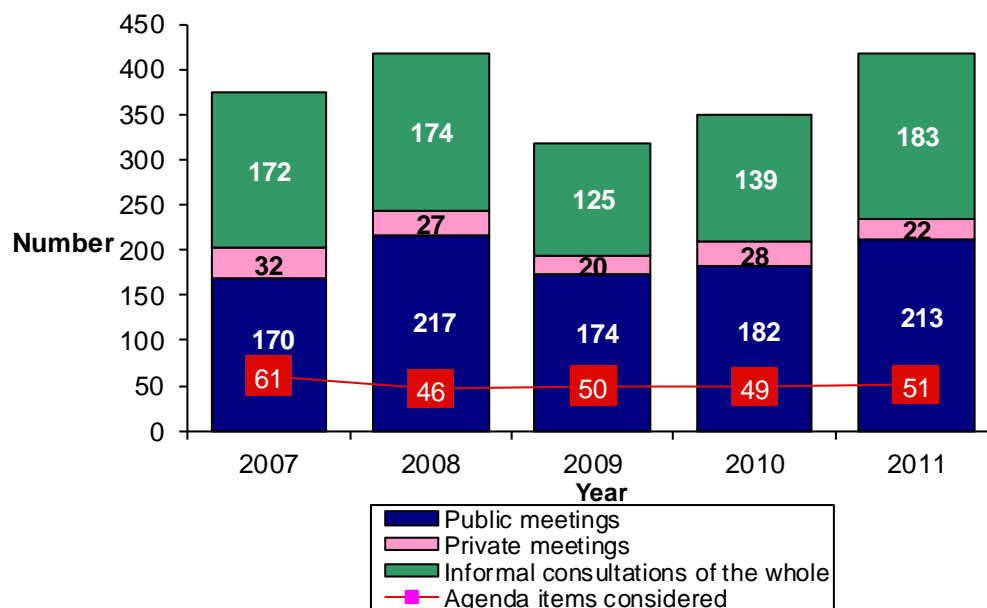
Figure I shows the total number of meetings and informal consultations of the whole and the total number of items considered during the five-year period 2007-2011.

⁵ A resumption of a meeting is not considered to be a separate meeting.

⁶ 6389th meeting, held on 23 September 2010, under the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security".

⁷ See [S/2010/507](#), para. 59. During the period, the terms "informal interactive dialogue" and "informal interactive discussion" were used interchangeably by the Council to refer to this meeting format.

Figure I
Number of meetings, informal consultations of the whole and items considered, 2007-2011



A. Meetings

1. Application of rules relating to meetings

During the period under review, there were no instances of the application of rules 4 and 5, concerning periodic meetings and meetings away from United Nations Headquarters, respectively. There was no discussion concerning the interpretation of rules 1 to 5.

Interval between meetings (rule 1)

During the period under review, there was no interval between meetings of the Council exceeding 14 days, as provided for in rule 1. On three occasions the interval between the meetings of the Council was 13 days: between the 6254th meeting on 23 December 2009 and the 6255th meeting on 6 January 2010;

between the 6394th meeting on 29 September 2010 and the 6395th meeting on 13 October 2010; and between the 6464th meeting on 22 December 2010 and the 6465th meeting on 5 January 2011. The Council continued its practice of convening, on occasion, more than one meeting a day.

Meetings requested in accordance with rule 2 or rule 3

During the reporting period, there were five communications from Member States, requesting the Council to convene a meeting, which explicitly cited rule 2 or rule 3 as the basis of the request (see table 1).⁸

⁸ For information on referral by States of a dispute or situation to the Security Council, see part VI, sect. I.A.

Table 1
 Letters from Member States citing rule 2 or rule 3 in requesting a meeting, 2010-2011

<i>Letter addressed to the President of the Council</i>	<i>Explicit reference to rule</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Meeting convened on basis of request</i>	<i>Item</i>
Letter dated 31 May 2010 from the representative of Turkey (S/2010/266)	Rule 2	In accordance with rule 2, request for an emergency meeting on 31 May 2010, to discuss the military intervention by Israel, in international waters, of a multinational convoy of ships carrying humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza	6325 31 May 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
Letter dated 31 May 2010 from the representative of Lebanon (S/2010/267)	Rule 2	In accordance with rule 2, request for an immediate meeting on 31 May 2010, to discuss the military attacks by Israel against the multinational convoy of ships carrying humanitarian supplies to Gaza		
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the representative of the Russian Federation (S/2010/646)	Rule 2	In accordance with rule 2, request for an emergency meeting on 18 December 2010 to consider the escalating tensions in the Korean peninsula	6456 (closed) 19 December 2010	Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2010/646)
Letter dated 21 February 2011 from the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (S/2011/102)	Rule 3	In accordance with rule 3, request for an urgent meeting to discuss the grave situation in Libya and to take the appropriate actions	6486 (closed) 22 February 2011	Peace and security in Africa
Letter dated 14 September 2011 from the representative of the Russian Federation (S/2011/575)	Rule 2	In accordance with rule 2, request for an emergency public meeting, with the participation of a representative of the Government of Serbia, on 15 September 2011, to consider the situation in Kosovo in view of a possible escalation of tensions	6616 and 6617 (closed) 15 September 2011	Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)

2. Format of meetings

Public meetings

During the period under review, the Council continued to convene public, or open, meetings as provided for in rule 48, mainly for the purposes of (a) receiving briefings on country-specific or regional situations, or on thematic issues; (b) holding debates on matters of which it was seized; and (c) adopting decisions. There were a total of 395 public meetings during the period: 182 in 2010, and 213 in 2011 (see figure I).

By the note by the President dated 26 July 2010, the Council, in order to increase the transparency of its work, reaffirmed its commitment to increase recourse

to open meetings, particularly at an early stage in its consideration of a matter.⁹

During the period, the Council held nine high-level meetings (see table 2).¹⁰ One of those meetings was held at the level of Heads of State and Government on 23 September 2010, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”.¹¹

⁹ S/2010/507, para. 28.

¹⁰ For this study, any meeting at which five or more Council members were represented at the ministerial or higher level is considered a high-level meeting.

¹¹ 6389th meeting.

Table 2
High-level meetings, 2010-2011

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Heads of State or Government</i>	<i>Ministers</i>
6389 23 September 2010	Maintenance of international peace and security	Council members (7) Austria (Federal President), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Chairman of the Presidency), China (Premier of the State Council), Gabon (President), Japan (Prime Minister), Lebanon (President), Nigeria (President), Turkey (President), Uganda (President)	Council members (6) Brazil (Minister for External Relations), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Mexico (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)
6390 27 September 2010	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts		Council members (8) Austria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), Gabon (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Nigeria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Turkey (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Uganda (Minister for Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Heads of State or Government</i>	<i>Ministers</i>
6411 26 October 2010	Women and peace and security		<p>Council members (5) Austria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Japan (Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Uganda (First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for East African Community Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)</p> <p>Non-members (11) Canada (Minister of International Cooperation), Finland (Minister of the Interior), Gambia (Minister of Tourism and Culture), Ireland (Minister of State for Equality, Human Rights and Integration), Italy (Minister of Equal Opportunities), Liberia (Minister of Gender and Development), Norway (Minister of Defence), South Africa (Deputy Minister for Social Development), Sweden (State Secretary for Foreign Affairs)</p>
6450 15 December 2010	The situation concerning Iraq	<p>Council members (2) Uganda (Vice-President), United States (Vice-President)</p>	<p>Council members (7) Austria (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Deputy Minister for Political Affairs), Gabon (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Japan (Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Turkey (Minister for Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State)</p> <p>Non-members (1) Iraq (Minister for Foreign Affairs)</p>

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Heads of State or Government</i>	<i>Ministers</i>
6479 11 February 2011	Maintenance of international peace and security		<p>Council members (7) Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), Colombia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Gabon (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), India (Minister for External Affairs), Portugal (Minister for Foreign Affairs)</p> <p>Non-members (2) Costa Rica (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Slovenia (Minister for Foreign Affairs)</p>
6581 12 July 2011	Children and armed conflict		<p>Council members (6) Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Colombia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), South Africa (Minister of Justice)</p>
6582 13 July 2011	Admission of new Members		<p>Council members (7) Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Russian Federation (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), South Africa (Minister of Justice), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State)</p>

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Heads of State or Government</i>	<i>Ministers</i>
6583 13 July 2011	Report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Non-Member States (1) South Sudan (Vice-President) ^a	Council members (6) Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), South Africa (Minister of Justice), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State)
6621 22 September 2011	Maintenance of international peace and security	Council members (5) Colombia (President), Gabon (President), Lebanon (President), Nigeria (President), Portugal (Prime Minister), South Africa (President)	Council members (8) Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), India (Minister for External Affairs), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Member of President Obama's Cabinet)

^a The Vice-President of South Sudan was invited under rule 39. The Republic of South Sudan became a Member of the United Nations on 14 July 2011.

Private/closed meetings

By the note by the President dated 26 July 2010, the Council decided that the functions of private meetings were to conduct discussion and/or take actions, for example, a recommendation regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General, without the attendance of the public or the press.¹²

During the period under review, the Council continued to meet in private, in accordance with

¹² S/2010/507, para. 36 (b).

rule 48 (see figure II and table 3). There were a total of 50 private meetings, of which 33 were meetings with troop-contributing countries,¹³ while 13 concerned country-specific situations. One private meeting was held to consider the recommendation of the Council to the General Assembly regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General.

¹³ By resolution 1353 (2001), the Council decided upon three possible formats for consultations with troop-contributing countries. The Council to date has chosen to hold such consultations as private meetings.

Figure II
Private meetings, by subject, 2010-2011

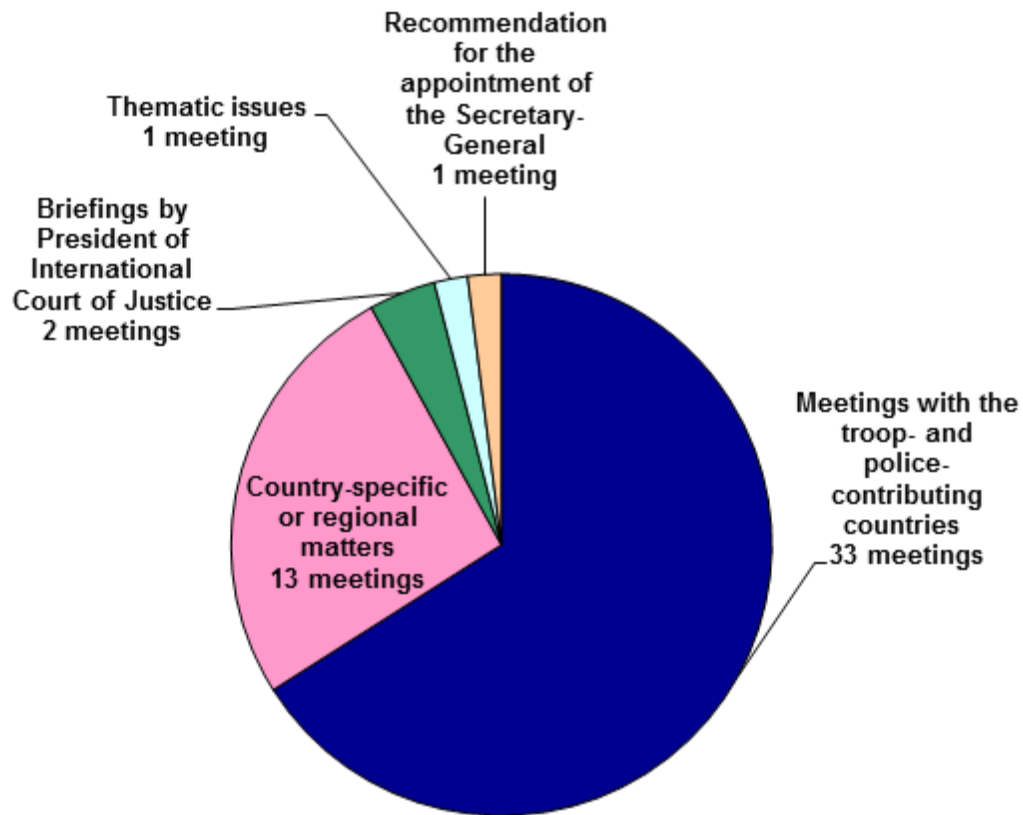


Table 3
Private meetings, 2010-2011

Item	Meeting and date
Meetings with troop- and police-contributing countries (33 meetings)	
Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B ^a	6258, 14 January 2010; 6275, 22 February 2010; 6282, 10 March 2010; 6294, 7 April 2010; 6295 and 6296, 9 April 2010; 6307, 5 May 2010; 6328, 3 June 2010; 6331 and 6332, 4 June 2010; 6343, 21 June 2010; 6361, 19 July 2010; 6373, 18 August 2010; 6376, 3 September 2010; 6380, 9 September 2010; 6420, 11 November 2010; 6433, 3 December 2010; 6435, 6 December 2010; 6436, 7 December 2010; 6443, 10 December 2010; 6475, 3 February 2011; 6514, 14 April 2011; 6516, 18 April 2011; 6543, 3 June 2011; 6550, 8 June 2011; 6558, 17 June 2011; 6578, 11 July 2011; 6585, 18 July 2011; 6600, 16 August 2011; 6608, 7 September 2011; 6615, 14 September 2011; 6676, 7 December 2011; 6680, 13 December 2011

<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>
Country-specific or regional matters (13 meetings)	
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Russian Federation to the President of the Security Council (S/2010/646)	6456 , 19 December 2010
Letter dated 6 February 2011 from Cambodia to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/58)	6480 , 14 February 2011
The situation in Libya ^b	6486 , 22 February 2011
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	6337 , 11 June 2010; 6441 , 9 December 2010; 6499 , 21 March 2011; 6549 , 8 June 2011; 6689 , 15 December 2011
Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) , 1199 (1998) , 1203 (1998) , 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)	6617 , 15 September 2011
The situation concerning Iraq	6357 , 12 July 2010; 6419 , 10 November 2010
The situation in Somalia	6408 , 21 October 2010
The situation in the Great Lakes region	6588 , 21 July 2011
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice (two meetings)	
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice	6412 , 27 October 2010; 6637 , 25 October 2011
Thematic issues (one meeting)	
Non-proliferation	6334 , 8 June 2010
Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General (one meeting)	
Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations	6556 , 17 June 2011

^a As from the 6275th meeting, held on 22 February 2010, the wording of the item “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B” was revised to read “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B”.

^b Pursuant to the note by the President of the Security Council dated 16 March 2011 ([S/2011/141](#)), as from that date, the consideration by the Council of issues pertaining to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa” at its 6486th, 6490th and 6491st meetings was subsumed under the item entitled “The situation in Libya”.

B. Informal consultations of the whole

Informal consultations of the whole are not meetings of the Council but gatherings of its members for the purpose of holding discussions, or to receive

briefings from the Secretariat and representatives of the Secretary-General in private.

During the period under review, members of the Council continued to convene informal consultations of the whole, meeting 139 times in 2010 and 182 times in 2011. Pursuant to the previous practice, no official

records of informal consultations were made, and non-members were not invited.

C. Other informal meetings

Informal dialogues and Arria-formula meetings

By the note by the President dated 26 July 2010, the Council stated that its members intended to utilize Arria-formula meetings as a flexible and informal forum for enhancing their deliberations, and would invite any Member State, relevant organization or individual to participate.¹⁴ Both informal dialogues and Arria-formula meetings are convened at the initiative of a member, or members, of the Council, but they are not considered to be meetings of the Council and no official records are made. In practice, informal dialogues have been convened in which all Council members participated, while Arria-formula meetings have been convened in which either all, or several, Council members participated.¹⁵

During the period under review, the Council continued to utilize informal dialogues and Arria-formula meetings.¹⁶ Informal dialogues and Arria-formula meetings were discussed during the two debates on the working methods of the Council,¹⁷ which are described in a case study below (case 1).

Other meetings

During the period under review, the Council held several informal meetings of an ad hoc nature. Following the practice established in 2007, annual meetings were held with the Peace and Security

Council of the African Union.¹⁸ In preparation for a meeting under the item entitled “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”, an informal meeting was held in Ankara on 17 June 2010, at which members of the Security Council were present, with a view to taking stock of the response of the international community to terrorism and discussing the way forward.¹⁹

Case 1

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council

At the 6300th meeting, held on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,²⁰ various aspects of Council meetings were discussed.

Several speakers explicitly cited rule 48.²¹ Other speakers more generally called upon the Council to hold more open meetings, rather than closed meetings or informal consultations of the whole, in order to increase interaction with Member States, and thus improve the transparency and legitimacy of its work.²² The representative of Jordan, in the context of strengthening cooperation between the Council and troop-contributing countries, said that the commitment of the wider membership to United Nations peacekeeping could be further strengthened by holding open, public meetings of the Council, and in that regard encouraged the Council to continue, deepen and

¹⁴ S/2010/507, para. 65.

¹⁵ For more information on the convening of Arria-formula meetings, see the statement by the Chair of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions at the 5601st meeting, on 20 December 2006 (S/PV.5601, p. 13).

¹⁶ While there are no official records of informal dialogues and Arria-formula meetings, *The Security Council Working Methods Handbook*, published by the Department of Public Information in 2011, lists informal dialogues convened in the past. A list of informal dialogues known to have taken place during the period under review is provided in table 4, but the inclusion of the list does not constitute any endorsement or acknowledgement by the Council.

¹⁷ 6300th meeting, held on 22 April 2010, and 6672nd meeting, held on 30 November 2011.

¹⁸ The meetings were held on 9 July 2010 (New York) and on 21 May 2011 (Addis Ababa).

¹⁹ See S/2010/462, p. 3.

²⁰ The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507). The agenda for the 6300th meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, while the agenda for the 6672nd meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

²¹ S/PV.6300, p. 9 (Lebanon); p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 15 (Brazil); and p. 33 (Portugal); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 27 (Pakistan).

²² S/PV.6300, p. 5 (Mexico); p. 6 (China); p. 17 (Gabon); p. 20 (Liechtenstein); p. 28 (Sierra Leone); and p. 31 (Jordan); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 3 (Canada); p. 4 (New Zealand); p. 6 (Australia); p. 9 (Cuba); p. 10 (India); p. 19 (Kenya); p. 23 (Malaysia); p. 26 (Qatar, Pakistan); and p. 28 (Republic of Korea).

expand the practice of holding thematic debates and open meetings related to peacekeeping.²³

The question of designating meetings as either open/public or closed/private, or deciding to meet in informal consultations of the whole, was raised by several speakers.²⁴ The representative of Mexico said that it was important to question the relevance of holding informal consultations to hear statements and briefings that could be given in open meetings, although informal consultations provided additional information for the internal work of the Council.²⁵ The representative of Qatar said that on a number of occasions the Council had held closed meetings to consider items that did not require confidentiality, such as the periodic meetings with the President of the International Court of Justice.²⁶ The representative of Canada said that, when there was a need to hold informal consultations, the members of the Council should provide systematic briefings to other interested Member States.²⁷

The use of informal dialogues by the Council was broadly welcomed. Several speakers called for increasing their frequency.²⁸ The representative of the United Kingdom said that informal dialogues had widened the scope for interaction with non-members, and had enabled the Council to discuss sensitive issues in a flexible format.²⁹ The representative of New Zealand said that informal dialogues should become a standard Council tool for sustained interaction with non-members whose cooperation was sought by the Council, and would provide opportunities for prevention of conflict and better use of the role of the Council as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter. While recognizing that such issues did often require private discussion, he emphasized that the Council should also

remember the need to maintain a balance of transparency.³⁰

Speakers generally recognized the utility of Arria-formula meetings for the Council to interact with non-State actors, and several encouraged their more frequent use.³¹ The representative of Slovakia said that more regular use of Arria-formula meetings, together with better use of private meetings, would help to achieve further progress in enhancing interaction between the Council and other Member States.³² The representative of Mexico said that the increased number of Arria-formula meetings successfully demonstrated the new flexibility of the Council in executing its responsibilities.³³

Several speakers called for open meetings to be conducted in a more efficient or open manner. The representative of Lebanon said that, if open meetings were to proceed in a more effective manner, it would be useful if statements were shorter and “repetitive formalities less frequent”.³⁴ The representative of the Republic of Korea said that the substantive nature of open meetings could be further improved, as they were frequently adjourned following the introductory adoption of the agenda and the core discussions proceeded largely in closed consultations.³⁵

At the 6672nd meeting, held on 30 November 2011 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, speakers similarly raised the question of open meetings, broadly welcoming the recent increase in their numbers.³⁶ Other speakers called upon the Council to expand other formats such as informal

²³ S/PV.6300, p. 31.

²⁴ Ibid., p. 3 (Turkey); p. 5 (Mexico); and p. 29 (Slovakia); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 4 (New Zealand); and p. 18 (Colombia).

²⁵ S/PV.6300, p. 5.

²⁶ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 26.

²⁷ Ibid., p. 3.

²⁸ S/PV.6300, p. 3 (Turkey); p. 6 (China); p. 7 (Austria); p. 8 (United Kingdom); p. 9 (Lebanon); p. 11 (Nigeria); p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 18 (Japan); p. 21 (Liechtenstein); p. 23 (Luxembourg); p. 25 (Finland); p. 30 (Italy); and p. 35 (Slovenia); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 4 (New Zealand); p. 11 (Uruguay); p. 17 (Germany); and p. 23 (Malaysia).

²⁹ S/PV.6300, p. 9.

³⁰ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 5.

³¹ S/PV.6300, p. 3 (Turkey); p. 6 (Mexico); p. 9 (Lebanon); p. 23 (Luxembourg); p. 29 (Slovakia); p. 30 (Italy); p. 33 (Portugal); and p. 35 (Slovenia); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 21 (Czech Republic); and p. 26 (Qatar).

³² S/PV.6300, p. 29.

³³ Ibid., p. 6.

³⁴ Ibid., p. 9.

³⁵ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 28.

³⁶ S/PV.6672, p. 3 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 4 (France); p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 11 (South Africa); p. 14 (United Kingdom); p. 16 (Brazil); and p. 18 (Guatemala); S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 2 (Mexico); p. 3 (Slovenia); p. 8 (Morocco); p. 17 (New Zealand); and p. 19 (Portugal).

dialogues and Arria-formula meetings.³⁷ The representative of Costa Rica said that the Council had made significant progress in enhancing its transparency since the adoption of the note by the President, but noted that the improvements had not been duly formalized and thus risked reversal. For example, while the number of open meetings had increased, they

were often preceded by informal closed meetings.³⁸ Some speakers also reiterated their call for increased transparency through limiting the number of closed meetings and consultations.³⁹ Several speakers, however, emphasized that the Council had a legitimate need to meet in private as required.⁴⁰

³⁷ S/PV.6672, p. 3 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 10 (Germany); p. 14 (United Kingdom); p. 17 (United States); p. 20 (Switzerland); and p. 24 (Egypt); S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 3 (Slovenia); p. 5 (Australia); p. 6 (Costa Rica, Luxembourg); p. 7 (Finland); p. 10 (Spain); p. 16 (Belgium); and p. 19 (Portugal).

³⁸ S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), pp. 5-6.

³⁹ S/PV.6672, p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 13 (India); and p. 16 (Brazil); S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 19 (Portugal).

⁴⁰ S/PV.6672, p. 4 (Russian Federation); and p. 15 (United Kingdom).

Table 4
Informal dialogues, 2010-2011

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Participants, including non-members of the Council</i>
22 March 2010	United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT)	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Central African Republic, Chad
5 May 2010	MINURCAT	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINURCAT, Central African Republic, Chad
20 May 2010	MINURCAT	Chad
14 June 2010	Republic of Korea/Democratic People's Republic of Korea ("Cheonan incident")	Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Republic of Korea
9 August 2010	Central African Republic	Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, Central African Republic
21 October 2010	MINURCAT	Chad
10 December 2010	Liberia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Liberia and Head of the United Nations Mission in Liberia, Chair of the Liberia configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, Liberia
2 February 2011	Burundi	Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi and Head of the United Nations Office in Burundi, Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, Burundi
18 March 2011	Kenya	Commissioner for Social Affairs of the African Union, Kenya

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Participants, including non-members of the Council</i>
15 June 2011	Libya	Mauritania, Uganda
22 June 2011	Darfur	Joint African Union-United Nations Chief Mediator for Darfur, Qatar
19 July 2011	Eritrea	Intergovernmental Authority on Development Facilitator for Somalia, Djibouti, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Kenya, Somalia, Uganda

Source: The Security Council Working Methods Handbook (United Nations publication, Sales No. 11.VII.1).

D. Records

During the period under review, verbatim records were issued following each public meeting of the Council, in accordance with rule 49, and communiqués were issued following private meetings, in accordance

with rule 55. On no occasion were questions raised at Council meetings regarding the application of rules 49 to 57 in connection with the preparation, access and issuance of verbatim records, communiqués or other documents.

II. Agenda

Note

Section II deals with the practice of the Security Council concerning the agenda, in relation to rules 6 to 12 of the provisional rules of procedure.

Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure relates to the circulation of communications by the Secretary-General concerning any matter for the consideration of the Council. Rules 7, 8 and 12 cover the preparation and communication of the provisional agenda. Rule 9 covers the adoption of the agenda. Rules 10 and 11 cover matters of which the Council is seized.

Rule 6

The Secretary-General shall immediately bring to the attention of all representatives on the Security Council all communications from States, organs of the United Nations, or the Secretary-General concerning any matter for the consideration of the Security Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.

Rule 7

The provisional agenda for each meeting of the Security Council shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and approved by the President of the Security Council.

Only items which have been brought to the attention of the representatives on the Security Council in accordance with rule 6, items covered by rule 10, or matters which the Security Council had previously decided to defer, may be included in the provisional agenda.

Rule 8

The provisional agenda for a meeting shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the representatives on the Security Council at least three days before the meeting, but in urgent circumstances it may be communicated simultaneously with the notice of the meeting.

Rule 9

The first item of the provisional agenda for each meeting of the Security Council shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 10

Any item on the agenda of a meeting of the Security Council, consideration of which has not been completed at that meeting, shall, unless the Security Council otherwise decides, automatically be included in the agenda of the next meeting.

Rule 11

The Secretary-General shall communicate each week to the representatives on the Security Council a summary statement of matters of which the Security Council is seized and of the stage reached in their consideration.

Rule 12

The provisional agenda for each periodic meeting shall be circulated to the members of the Security Council at least twenty-one days before the opening of the meeting. Any subsequent change in or addition to the provisional agenda shall be brought to the notice of the members at least five days before the meeting. The Security Council may, however, in urgent circumstances, make additions to the Agenda at any time during a periodic meeting.

The provisions of rule 7, paragraph 1, and of rule 9, shall apply also to periodic meetings.

During the period under review, the Secretary-General continued the practice of distributing communications from States, organs of the United Nations, or from himself concerning any matter for the consideration of the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter as documents in the S/series, pursuant to rule 6. The Secretary-General also continued to draw up a provisional agenda for each meeting of the Council, and communicated the provisional agenda to the representatives of Council members, in accordance with rules 7 and 8. On no occasion during the period was the question of the

circulation of communications, or the preparation of the provisional agenda, discussed. Rule 12 was not applied during the period under review, as no periodic meeting was held.

Section II comprises three sub-sections, as follows: A, Adoption of the agenda (rule 9); B, Matters of which the Security Council is seized (rules 10 and 11); and C, Discussions concerning the agenda.

During the period, the question of the agenda was raised at one of the open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 2).

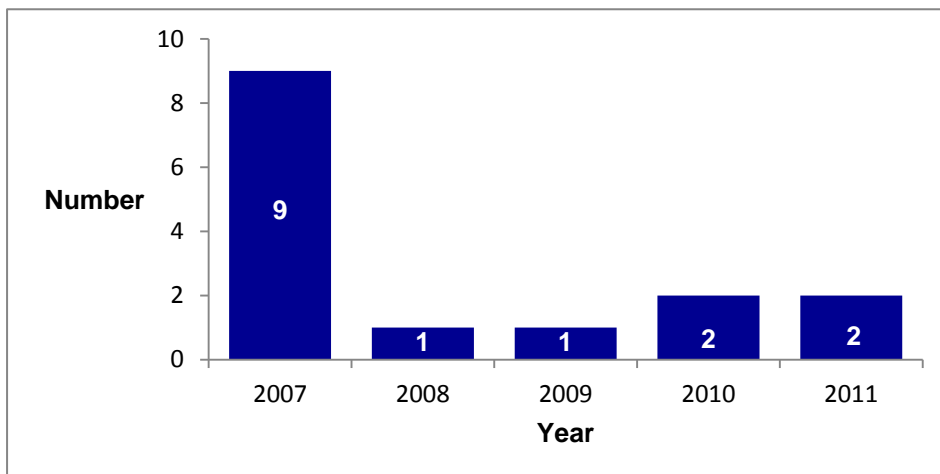
A. Adoption of the agenda (rule 9)

In accordance with rule 9, the first item on the provisional agenda for each meeting of the Council is the adoption of the agenda. During the period under review, there were no instances of a procedural motion being raised concerning the adoption of the agenda. There were also no motions raised, or discussions held, on the substance of items included in the provisional agenda. The Council continued its established practice of including a new item in the summary statement of matters of which the Council was seized following its adoption at a formal meeting.

Newly introduced items

During the period under review, the Council added four new items to its agenda, two items each in 2010 and 2011 (see figure III). Prior to 2008, the Council added on average a dozen new items per year.

Figure III
Number of items newly introduced, 2007-2011



Pursuant to the note by the President dated 16 March 2011, the Council decided that, as from that date, its earlier consideration of issues pertaining to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya under the item entitled

“Peace and security in Africa” would be subsumed under the item entitled “The situation in Libya”.⁴¹

Table 5 lists the agenda items introduced during the period.

⁴¹ S/2011/141. The 6498th meeting, on 17 March 2011, was the first meeting held under the new item.

Table 5
Items newly introduced, 2010-2011

<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date of first inclusion in the agenda</i>	<i>First entry in the summary statement</i>
Letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2010/281) and other relevant letters	6355 9 July 2010	S/2010/10/Add.27
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2010/646)	6456 (closed) 19 December 2010	S/2010/10/Add.51
Letter dated 6 February 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/58)	6480 (closed) 14 February 2011	S/2011/10/Add.7
The situation in Libya ^a	6486 (closed) 22 February 2011	S/2011/10/Add.11

^a Pursuant to the note by the President of the Security Council dated 16 March 2011 (S/2011/141), as from that date, the consideration by the Council of issues pertaining to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa” at its 6486th, 6490th and 6491st meetings was subsumed under the item entitled “The situation in Libya”.

Consideration of country-specific situations under existing items of a thematic nature

During the period under review, the Council continued the practice of considering new country-specific situations under existing items of a thematic nature. The Council considered the situation in Libya⁴²

and relations between Djibouti and Eritrea⁴³ under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”. Similarly, the Council considered the events in Guinea under the item entitled “Peace consolidation in West Africa”.⁴⁴

⁴² The situation in Libya was considered under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa” at the 6486th, 6490th and 6491st meetings, after which it was subsumed under the item entitled “The situation in Libya”.

⁴³ 6316th, 6362nd and 6674th meetings. The 5908th meeting, on 12 June 2008, was the first meeting at which relations between Djibouti and Eritrea were considered under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”.

⁴⁴ 6272nd meeting.

B. Matters of which the Security Council is seized (rules 10 and 11)

country-specific and regional situations, 22 with general and thematic issues and 4 with other matters. For the breakdown of items by year, see table 6.

Overview

During the period under review, the Council considered a total of 53 items, of which 27 dealt with

Table 6
Items considered at meetings, 2010-2011^a

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	
	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>
Country-specific and regional situations		
Africa		
Central African region	•	•
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	•	•
The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	•	•
The situation concerning Western Sahara	•	•
The situation in Burundi	•	•
The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion	•	
The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	•	•
The situation in Guinea-Bissau	•	•
The situation in Liberia	•	•
The situation in Libya		•
The situation in Sierra Leone	•	•
The situation in Somalia	•	•
The situation in the Central African Republic	•	•
The situation in the Great Lakes region		•
Americas		
The question concerning Haiti	•	•

Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, 2010-2011

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	
	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>
Asia		
Letter dated 22 November 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/920)	•	•
Letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2010/281) and other relevant letters	•	
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2010/646)	•	
Letter dated 6 February 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/58)		•
The situation in Afghanistan	•	•
The situation in Timor-Leste	•	•
Europe		
Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) , 1199 (1998) , 1203 (1998) , 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)	•	•
The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	•	•
The situation in Cyprus	•	•
Middle East		
The situation concerning Iraq	•	•
The situation in the Middle East	•	•
The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	•	•
Total, country-specific and regional situations	24 items	24 items
Thematic issues		
Briefing by the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe ^b	•	•
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice	•	•
Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council	•	•
Children and armed conflict	•	•
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security	•	•

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	
	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>
International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994	●	●
International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	●	●
Maintenance of international peace and security	●	●
Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001) , annex II, sections A and B	●	●
Non-proliferation	●	●
Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction		●
Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea	●	●
Peace and security in Africa	●	●
Peace consolidation in West Africa	●	●
Post-conflict peacebuilding	●	●
Protection of civilians in armed conflict	●	●
Security Council mission	●	●
The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security	●	
Threats to international peace and security	●	●
Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	●	●
United Nations peacekeeping operations	●	●
Women and peace and security	●	●
Total, thematic issues	21 items	21 items
Other matters		
Admission of new Members		●
Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly	●	●

Item	Year	
	2010	2011
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ^c	•	•
Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations		•
Total, other matters	2 items	4 items
Total number of items discussed per year	47 items	49 items

^a Following established practice, items relating to the election of members of the International Court of Justice were not included in the list of matters of which the Council was seized. The following items are accordingly not included in table 6: “Date of election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice” (6285th meeting, on 18 March 2010, and 6327th meeting, on 2 June 2010); “Election of a member of the International Court of Justice” (6346th meeting, on 29 June 2010, and 6381st meeting, on 9 September 2010); “Election of five members of the International Court of Justice” (6651st, 6652nd, 6653rd, 6654th and 6655th meetings, on 10 November 2011, 6665th, 6666th and 6667th meetings, on 22 November 2011, and 6682nd meeting, on 13 December 2011).

^b This item was considered at the 6268th meeting, on 5 February 2010, and the 6481st meeting, on 15 February 2011. At the latter meeting, the item was entitled “Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe”.

^c The note by the President of the Security Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded on 26 July 2010 by an updated note (S/2010/507).

Consolidation of procedures for the management of the agenda

By the note by the President dated 26 July 2010,⁴⁵ the Council consolidated the procedures for managing the summary statement of matters of which the Council is seized which had been set out in three previous notes by the President.⁴⁶ Among them were the criteria for the inclusion and deletion of items and the format of the summary statement.

During the period, in accordance with rule 11 and the aforementioned note by the President, the Secretary-General continued to communicate each week to the representatives on the Council a summary statement of matters of which the Council was seized and of the stage reached in their consideration. The

practice of including an item in the summary statement upon its adoption at a formal meeting of the Council remained unchanged. The Council continued the practice of reviewing the summary statement at the beginning of the year in order to identify for deletion items which had not been considered in the preceding three years.

In 2010, 2 of the 29 items identified for deletion at the beginning of the year were deleted,⁴⁷ while the remaining items were retained for one additional year at the request of Member States.⁴⁸ In 2011, all 28 items that had been identified for deletion were retained through the same procedure (see table 7).⁴⁹

⁴⁵ S/2010/507, paras. 51-58.

⁴⁶ See S/2006/507, S/2007/749 and S/2008/847. For more information on the changes to the format of the summary statement outlined in those notes, see Supplement 2008-2009 to the *Repertoire*, part II, sect. II.

⁴⁷ The following items were deleted: “Letters dated 26 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2005/485 and S/2005/489)”; “Letter dated 4 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/481).”

⁴⁸ See S/2011/10/Add.9.

⁴⁹ See S/2012/10/Add.9.

Table 7

Items proposed for deletion from the summary statement, 2010-2011

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2010</i>	<i>Status in March 2010</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2011</i>	<i>Status in March 2011</i>
The Palestine question	9 December 1947; 25 November 1966	●	Retained	●	Retained
The India-Pakistan question	6 January 1948; 5 November 1965	●	Retained	●	Retained
The Hyderabad question	16 September 1948; 24 May 1949	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 20 February 1958 from the representative of the Sudan addressed to the Secretary-General	21 February 1958; 21 February 1958	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 11 July 1960 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba addressed to the President of the Security Council	18 July 1960; 5 January 1961	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 31 December 1960 from the Minister for External Affairs of Cuba addressed to the President of the Security Council	4 January 1961; 5 January 1961	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent	4 December 1971; 27 December 1971	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 3 December 1971 from the Permanent Representatives of Algeria, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	9 December 1971; 9 December 1971	●	Retained	●	Retained
Complaint by Cuba	17 September 1973; 18 September 1973	●	Retained	●	Retained
Arrangements for the proposed Peace Conference on the Middle East	15 December 1973; 15 December 1973	●	Retained	●	Retained
The Middle East problem, including the Palestinian question	12 January 1976; 11 October 1985	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation in the occupied Arab territories	4 May 1976; 13 July 1998	●	Retained	●	Retained

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<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2010</i>	<i>Status in March 2010</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2011</i>	<i>Status in March 2011</i>
The question of the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights	9 June 1976; 30 April 1980	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation between Iran and Iraq	26 September 1980; 31 January 1991	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 1 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	2 October 1985; 4 October 1985	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 4 February 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	4 February 1986; 6 February 1986	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council;	15 April 1986; 24 April 1986	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council;					
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council;					
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council					
Letter dated 19 April 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	21 April 1988; 25 April 1988	●	Retained	●	Retained

**Part II. Provisional rules of procedure and
related procedural developments**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2010</i>	<i>Status in March 2010</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2011</i>	<i>Status in March 2011</i>
Letter dated 2 February 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	9 February 1990; 9 February 1990	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation between Iraq and Kuwait	2 August 1990; 11 April 2005	●	Retained	●	Retained
Complaint by Ukraine regarding the decree of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation concerning Sevastopol	20 July 1993; 20 July 1993	●	Retained	●	Retained
Protection of United Nations personnel, associated personnel and humanitarian personnel in conflict zones	9 February 2000; 26 August 2003	●	Retained	●	Retained
General issues relating to sanctions	17 April 2000; 21 December 2006	●	Retained	●	Retained
Kimberley Process Certification Scheme	28 January 2003; 28 January 2003	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 5 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2003/939);	5 October 2003; 5 October 2003	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 5 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2003/943)					
Letters dated 26 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2005/485 and S/2005/489)	27 July 2005; 27 July 2005	●	Deleted	–	–
Briefing by the Chairman of the African Union	31 May 2006; 31 May 2006	●	Retained	●	Retained
Strengthening international law: rule of law and maintenance of international peace and security	22 June 2006; 22 June 2006	●	Retained	●	Retained

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2010</i>	<i>Status in March 2010</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2011</i>	<i>Status in March 2011</i>
Letter dated 4 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2006/481) ^a	15 July 2006; 6 October 2006	•	Deleted		
Letter dated 5 April 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2007/186)	17 April 2007; 17 April 2007	–	–	•	Retained

^a This item was subsumed under the item entitled “Non-proliferation/Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”.

C. Discussions concerning the agenda

During the period under review, on one occasion the Council considered the management of the agenda, in particular the question of the revision of the agenda (case 2).

At the 6672nd meeting, on 30 November 2011, under the item “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representative of India said that the Council should amend its procedures so that items did not remain on its agenda permanently. Noting that certain items had not been discussed for decades, he said that further attention should require that some valid reasons be proffered by those seeking retention of those items on the agenda.⁵⁰

Case 2

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council

At the 6300th meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,⁵¹ Member

States discussed the practices of the Council concerning its agenda.⁵² The representative of China noted an excessive increase in thematic items, some of which were beyond the sphere of competence of the Council. He expressed support for an annual review by the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions of items on the agenda of the Council, in order to keep the agenda current, save resources and increase efficiency.⁵³ The representative of Cuba also noted the growing tendency of the Council to consider matters not within its competence, and urged the Council to carry out, as soon as possible, a revision of its agenda to bring it in line with its mandate.⁵⁴ The representative of Portugal said that it was necessary to identify practical ways of increasing the influence of the general membership in determining the agenda of the Council.⁵⁵ Several Member States suggested that thematic issues be incorporated into discussions of country-specific situations.⁵⁶ The representative of Switzerland suggested that thematic issues such as human rights, the protection of civilians, and women and peace and security should be further

⁵⁰ S/PV.6672, p. 13.

⁵¹ The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507). The agenda for the 6300th meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, while the agenda for the 6672nd meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

⁵² S/PV.6300, pp. 6-7 (China); p. 17 (Uganda); p. 21 (Egypt, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); p. 24 (Luxembourg, Finland); p. 33 (Portugal); p. 35 (Slovenia); and p. 38 (Switzerland); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 9 (Cuba); p. 16 (Ukraine); and p. 24 (Ecuador).

⁵³ S/PV.6300, pp. 6-7.

⁵⁴ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 9.

⁵⁵ S/PV.6300, p. 33.

⁵⁶ Ibid., p. 24 (Luxembourg, Finland); p. 35 (Slovenia); and p. 38 (Switzerland).

integrated in the discussions of country-specific situations and systematically included in the terms of reference of Council missions.⁵⁷

At the 6672nd meeting, on 30 November 2011, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, several Member States expressed similar concern over the increase in the number of thematic items.⁵⁸ The representative of Lebanon supported an ongoing review process of the Council’s agenda by the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions, and added that all Council documents should be issued in the six official languages of the United

⁵⁷ S/PV.6300, p. 38.

⁵⁸ S/PV.6672, p. 3 (Russian Federation); pp. 6-7 (Gabon); p. 11 (Lebanon); p. 13 (India); and p. 18 (Guatemala).

Nations in a timely manner in order to increase transparency.⁵⁹

Some speakers welcomed the increase in the number of thematic items on the agenda of the Council.⁶⁰ The representative of Finland, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries,⁶¹ said that the Council should now systematically link country-specific situations and horizontal themes, and follow up on requests for thematic information when handling reports on country-specific situations.⁶²

⁵⁹ S/PV.6672, p. 11.

⁶⁰ S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 4 (Australia); and p. 9 (Morocco).

⁶¹ Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden.

⁶² S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 8.

III. Representation and credentials

Note

Section III covers the practice of the Council concerning representation and credentials of its members, in relation to rules 13 to 17 of the provisional rules of procedure.

Rule 13

Each member of the Security Council shall be represented at the meetings of the Security Council by an accredited representative. The credentials of a representative on the Security Council shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before he takes his seat on the Security Council. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or of the Government concerned or by its Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Head of Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs of each member of the Security Council shall be entitled to sit on the Security Council without submitting credentials.

Rule 14

Any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Security Council and any State not a Member of the United Nations, if invited to participate in a meeting or meetings of the Security Council, shall submit credentials for the representative appointed by

it for this purpose. The credentials of such a representative shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before the first meeting which he is invited to attend.

Rule 15

The credentials of representatives on the Security Council and of any representative appointed in accordance with rule 14 shall be examined by the Secretary-General who shall submit a report to the Security Council for approval.

Rule 16

Pending the approval of the credentials of a representative on the Security Council in accordance with rule 15, such representative shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives.

Rule 17

Any representative on the Security Council, to whose credentials objection has been made within the Security Council, shall continue to sit with the same rights as other representatives until the Security Council has decided the matter.

During the period under review, in accordance with rule 13, the credentials of representatives of members of the Council were communicated to the Secretary-General, who submitted his report to the Council pursuant to rule 15. Such a report was transmitted to the Council when representatives of the newly elected non-permanent members of the Council were designated prior to the beginning of each term,⁶³ and when there were changes in the representation of

⁶³ For the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the representatives and deputy and alternate representatives of the members of the Council elected for the periods 2010-2011 and 2011-2012, see [S/2009/669](#) and [S/2010/669](#), respectively.

members of the Council.⁶⁴ There were no discussions and no special cases arose during the period under review regarding the interpretation and application of rules 13 to 17.

⁶⁴ See [S/2010/30](#), [S/2010/64](#), [S/2010/126](#), [S/2010/223](#), [S/2010/224](#), [S/2010/231](#), [S/2010/241](#), [S/2010/242](#), [S/2010/276](#), [S/2010/313](#), [S/2010/354](#), [S/2010/374](#), [S/2010/380](#), [S/2010/383](#), [S/2010/423](#), [S/2010/428](#), [S/2010/435](#), [S/2010/449](#), [S/2010/450](#), [S/2010/480](#), [S/2010/481](#), [S/2010/517](#), [S/2010/551](#), [S/2010/647](#), [S/2010/670](#), [S/2010/671](#), [S/2011/8](#), [S/2011/19](#), [S/2011/26](#), [S/2011/63](#), [S/2011/67](#), [S/2011/138](#), [S/2011/205](#), [S/2011/206](#), [S/2011/330](#), [S/2011/398](#), [S/2011/399](#), [S/2011/415](#), [S/2011/437](#), [S/2011/438](#), [S/2011/441](#), [S/2011/442](#), [S/2011/467](#), [S/2011/486](#), [S/2011/489](#), [S/2011/491](#), [S/2011/599](#), [S/2011/600](#), [S/2011/601](#), [S/2011/615](#), [S/2011/616](#), [S/2011/618](#), [S/2011/683](#), [S/2011/684](#), [S/2011/685](#), [S/2011/686](#), [S/2011/687](#), [S/2011/722](#), [S/2011/749](#) and [S/2011/818](#).

IV. Presidency

Note

Section IV covers the practice of the Council concerning the monthly rotation of the presidency, the role of the President, and the temporary cession of the chair by the President during the consideration of a particular question with which the member he or she represents is directly connected, under rules 18 to 20 of the provisional rules of procedure. During the period under review, there were no instances of the application of rule 20.

Rule 18

The presidency of the Security Council shall be held in turn by the members of the Security Council in the English alphabetical order of their names. Each President shall hold office for one calendar month.

Rule 19

The President shall preside over the meetings of the Security Council and, under the authority of the Security Council, shall represent it in its capacity as an organ of the United Nations.

Rule 20

Whenever the President of the Security Council deems that for the proper fulfilment of the

responsibilities of the presidency he should not preside over the Council during the consideration of a particular question with which the member he represents is directly connected, he shall indicate his decision to the Council. The presidential chair shall then devolve, for the purpose of the consideration of that question, on the representative of the member next in English alphabetical order, it being understood that the provisions of this rule shall apply to the representatives on the Security Council called upon successively to preside. This rule shall not affect the representative capacity of the President as stated in rule 19, or his duties under rule 7.

Role of the President of the Security Council (rules 18 and 19)

During the period under review, the presidency of the Council was held in turn by the members of the Council in the English alphabetical order, on a monthly basis, in accordance with rule 18. The President of the Council, in addition to presiding over meetings of the Council, including informal meetings, continued to perform several functions under the authority of the Council, in accordance with rule 19. These included (a) briefing non-members on the monthly programme of work of the Council at the beginning of the month; (b) representing and delivering statements on behalf of

the Council, including the presentation of the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly;⁶⁵ and (c) delivering statements or remarks to the press, following the conclusion of informal consultations of the whole, whenever Council members reached agreement on a text. Representatives of Council members, in their national capacities, continued to submit monthly assessments of the work of the Council after the completion of their respective presidencies.⁶⁶

Following previous practice, Council members that held the presidency during the month of July prepared the introduction to the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly. In addition, the presidencies for the months of July 2010 and July 2011 continued the practice, started in 2008, of convening informal meetings with Member States to exchange views on the annual report.⁶⁷ At the 6641st meeting, on 27 October 2011, under the item entitled “Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly”, the representative of Germany, presenting the annual report of the Council in his capacity as the President for the month of July 2011, said that the informal meeting held to exchange views with the wider United Nations membership on the draft report had been extremely useful, both for the input received and for fostering the working relationship between the Council and non-members of the Council. In this regard, he expressed hope for the continuation of the practice in the future.⁶⁸

The question of the roles and responsibilities of the President, including communication with Member States and the media, interaction with other organs of the United Nations, and the preparation of monthly assessments and annual reports, was raised at the two

open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 3).

Case 3 Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council

At the 6300th meeting, held on 22 April 2010 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,⁶⁹ several speakers called for the President to take on a greater role in communicating with Member States and other parties.⁷⁰ The representative of Turkey said that the President should be given a more systematic role in conveying the gist of closed consultations to non-members and the media. While the practice of making oral remarks after consultations was useful, he suggested that micromanaging the exercise should be avoided, and the President be allowed more leeway in informing the interested parties about the deliberations of the Council.⁷¹ The representative of Kenya said that briefings by the President to the General Assembly should be regular, substantive and conducted promptly after each informal consultation of the whole.⁷² The representative of Jordan encouraged the President to brief the members of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations during its sessions and, when appropriate, on the major developments and initiatives regarding peacekeeping in the Council. He also suggested that the President could arrange regular meetings with regional groups such as the Non-Aligned Movement, the European Union and any other interested groups that contributed to peacekeeping.⁷³

⁶⁵ For example, at the 48th plenary meeting of the sixty-fifth session of the General Assembly, on 11 November 2010, the President of the Council for the month of November (United Kingdom) introduced to the Assembly the annual report of the Council covering the period from 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010 (A/65/2). For other meetings that the President attended, see part IV, sect. I (“Relations with the General Assembly”) and II (“Relations with the Economic and Social Council”).

⁶⁶ A list of the monthly assessments relating to the period under review is provided in part I of the annual reports of the Council to the General Assembly (A/65/2, A/66/2 and A/67/2).

⁶⁷ See S/PV.6413, p. 2 and S/PV.6641, p. 2.

⁶⁸ S/PV.6641, p. 2.

⁶⁹ The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507). The agenda for the 6300th meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, while the agenda for the 6672nd meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

⁷⁰ S/PV.6300, p. 4 (Turkey); p. 6 (Mexico); p. 11 (Nigeria); p. 16 (Gabon); p. 17 (Uganda); p. 18 (Japan); p. 28 (Sierra Leone); p. 30 (Italy); p. 31 (Jordan); p. 33 (Portugal); p. 36 (Slovenia); and p. 37 (Switzerland); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 6 (Australia); p. 10 (India); pp. 12-13 (Malta); p. 18 (Colombia); p. 19 (Kenya); p. 21 (Czech Republic); p. 24 (Ecuador); p. 25 (Qatar); and p. 27 (Pakistan).

⁷¹ S/PV.6300, p. 4.

⁷² S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 19.

⁷³ S/PV.6300, pp. 31-32.

Several other speakers called for the strengthening of the interaction between the President and the heads of other United Nations organs, in particular the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.⁷⁴

At the 6672nd meeting, held on 30 November 2011 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the question of “wrap-up sessions”, whereby the President would brief Member States on the developments in the Council at the conclusion of each presidency, was raised by several speakers.⁷⁵ The representative of Finland said that interactive wrap-up sessions at the end of each presidency would enhance information-sharing and openness.⁷⁶

Some speakers called upon the President to assume a greater role in speaking with the media.⁷⁷ The representative of Lebanon said that informing the media as to the basic thrust of closed consultations

enabled other Member States to follow the activities of the Council.⁷⁸

Several speakers called for the monthly assessment by the President as well as the annual report of the Council to be more analytical and informative.⁷⁹ The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, suggested that monthly assessments should include cases in which the Council had failed to act, including the reasons for resorting to veto and the views expressed by its members during the deliberations on the items under its consideration. He also emphasized that both monthly assessments and annual report should elaborate on the circumstances under which the Council adopted different outcomes, such as resolutions, statements by the President, press statements and elements to the media, so that the General Assembly would be aware not only of the decisions adopted but also of the rationale, reasons and backgrounds of those decisions, as well as of the effectiveness and impact of those decisions on the situation on the ground.⁸⁰

⁷⁴ Ibid., p. 3 (Turkey); and p. 17 (Uganda); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), pp. 12-13 (Malta); and p. 25 (Qatar).

⁷⁵ S/PV.6672, p. 24 (Egypt, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); and S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 19 (Portugal).

⁷⁶ S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 7.

⁷⁷ S/PV.6672, p. 8 (Nigeria); and S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 19 (Portugal).

⁷⁸ S/PV.6672, p. 11.

⁷⁹ Ibid., p. 11 (Lebanon); and p. 21 (Japan); S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 19 (Portugal).

⁸⁰ S/PV.6672, p. 24.

V. Secretariat

Note

Section V covers the practice of the Security Council concerning the administrative functions and powers of the Secretary-General in connection with meetings of the Council, pursuant to rules 21 to 26 of its provisional rules of procedure.

Rule 21

The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Security Council. The Secretary-General may authorize a deputy to act in his place at meetings of the Security Council.

Rule 22

The Secretary-General, or his deputy acting on his behalf, may make either oral or written statements

to the Security Council concerning any question under consideration by it.

Rule 23

The Secretary-General may be appointed by the Security Council, in accordance with rule 28, as rapporteur for a specified question.

Rule 24

The Secretary-General shall provide the staff required by the Security Council. This staff shall form a part of the Secretariat.

Rule 25

The Secretary-General shall give to representatives on the Security Council notice of meetings of the Security Council and of its commissions and committees.

Rule 26

The Secretary-General shall be responsible for the preparation of documents required by the Security Council and shall, except in urgent circumstances, distribute them at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered.

Administrative functions of the Secretariat (rules 21-26)

During the period under review, following previous practice, the Secretary-General and senior officials of the Secretariat attended Council meetings and provided briefings to the Council as requested. The Secretariat also assisted in the organization of Council meetings, the preparation and dissemination of documents, and other activities.

At the 6603rd meeting, on 26 August 2011, under the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, the Council adopted a statement by the President in which it requested, inter alia, that the Secretariat circulate to troop- and police-contributing countries by the fifteenth day of each month notice of and invitations for the meetings of the Council with troop- and police-contributing countries anticipated during the following month on individual peacekeeping mission mandates.⁸¹

Various aspects of the functions of the Secretariat, including those concerning documentation, were considered at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 4).

**Case 4
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council**

At the 6300th meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,⁸² the representative of the United Kingdom called for more

frequent briefings by the Secretariat, on an ad hoc basis, on situations of emerging concern. He said that the Secretary-General and his senior officials should be invited to brief the Council as a matter of routine when they returned from visits to countries on the agenda of the Council or other countries of concern.⁸³ The representative of Slovenia also called for an increase in the number of briefings by United Nations officials.⁸⁴

The question of documentation was raised by several speakers.⁸⁵ The representative of China called for further improvement in the timeliness and quality of Council documents, noting that the surge in the quantity of documents adopted by the Council in recent years demonstrated the increase in its workload, but served as a reminder that greater attention should be paid to the quality of documents and their practical implementation.⁸⁶ The representative of Gabon said that sometimes there was a delay in the issuance of documents in the six official languages of the United Nations, documents being published just a few days before Council meetings. He also expressed his regret about the failure to implement paragraphs 8 and 9 of the annex to the note by the President,⁸⁷ in which the Secretariat was invited to circulate briefing texts and to provide Council members with printed fact sheets prior to consultations.⁸⁸ The representative of Costa Rica said that, in accordance with paragraph 11 of the note by the President, the reports of the Secretary-General should be circulated in all official languages at least four working days before a meeting of the Council. He further said that, should there be significant changes in the situation in the field, those could be communicated via an addendum to the reports, and that the need to update the reports should not be an excuse for circulating them late.⁸⁹

At the 6672nd meeting, on 30 November 2011, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the question of the translation of Council documents was again raised by several speakers. The representative of

⁸¹ S/PRST/2011/17.

⁸² The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507). The agenda for the 6300th meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, while the agenda for the 6672nd meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

⁸³ S/PV.6300, p. 9.

⁸⁴ Ibid., p. 35.

⁸⁵ S/PV.6300, p. 7 (China); and p. 16 (Gabon); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 17 (Germany); and p. 28 (Republic of Korea).

⁸⁶ Ibid., p. 7.

⁸⁷ S/2006/507.

⁸⁸ S/PV.6300, p. 16.

⁸⁹ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 7.

the Sudan said that Council documents, especially the reports of the Secretary-General on peacekeeping operations, should be circulated in advance of their consideration by the Council, in all official languages of the United Nations. He noted that very often a version of the report was distributed to members of the Council

only, but was not circulated to all Member States until the day of the meeting, or occasionally even after the meeting.⁹⁰

⁹⁰ S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 11.

VI. Conduct of business

Note

Section VI covers the practice of the Council concerning the conduct of business at its meetings, pursuant to rules 27, 29, 30 and 33 of its provisional rules of procedure.

Rule 27

The President shall call upon representatives in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.

Rule 29

The President may accord precedence to any rapporteur appointed by the Security Council.

The Chairman of a commission or committee, or the rapporteur appointed by the commission or committee to present its report, may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the report.

Rule 30

If a representative raises a point of order, the President shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the President shall submit his ruling to the Security Council for immediate decision and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 33

The following motions shall have precedence in the order named over all principal motions and draft resolutions relative to the subject before the meeting:

- 1. To suspend the meeting;*
- 2. To adjourn the meeting;*
- 3. To adjourn the meeting to a certain day or hour;*

4. To refer any matter to a committee, to the Secretary-General or to a rapporteur;

5. To postpone discussion of the question to a certain day or indefinitely; or

6. To introduce an amendment.

Any motion for the suspension or for the simple adjournment of the meeting shall be decided without debate.

During the period under review, while there was no special application of the provisional rules of procedure concerning conduct of business, the Council continued to implement measures aimed at improving the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of its meetings. For example, in accordance with paragraph 27 of the note by the President dated 19 July 2006,⁹¹ the President frequently requested speakers to limit their statements, usually to five minutes, to circulate the full text of their statements in the Council chamber and to deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Chamber.⁹² At the 6411th meeting, on 26 October 2010, under the item entitled “Women and peace and security”, following a request by the President to all speakers to limit their statements to no more than five minutes, the representative of the Civil Society Advisory Group to the United Nations on Women, Peace and Security distributed the full statement and limited her speech to a few paragraphs of the statement.⁹³ At other meetings, speakers delivered a brief version of their statement without being requested to do so by the President. For example, at the 6310th meeting, on 11 May 2010, and the 6536th meeting, on 16 May 2011, under the item entitled “Briefings by Chairman of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”, several speakers distributed the full

⁹¹ S/2006/507.

⁹² See, for example, the statement made by the President at the 6265th meeting, on 27 January 2010 (S/PV.6265, p. 7).

⁹³ S/PV.6411, pp. 10-11.

statement to the members of the Council, and delivered a summarized version.⁹⁴

During the period under review, when non-members of the Council were invited to participate in a meeting, Council members spoke before Member States invited under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure, except on some occasions when parties directly involved in the matter under consideration took the floor before Council members.⁹⁵ For example, at the 6497th meeting, on 17 March 2011, under the item entitled “The situation in Afghanistan”, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, invited under rule 39, took the floor but requested that the Council allow the representative of Afghanistan, invited under rule 37, to speak before him, Council members and other invitees under rule 37.⁹⁶

⁹⁴ S/PV.6310, p. 2 (Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)) and S/PV.6536, p. 2 (statement by the representative of India on behalf of the Committees established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004)).

⁹⁵ For example, at the 6405th meeting, on 19 October 2010, on the situation in Timor-Leste, following the briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Timor-Leste, the representative of Timor-Leste spoke before Council members and other Member States invited under rule 37 (S/PV.6405, pp. 5-8). At the 6636th meeting, on 24 October 2011, concerning the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, following the briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, the representative of Israel spoke before Council members and other Member States invited under rule 37 (S/PV.6636, pp. 8-11).

⁹⁶ S/PV.6497, p. 2.

Discussions relating to the order of speaking

During the period under review, the question of the order of speaking was raised at an open debate concerning the working methods of the Council (case 5).

Case 5 Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council

At the 6300th meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,⁹⁷ several speakers raised the question of the order of speaking, in particular with regard to non-members of the Council vis-à-vis Council members. The representative of Portugal said that the Council should value the participation of the wider membership and allow non-members to speak first at open thematic debates, with Council members taking the floor at the end.⁹⁸ The representative of Australia expressed support for the proposal by Portugal, and encouraged Council members to listen more attentively when non-members spoke.⁹⁹ The representative of Slovenia said that, in debates on situation-specific issues, parties directly affected or particularly interested should be allowed to speak prior to Council members to present their views.¹⁰⁰

⁹⁷ The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507).

⁹⁸ S/PV.6300, p. 33.

⁹⁹ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 6.

¹⁰⁰ S/PV.6300, p. 35.

VII. Participation

Note

Section VII covers the practice of the Council concerning the extension of invitations to non-members of the Council to participate in meetings of the Council. Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter of the United Nations, and rules 37 and 39 of the provisional rules of procedure describe circumstances in which invitations can be extended to non-members of the Council to participate, without vote, when the Council so decides.

Article 31

Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Security Council whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected.

Article 32

Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council or any state which is

not a Member of the United Nations, if it is a party to a dispute under consideration by the Security Council, shall be invited to participate, without vote, in the discussion relating to the dispute. The Security Council shall lay down such conditions as it deems just for the participation of a state which is not a Member of the United Nations.

Rule 37

Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council may be invited, as the result of a decision of the Security Council, to participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Security Council when the Security Council considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected, or when a Member brings a matter to the attention of the Security Council in accordance with Article 35 (1) of the Charter.

Rule 39

The Security Council may invite members of the Secretariat or other persons, whom it considers competent for the purpose, to supply it with information or to give other assistance in examining matters within its competence.

During the period under review, following its previous practice, the Council invited non-members to participate in its meetings. The invitations were extended either under the “relevant provisions” of the Charter without an explicit reference to a rule, or under rule 37 or rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council. Specifically, Member States continued to be invited under rule 37, while representatives of the Secretariat, subsidiary organs of the Security Council, other United Nations organs, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, or other invitees, including representatives of non-governmental organizations, were invited under rule 39.

Section VII comprises four sub-sections, as follows: A, Invitations extended under rule 37 (Member States); B, Invitations extended under rule 39 (members of the Secretariat or other persons); C, Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39; and D, Discussions relating to participation.

A. Invitations extended under rule 37

In accordance with the relevant Articles and rules, all States, whether or not Members of the United Nations, may participate in Council meetings when (a) the interests of a Member State are “specially affected” (Article 31 and rule 37); (b) a Member State or a non-Member State is a party to a dispute under consideration by the Council (Article 32); and (c) a Member State brings a matter to the attention of the Council in accordance with Article 35 (1) (rule 37).¹⁰¹

During the period under review, there were no changes to the procedure for extending invitations to Member States to participate in the proceedings of the Council. Member States requested invitations in letters addressed to the President of the Council, which were not circulated as documents of the Council. At the beginning of or during a Council meeting, the President informed the Council of the receipt of such letters and proposed that, with the consent of the Council, invitations be extended “under the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council”, without referring explicitly to any specific Article.

Following previous practice, Member States invited under rule 37 spoke occasionally in other capacities, for example on behalf of a regional or international organization, or a group of States.¹⁰²

Renewal of invitations under rule 37

During the period under review, invitations to Member States were usually renewed automatically when a meeting of the Council was resumed. Unless otherwise indicated, invitations to Member States under rule 37 extended at the first of several

¹⁰¹ For information on referral by States of a dispute or situation to the Security Council, see part VI, sect. I.A.

¹⁰² For example, at the 6531st meeting, on 10 May 2011, the representative of Switzerland, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Human Security Network (S/PV.6531, p. 28). At the 6648th meeting, on 3 November 2011, the representative of Angola spoke on behalf of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (S/PV.6648, p. 9).

consecutive meetings held on the same item were automatically renewed at each of the meetings.¹⁰³

Requests for invitations denied or not acted upon

On no occasion during the period under review was a request from a Member State to participate in a Council meeting put to a vote or denied at a public meeting. There was also no instance of a Member State communicating to the Council that its request to participate had not been acted upon.

B. Invitations extended under rule 39

In accordance with rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure, members of the Secretariat or other

persons may be invited to supply the Council with information or to give other assistance in examining matters within its competence.

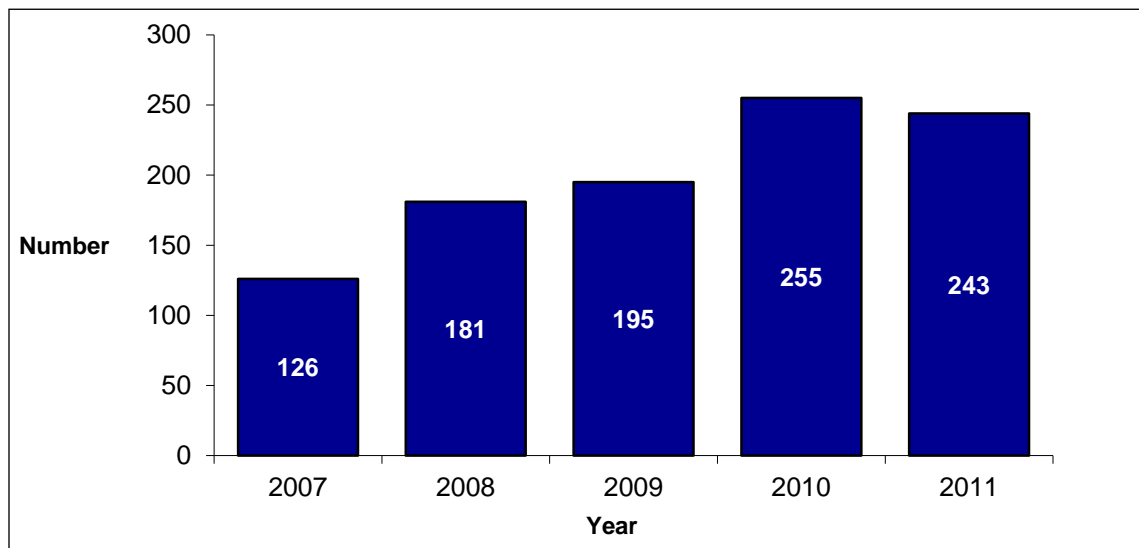
Following previous practice, an invitation under rule 39 was extended to a representative of a Member State on an exceptional basis, if his or her participation was in a role other than that of representative of a State, for example, as chairperson of the Peacebuilding Commission or one of its country-specific configurations, or as the representative of an organization.¹⁰⁴

During the period under review, a total of 498 invitations were extended under rule 39, 255 in 2010 and 243 in 2011 (see figure IV).

¹⁰³ For example, at the 6357th (closed) meeting, on 12 July 2010, the Head of the Committee of Financial Experts of Iraq, who had been invited under rule 37 at the 6356th meeting, was invited “pursuant to the decision taken at the 6356th meeting” (S/PV.6357). Similarly, at the 6689th (closed) meeting, on 15 December 2011, the representative of the Sudan, who had been invited under rule 37 at the 6688th meeting, was invited “pursuant to the decision taken at the 6688th meeting” (S/PV.6689).

¹⁰⁴ For example, at the 6257th meeting, on 13 January 2010, the representative of Australia was invited under rule 39 to participate on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum. At the 6345th meeting, on 28 June 2010, the representative of Belgium and Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission was invited under rule 39.

Figure IV
Invitations extended under rule 39, 2007-2011

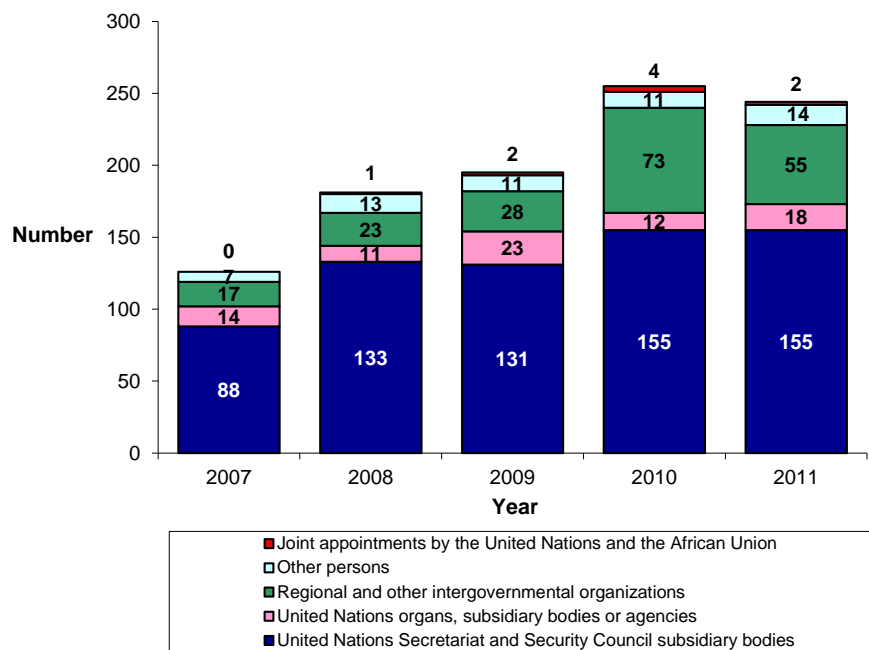


Invitations under rule 39 are extended to five categories of persons or entities, namely (a) the Secretariat and subsidiary bodies of the Council; (b) other organs of the United Nations, subsidiary bodies or agencies; (c) regional and other intergovernmental organizations; (d) other persons; and (e) persons holding joint appointments by the United Nations and the African Union (see figure V).

In 2010, the number of invitations under rule 39 extended to category (a) increased to 155, from 131 in

2009, and invitations extended to category (c) increased to 73, from 28 in 2009; the number of invitations extended to category (b) declined to 12, from 23 in 2009. In 2011, in comparison with the previous year, the number of invitations extended to category (a) remained largely the same, at 154, while the invitations extended to category (c) declined to 55. There were no major changes in the number of invitations under rule 39 extended to other categories during the period.

Figure V
Invitees under rule 39, by category, 2007-2011



First-time invitations under rule 39

During the period, 17 invitations were extended under rule 39 to participate for the first time in Council meetings (see table 8). At the 6341st meeting, on 16 June 2010, under the item entitled “Children and armed conflict”, Ms. Manju Gurung, a former child soldier in Nepal, was invited to participate, under rule 39.¹⁰⁵ Previously, child soldiers were not invited expressly under rule 39.¹⁰⁶

Several representatives of South Sudan were invited under rule 39 to participate for the first time in Council meetings, before South Sudan was admitted by the General Assembly to membership in the United Nations on 14 July 2011.¹⁰⁷

¹⁰⁷ For example, the Vice-President of South Sudan was invited under rule 39 at the 6583rd meeting, on 13 July 2011.

¹⁰⁵ S/PV.6341, p. 2.

¹⁰⁶ See Supplement 2008-2009 to the *Repertoire*, part II, sect. VII.C.

Table 8
First-time invitations under rule 39, 2010-2011

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>
Secretariat officials and subsidiary bodies of the Security Council		
Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women	6302 27 April 2010	Women and peace and security
Chair of the Secretary-General's Panel on the Referenda in the Sudan	6452 16 December 2010	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to Libya	6509 4 April 2011	The situation in Libya
Chair of the Senior Advisory Group for the Review of International Civilian Capacities	6533 12 May 2011	Post-conflict peacebuilding
Special Representative of the Secretary-General to the African Union and Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union	6561 21 June 2011	Peace and security in Africa
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan	6656 11 November 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa	6657 14 November 2011	Central African region
Under-Secretary-General for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	6411 26 October 2010	Women and peace and security
Regional and other intergovernmental organizations		
Head of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo	6353 6 July 2010	Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) , 1199 (1998) , 1203 (1998) , 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)
Other persons		
Ms. Manju Gurung (former child soldier in Nepal)	6341 16 June 2010	Children and armed conflict
Ms. Thelma Awori (Civil Society Advisory Group to the United Nations on Women, Peace and Security)	6411 26 October 2010	Women and peace and security
Mr. Deng Alor Kuol (Minister of Regional Cooperation of the Government of Southern Sudan)	6478 9 February 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Mr. David Buom Choat (Political, United Nations and Congressional Affairs Officer of the Government of Southern Sudan)	6522 27 April 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>
Mr. Enver Hoxhaj	6534 12 May 2011	Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)
Mr. Ezekiel Lol Gatkuoth (on behalf of the Government of Southern Sudan)	6542 31 May 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Mr. Riek Marcher Teny-Dhurgon (Vice-President of South Sudan)	6583 13 July 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Ms. Mateya Kelley (International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission)	6650 9 November 2011	Protection of civilians in armed conflict

Renewal of invitations extended under rule 39

As in the case of invitations extended under rule 37, renewal of invitations under rule 39 was automatic if the meeting was resumed. Unless otherwise indicated, invitations extended at the first meeting of consecutive meetings on the same item were automatically renewed at each meeting.¹⁰⁸

¹⁰⁸ For example, at the 6337th (closed) meeting, on 11 June 2010, under the item entitled “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan”, Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, was invited “pursuant to the decision taken at the 6336th meeting of the Council” (S/PV.6337).

Videoconferencing

During the period under review, videoconferencing continued to be utilized at meetings of the Council. Generally, videoconferencing was used for briefings by Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and other mission personnel located in the field. Seven briefings were conducted via videoconferencing in 2010 and 14 in 2011 (see table 9).

Table 9
Briefings via videoconferencing, 2010-2011

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Briefer</i>
6376 (closed) 3 September 2010	Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Liberia and Head of the United Nations Mission in Liberia
6415 3 November 2010	The situation in Côte d’Ivoire	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d’Ivoire and Head of the United Nations Operation in Côte d’Ivoire (UNOCI)
6420 (closed) 11 November 2010	Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan (UNMIS); Force Commander of UNMIS
6425 16 November 2010	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Chairperson of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Briefer</i>
6436 (closed) 7 December 2010	Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B	Principal Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire
6437 7 December 2010	The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire and Head of UNOCI
6443 (closed) 10 December 2010	Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B	Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT); Head of the police component of MINURCAT
6468 18 January 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and Head of UNMIS; Chair of the Secretary-General's Panel on the Referenda in the Sudan
6474 26 January 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Joint African Union-United Nations Special Representative for Darfur
6478 9 February 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Head of the African Union Liaison Office in the Sudan
6494 10 March 2011	The situation in Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia and Head of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS)
6513 13 April 2011	The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire and Head of UNOCI
6559 20 June 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and Head of UNMIS; Chairperson of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel
6599 10 August 2011	The situation in Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNPOS
6601 18 August 2011	Central African region	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa
6656 11 November 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)
6660 15 November 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMISS
6668 23 November 2011	Maintenance of international peace and security	Director-General of the World Health Organization

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Briefer</i>
6674 5 December 2011	Peace and security in Africa	Permanent Representative of Uganda to the African Union; President of Djibouti; Prime Minister of Ethiopia; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kenya; President of Somalia
6690 19 December 2011	The situation in Afghanistan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
6698 22 December 2011	The situation in Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya

C. Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39

During the period under review, the Council extended several invitations not expressly under rule 37 or rule 39 (see table 10).

Invitations to representatives of Palestine to participate in meetings of the Council were routinely extended, without reference to any rule and “in accordance with

the provisional rules of procedure and the previous practice in this regard”.

At the 6408th (closed) meeting, on 21 October 2010, under the item entitled “The situation in Somalia”, the Under-Secretary-General for Field Support and the Force Commander of the African Union Mission in Somalia participated without any invitation, under either rule 37 or rule 39.¹⁰⁹

¹⁰⁹ S/PV.6408.

Table 10

Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39, 2010-2011

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>
Palestine ^a	6265 27 January 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6298 14 April 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6325 31 May 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6326 1 June 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6341 16 June 2010	Children and armed conflict
	6363 21 July 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6404 18 October 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>
	6411 26 October 2010	Women and peace and security
	6470 19 January 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6484 18 February 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6520 21 April 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6590 26 July 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6636 24 October 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

^a The representatives were at the level of President, Minister for Foreign Affairs or Permanent Observer.

D. Discussions relating to participation

During the period under review, there were no formal discussions concerning invitations to Member States or individuals to participate in meetings. The question of the participation of non-members in meetings of the Council, in particular Member States directly involved or specially affected by situations under consideration by the Council, was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 6).

Case 6

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council

At the 6300th meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,¹¹⁰ the question of the participation of Member States which were directly involved or specially affected by situations under consideration by the Council was raised by several speakers, some explicitly citing

Article 31 of the Charter,¹¹¹ while others called for increased participation in more general terms.¹¹² The representative of Cuba said that the State concerned should be allowed to participate in Council discussions on topics that affected it directly, in accordance with Article 31 of the Charter.¹¹³ The representative of Colombia said that efforts should be made to reduce the number of closed meetings that limited access by Member States, and to guarantee the participation of non-members of the Council in the discussion of matters that affected them directly.¹¹⁴ The representative of Ecuador, while recognizing the important role of closed consultations, said that priority should be given to incorporating the opinions of other Member States, in respect for the provisions of Articles 31 and 32 of

¹¹⁰ The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507). The agenda for the 6300th meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, while the agenda for the 6672nd meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

¹¹¹ S/PV.6300, p. 15 (Brazil); p. 22 (Egypt, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); p. 28 (Sierra Leone); and p. 35 (Slovenia); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 9 (Cuba); p. 10 (India); pp. 13-14 (Islamic Republic of Iran); p. 20 (Namibia); p. 24 (Ecuador); and p. 27 (Pakistan).

¹¹² S/PV.6300, p. 3 (Turkey); p. 6 (China); p. 7 (Austria); p. 21 (Liechtenstein); p. 34 (South Africa); and p. 38 (Switzerland); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 2 (Philippines); p. 5 (New Zealand); p. 7 (Costa Rica); p. 9 (Cuba); p. 11 (Uruguay); p. 15 (Singapore); p. 22 (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)); and p. 28 (Republic of Korea).

¹¹³ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 9.

¹¹⁴ Ibid., p. 18.

the Charter.¹¹⁵ The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran said that the refusal to allow non-members of the Council to participate in discussions on matters affecting them and their interests, the denial of their right to brief the Council on their positions on issues having a direct effect on their national interests, as well as the denial of the right of reply to countries against which allegations were raised during certain formats of the meetings of the Council, were in total disregard of Article 31 of the Charter.¹¹⁶ The representative of Namibia said that the Council's practice of discussing issues without giving Member States with an interest in those issues an

opportunity to participate in any meaningful way was contrary to the provisions of Article 31 of the Charter.¹¹⁷

At the 6672nd meeting, on 30 November 2011, under the item entitled "Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)", the representative of India said that Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter must be fully implemented, by consulting with non-members of the Council on a regular basis, especially Member States with a special interest in the substantive matter under consideration by the Council.¹¹⁸

¹¹⁵ Ibid., p. 24.

¹¹⁶ Ibid., pp. 13-14.

¹¹⁷ Ibid., p. 20.

¹¹⁸ S/PV.6672, p. 13.

VIII. Decision-making and voting

Note

Section VIII covers the practice of the Council concerning decision-making, including voting, in relation to the provisions of Article 27 of the Charter and rule 40 of the provisional rules of procedure. The section also covers rules 31, 32, 34 to 36 and 38, which govern the various aspects of voting on draft resolutions, amendments and substantive motions.

Article 27, together with rule 40, governs voting in the Council. It provides that decisions on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members and that decisions on all other matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members including the permanent members. Rules 31, 32, 34 to 36 and 38 deal with the conduct of business with regard to voting. Rule 31 concerns the introduction in writing of proposed resolutions, amendments and substantive motions, and rules 32, 34 to 36, and 38 specify the voting procedures such as the order in which draft resolutions and amendments are put to a vote, separate voting on parts of a motion or draft resolution, seconding a motion or draft resolution, the withdrawal of a motion or draft resolution, and sponsorship by non-members of the Council.

Article 27

1. *Each member of the Security Council shall have one vote.*

2. *Decisions of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members.*

3. *Decisions of the Security Council on all other matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members including the concurring votes of the permanent members; provided that, in decisions under Chapter VI, and under paragraph 3 of Article 52, a party to a dispute shall abstain from voting.*

Rule 31

Proposed resolutions, amendments and substantive motions shall normally be placed before the representatives in writing.

Rule 32

Principal motions and draft resolutions shall have precedence in the order of their submission.

Parts of a motion or of a draft resolution shall be voted on separately at the request of any representative, unless the original mover objects.

Rule 34

It shall not be necessary for any motion or draft resolution proposed by a representative on the Security Council to be seconded before being put to a vote.

Rule 35

A motion or draft resolution can at any time be withdrawn so long as no vote has been taken with respect to it.

If the motion or draft resolution has been seconded, the representative on the Security Council who has seconded it may require that it be put to the vote as his motion or draft resolution with the same right of precedence as if the original mover had not withdrawn it.

Rule 36

If two or more amendments to a motion or draft resolution are proposed, the President shall rule on the order in which they are to be voted upon. Ordinarily, the Security Council shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed until all amendments have been put to the vote, but when an amendment adds to or deletes from the text of a motion or draft resolution, that amendment shall be voted on first.

Rule 38

Any Member of the United Nations invited in accordance with the preceding rule, or in application of Article 32 of the Charter, to participate in the discussions of the Security Council may submit proposals and draft resolutions. These proposals and draft resolutions may be put to a vote only at the request of a representative on the Security Council.

Rule 40

Voting in the Security Council shall be in accordance with the relevant Articles of the Charter and of the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

Section VIII comprises four sub-sections, as follows: A, Decisions of the Security Council; B, Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38; C, Decision-making by voting; D, Decision-making without a vote; and E, Discussions concerning the decision-making process.

During the period under review, rule 31 was routinely applied at the meetings of the Council. As there was no instance of a motion or amendment requiring voting, submission of competing draft resolutions, request for separate voting on parts of a draft resolution, or withdrawal of a draft resolution, on no occasion were rules 32 and 34 to 36 invoked.

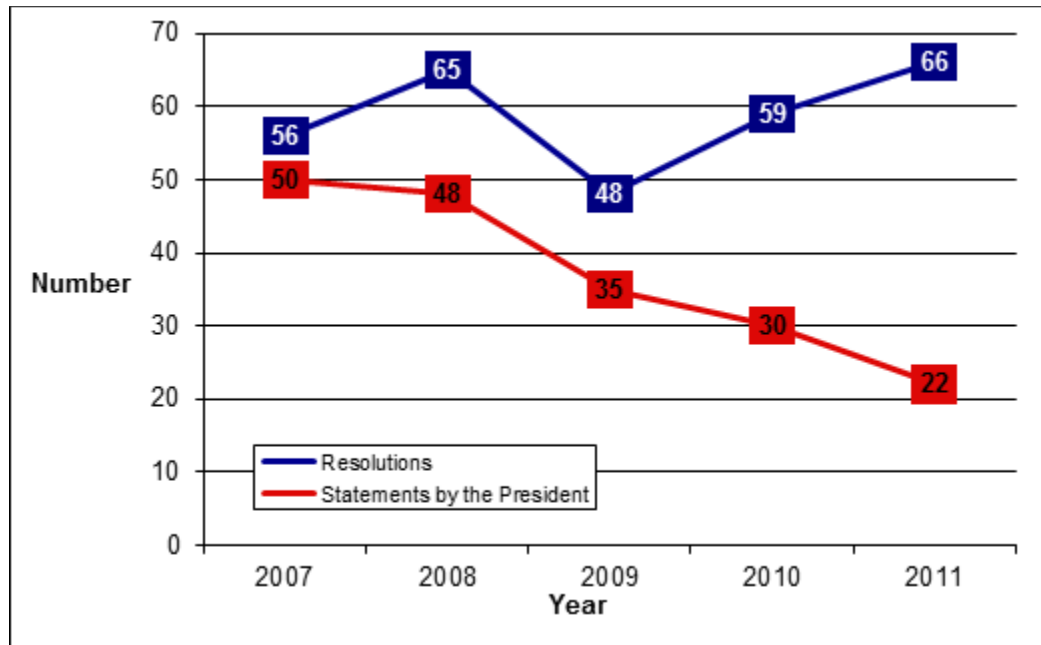
A. Decisions of the Security Council

During the period under review, the Council continued to adopt resolutions and statements by the President, in addition to procedural decisions. Decisions of the Council also took the form of notes or letters by the President, which were issued as documents of the Council.¹¹⁹

During the period under review, the Council adopted 125 resolutions and 52 statements by the President. Figure VI shows the total number of resolutions and statements by the President during the five-year period 2007 to 2011.

¹¹⁹ For the text of all resolutions, statements and procedural decisions adopted at Council meetings, as well as notes or letters issued by the President during the period under review, see the United Nations publication *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council* (S/INF/65, S/INF/66 and S/INF/67).

Figure VI
Number of resolutions and statements by the President, 2007-2011



Multiple decisions at one meeting

While the standard practice of the Council was to adopt a single decision at a meeting, during the period there were several occasions on which the Council adopted more than one decision at a single meeting. Of these, two instances related to the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, when the Council adopted a statement by the President immediately following the adoption of

the resolution.¹²⁰ The other instances related to the situation in Sierra Leone, the situation concerning Iraq, and threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. In four cases, a statement by the President was issued immediately after the adoption of one or more resolutions; in two cases, two resolutions were adopted at the same meeting (see table 11).

¹²⁰ See [S/PV.6352](#) and [S/PV.6462](#).

Table 11
Meetings at which more than one decision was taken, 2010-2011

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Decisions</i>
6352 30 June 2010	The situation in the Middle East	Resolution 1934 (2010) , S/PRST/2010/12
6392 29 September 2010	The situation in Sierra Leone	Resolutions 1940 (2010) and 1941 (2010)
6450 15 December 2010	The situation concerning Iraq	Resolutions 1956 (2010) , 1957 (2010) and 1958 (2010) , S/PRST/2010/27
6462 22 December 2010	The situation in the Middle East	Resolution 1965 (2010) , S/PRST/2010/30

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Decisions</i>
6557 17 June 2011	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	Resolutions 1988 (2011) and 1989 (2011)
6582 13 July 2011	Admission of new Members	Resolution 1999 (2011), S/PRST/2011/14

B. Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38

A draft resolution may be submitted by any member of the Council. According to rule 38 of the provisional rules of procedure, any Member of the United Nations may also submit a proposal, but a proposal may be put to the vote only at the request of a Council member. Those Member States which submit a draft resolution become sponsors of the draft

resolution. A draft resolution may become a presidential text if all the Council members agree.

During the period under review, 126 draft resolutions were considered by the Council, of which 119 were sponsored texts, while 7 were presidential texts.¹²¹ A total of 21 draft resolutions were sponsored by non-members of the Council (see table 12).

¹²¹ S/2010/29 (see S/PV.6261), S/2010/141, S/2010/271, S/2010/346, S/2010/557, S/2011/417 and S/2011/421.

Table 12

Draft resolutions sponsored by non-members of the Council, 2010-2011

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Adopted resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-member sponsors</i>
S/2010/29	The question concerning Haiti	6261 19 January 2010	1908 (2010)	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay
S/2010/95	The situation in Timor-Leste	6278 26 February 2010	1912 (2010)	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines, Portugal, South Africa
S/2010/216	The situation concerning Western Sahara	6305 30 April 2010	1920 (2010)	France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Spain
S/2010/277	The question concerning Haiti	6330 4 June 2010	1927 (2010)	Austria, Brazil, France, Japan, Mexico, United States	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Peru, Spain, Uruguay

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<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Adopted resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-member sponsors</i>
S/2010/283	Non-proliferation	6335 9 June 2010	1929 (2010)	France, United Kingdom, United States	Germany
S/2010/454	The situation in the Middle East	6375 30 August 2010	1937 (2010)	France, United States	Belgium, Italy, Spain
S/2010/519	The question concerning Haiti	6399 14 October 2010	1944 (2010)	Brazil, France, Japan, Mexico, United States	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru, Spain, Uruguay
S/2010/582	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	6426 18 November 2010	1948 (2010)	Austria, France, Russian Federation, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States	Germany, Italy
S/2010/592	The situation in Somalia	6429 23 November 2010	1950 (2010)	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Canada, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Norway, Somalia, Ukraine
S/2010/641	Women and peace and security	6453 16 December 2010	1960 (2010)	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Albania, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda,

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Adopted resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-member sponsors</i>
					Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine
S/2010/644	The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	6458 20 December 2010	1962 (2010)	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Gabon, Nigeria, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Germany
S/2011/24	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	6484 18 February 2011	Not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent member	Brazil, Gabon, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, South Africa	Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Qatar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia,

Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, 2010-2011

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Adopted resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-member sponsors</i>
					Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe
S/2011/86	The situation in Timor-Leste	6487 24 February 2011	1969 (2011)	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States	Australia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Philippines
S/2011/228	The situation in Somalia	6512 11 April 2011	1976 (2011)	Colombia, France, Gabon, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation	Denmark, Italy, Spain, Ukraine
S/2011/268	The situation concerning Western Sahara	6523 27 April 2011	1979 (2011)	France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Spain
S/2011/425	Children and armed conflict	6581 12 July 2011	1998 (2011)	Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Gabon, Germany, Nigeria, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States	Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Qatar,

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Adopted resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-member sponsors</i>
					Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine
S/2011/545	The situation in the Middle East	6605 30 August 2011	2004 (2011)	France, Germany, United States	Italy, Spain
S/2011/637	The question concerning Haiti	6631 14 October 2011	2012 (2011)	Brazil, Colombia, France, United States	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Peru, Spain, Uruguay
S/2011/650	The situation in Somalia	6635 24 October 2011	2015 (2011)	France, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Denmark, Greece, Italy, Norway, Spain, Ukraine
S/2011/713	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	6661 16 November 2011	2019 (2011)	France, Germany, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Italy, Spain
S/2011/725	The situation in Somalia	6663 22 November 2011	2020 (2011)	France, Germany, India, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Norway

C. Decision-making by voting

According to Article 27 (2) and (3) of the Charter, decisions of the Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members, while an affirmative vote of nine members, including the concurring votes of the permanent members, is required for decisions on all other matters, that is, substantive or non-procedural matters. However, the result of a vote in the Council does not in itself indicate whether the Council considers the matter voted upon as procedural or substantive. For example, whether a vote is procedural or substantive cannot be determined when a proposal is (a) adopted by a unanimous vote; (b) adopted by an affirmative vote of all permanent members; or (c) not adopted, having

failed to obtain the required nine affirmative votes. If a proposal is adopted, having obtained nine or more affirmative votes, with one or more permanent members casting a negative vote, that indicates that the vote is considered procedural. Conversely, if the proposal is not adopted, the vote is considered substantive. On certain occasions, in its early years, the Council found it necessary to decide, by vote, the question whether the matter under consideration was procedural within the meaning of Article 27 (2). This procedure is known as the “preliminary question”, after the language used in the San Francisco Statement on Voting Procedure. In recent years, however, there have been no instances in which the Council decided to examine the preliminary question. Furthermore, procedural motions such as the adoption of the agenda,

the extension of invitations, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting have generally been decided upon by the Council without a vote. When such motions were voted upon, the vote was considered procedural. During the period under review, there were no changes to this established practice, and no instances of a vote being considered procedural.

Adoption of resolutions

During the period under review, the majority of resolutions — 113 of 125 — were adopted unanimously. Nine resolutions were adopted without a unanimous vote (see table 13).

Table 13
Resolutions adopted without a unanimous vote, 2010-2011

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Negative vote</i>	<i>Abstention</i>
1929 (2010)	Non-proliferation	6335 9 June 2010	12-2-1	Brazil, Turkey	Lebanon
1930 (2010)	The situation in Cyprus	6339 15 June 2010	14-1-0	Turkey	
1945 (2010)	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	6401 14 October 2010	14-0-1		China
1953 (2010)	The situation in Cyprus	6445 14 December 2010	14-1-0	Turkey	
1958 (2010)	The situation concerning Iraq	6450 15 December 2010	14-0-1		France
1966 (2010)	International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991; International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994	6463 22 December 2010	14-0-1		Russian Federation
1973 (2011)	The situation in Libya	6498 17 March 2011	10-0-5		Brazil, China, Germany, India, Russian Federation

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Negative vote</i>	<i>Abstention</i>
1984 (2011)	Non-proliferation	6552 9 June 2011	14-0-1		Lebanon
2023 (2011)	Peace and security in Africa	6674 5 December 2011	13-0-2		China, Russian Federation

Draft resolutions not adopted

Under Article 27 (3) of the Charter, a draft resolution on a non-procedural matter is not adopted when it fails to obtain the necessary nine votes in favour, or when a negative vote is cast by a permanent member. During the period under review, while there was no instance of a draft resolution being rejected for lack of nine affirmative votes, two draft resolutions were rejected because of the negative vote of a permanent member (see table 14).

At the 6389th meeting, on 23 September 2010, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”, the Minister for External Relations of Brazil said that imaginative formulas to

make the use of the veto more difficult or encourage self-restraint were necessary.¹²² At the 6404th meeting, on 18 October 2010, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela said that the right of veto in the Council should be eliminated, and binding force granted to the decisions of the General Assembly.¹²³

During the period under review, the question of the veto was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 7).

¹²² S/PV.6389, p. 16.

¹²³ S/PV.6404 (Resumption 1), p. 22.

Table 14

Draft resolutions not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent member, 2010-2011

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Permanent member(s) casting a negative vote</i>
S/2011/24	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	6484 18 February 2011	14-1-0	United States
S/2011/612	The situation in the Middle East	6627 4 October 2011	9-2-4	China, Russian Federation

Case 7

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council

At the 6300th meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,¹²⁴ the question of the veto was raised by several speakers, some suggesting ways in which its use could be restricted.¹²⁵ The representative of Egypt said that the working methods of the Council would not be improved unless the misuse of the right to veto, or the threat of use of the veto, was addressed, in a manner that would rationalize and restrict its use to cases where severe violations of human rights were being committed, as well as to the cessation of hostilities between belligerent parties, and the election of the Secretary-General.¹²⁶ The representative of Colombia said that the use of the veto could be limited to situations under Chapter VII of the Charter, and only in situations calling for the use of force or the imposition of sanctions. She also said that consideration could be given to increasing the number of negative votes by permanent members required for a draft resolution not to be adopted.¹²⁷ The representative of Cuba said it was important as a first step to consider various options for limiting the use of the veto, such as limiting the use of the veto to votes on measures adopted by the Council under Chapter VII of the Charter; allowing for the possible annulment of the veto through an affirmative vote by an agreed number of Council members in line with the number of members of an expanded Council; or allowing for a possible annulment of the veto by a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly.¹²⁸

At the 6672nd meeting, on 30 November 2011, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”,

the question of the restriction of the veto was again considered by the Council.¹²⁹ Several speakers said that permanent members should voluntarily refrain from the use or threat of use of the veto altogether in situations where there were serious allegations of genocide, crimes against humanity and grave breaches of international humanitarian law.¹³⁰ Others suggested some new measures to restrict the use of the veto. The representative of Liechtenstein suggested that a new practice could be established that would allow a permanent member to cast a negative vote without giving it the effect of a veto; that would enable any permanent member to take a clear position on the substance of a text, while making it clear that it did not intend to block the adoption of a proposal.¹³¹ The representative of Spain said that measures to limit the use of the veto would be, at the least, an obligation of conduct.¹³² The representative of New Zealand said that agreement on an informal code guiding the use of the veto would be a welcome initiative.¹³³

Abstention, non-participation or absence

Under Article 27 (3), a party to a dispute shall abstain from voting in decisions of the Council under Chapter VI of the Charter. Such an abstention is defined as an obligatory abstention, while an abstention that does not fall under Article 27 (3) is defined as a voluntary abstention.

During the period under review, there were no obligatory abstentions. As listed in table 13, there were seven occasions of voluntary abstentions on the part of Council members. In five of those cases a permanent member voluntarily abstained from voting. The abstention of a permanent member did not, however, affect the adoption of the draft resolutions in those cases.

There were no instances of non-participation by any Council members. There were also no instances of votes taken in the absence of a Council member.

¹²⁴ The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507). The agenda for the 6300th meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, while the agenda for the 6672nd meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

¹²⁵ S/PV.6300, p. 22 (Egypt); and p. 36 (Slovenia); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 9 (Cuba); p. 14 (Islamic Republic of Iran); p. 18 (Colombia); and p. 25 (Qatar).

¹²⁶ S/PV.6300, pp. 22-23.

¹²⁷ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 18.

¹²⁸ Ibid., pp. 9-10.

¹²⁹ S/PV.6672, p. 4 (Russian Federation); p. 10 (Lebanon); pp. 21-23 (Jordan); p. 24 (Egypt, on behalf of Non-Aligned Movement); and p. 26 (Liechtenstein); S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 4 (Slovenia); p. 10 (Spain); p. 18 (New Zealand); and p. 20 (Portugal).

¹³⁰ S/PV.6672, p. 23 (Jordan); S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 4 (Slovenia); and p. 10 (Spain).

¹³¹ S/PV.6672, p. 26.

¹³² S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 10.

¹³³ Ibid., p. 18.

D. Decision-making without a vote

Most procedural motions in the Council, such as questions relating to the agenda, or the suspension or adjournment of meetings, are adopted without a vote. Certain motions of substance can also be adopted without a vote.

During the period under review, there were four occasions when a decision was adopted without a vote. Two instances concerned the date of the election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice, one concerned the appointment of the Secretary-General, and one concerned the admission of new Members to the United Nations (see table 15).

During the period under review, following previous Council practice, no votes were taken on decisions that took the form of statements by the President, which continued to be adopted by consensus. A total of 52 statements by the President were adopted during the period. Also following previous practice, most of the statements by the President were read out at meetings. Several statements were however adopted at the meeting without the text being read out, the President announcing only that the statement would be issued as a document of the Council.¹³⁴

¹³⁴ For example, [S/PRST/2010/22](#) was not read out at the 6411th meeting, on 26 October 2010; and [S/PRST/2010/25](#) was not read out at the 6427th meeting, on 22 November 2010.

While a statement by the President is usually considered and agreed upon by the Council members in prior consultations, there was one occasion during the period when a Council member announced its intention to disassociate itself from the statement by the President. At the 6598th meeting, on 3 August 2011, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”, the Council adopted a statement by the President concerning the Syrian Arab Republic.¹³⁵ Immediately after the adoption, the representative of Lebanon disassociated her country from the statement, as it believed that the adopted statement did not help to address the situation in the country.¹³⁶

Regarding notes by the President or letters from the President issued during the period under review, no votes were taken on them, and many were simply issued as documents of the Council.¹³⁷ There were two occasions during the period under review when, in accordance with past practice, the issuance of the notes was announced at a formal meeting. On both occasions, through notes by the President, the Council announced that its draft report to the General Assembly had been adopted without a vote (see table 16).

¹³⁵ [S/PRST/2011/16](#).

¹³⁶ [S/PV.6598](#), pp. 2-3.

¹³⁷ For complete lists of the notes by the President of the Security Council and the letters from the President issued in 2010 and 2011, see part I, sect. XIV, and appendix IV, respectively, of the reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly at its sixty-fifth, sixty-sixth and sixty-seventh sessions ([A/65/2](#), [A/66/2](#) and [A/67/2](#)).

Table 15
Resolutions adopted without a vote, 2010-2011

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Decision</i>
6285 18 March 2010	Date of election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice (S/2010/136)	Resolution 1914 (2010)
6327 2 June 2010	Date of election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice (S/2010/255)	Resolution 1926 (2010)
6556 (closed) 17 June 2011	Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations	Resolution 1987 (2011)
6582 13 July 2011	Admission of new Members to the United Nations	Resolution 1999 (2011)

Table 16

Notes by the President of the Security Council adopted at a formal meeting, 2010-2011

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Symbol</i>
6413 28 October 2010	Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly	S/2010/552
6641 27 October 2011	Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly	S/2011/664

E. Discussions concerning the decision-making process

During the period under review, the question of the incorporation of inputs from non-members of the Council in the outcome documents of Council meetings was raised at several meetings. At the 6427th meeting, on 22 November 2010, under the item entitled “Protection of civilians in armed conflict”, the representative of Peru said that he believed it very important that, before the adoption of statements by the President, the opinions of Member States on the issue at hand should be listened to and considered.¹³⁸ At the 6587th meeting, on 20 July 2011, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela said that the statement by the President had been read out before the debate had ended and before the statements of several delegations had been heard. He stated that the procedure was inconsiderate and another example of the exclusive nature of the decision-making of the Council.¹³⁹

During the period under review, the question of the decision-making process of the Council was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 8).

**Case 8
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council**

At the 6300th meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the

President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,¹⁴⁰ speakers considered the question of the involvement of Member States in the decision-making process of the Council, including the role of elected Council members, the circulation of draft resolutions, and the interaction of the Council with troop- and police-contributing countries and other bodies such as the Peacebuilding Commission.

The role of elected members of the Council in its decision-making process was raised by several speakers. The representative of Turkey said that the fact that the Council often acted as a quasi-judicial body whose decisions, such as sanctions, affected international law, meant that involving every Council member fully in decision-shaping and decision-making processes was of even further significance in that respect.¹⁴¹ The representative of Portugal said that the Council and its members must continuously strive to preserve the adequate involvement of all Council members, improve information exchange and promote participation and initiative in its internal decision-making process.¹⁴² The representative of South Africa said that there was a need for improvement in the decision-making process of the Council. For example, the deliberations of the Council on draft resolutions should be open for genuine deliberations among all of

¹³⁸ S/PV.6427 (Resumption 1), p. 16.

¹³⁹ S/PV.6587 (Resumption 1), p. 35.

¹⁴⁰ The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507). The agenda for the 6300th meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, while the agenda for the 6672nd meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

¹⁴¹ S/PV.6300, p. 4.

¹⁴² Ibid., p. 33.

its members, including the 10 elected members, and should not be the exclusive domain of a few.¹⁴³

Several speakers referred to the process of drafting resolutions.¹⁴⁴ The representative of Colombia suggested that advance circulation of or access to draft resolutions would be a step towards greater transparency in the work and decision-making of the Council.¹⁴⁵ The representative of Namibia noted that, at times, elected members of the Council experienced difficulties in participating effectively, particularly when draft resolutions had been negotiated behind the scenes among the five permanent members. He said that sufficient time should be allotted for all members of the Council to be consulted as well as for their consideration of drafts prior to any action by the Council on specific items.¹⁴⁶

The question of the involvement of troop- and police-contributing countries as part of the decision-making process of the Council was raised by several speakers, together with specific proposals for improvement.¹⁴⁷ The representative of Brazil said that consultations should be held as early as possible in the negotiation of mandate renewals for peacekeeping missions so that the views of troop- and police-contributing countries could be considered by the Council fully in a timely manner.¹⁴⁸ Similarly, the representative of Finland said that troop- and police-contributing countries should be better engaged in all

stages of decision-making regarding peacekeeping operations, starting with the planning of mandates.¹⁴⁹

Several speakers emphasized the importance of expanding the involvement of the Peacebuilding Commission in the decision-making process of the Council.¹⁵⁰ The representative of Austria said that it would be beneficial for the Council to have the Chairs of all country-specific configurations of the Commission participate in the relevant consultations of the Council independently of whether they represented Council members or not.¹⁵¹ The representative of Germany said that the Council needed to consider ways to maximize the use of the advisory role of the Peacebuilding Commission, particularly with regard to early peacebuilding activities carried out by peacekeepers.¹⁵² The representative of Pakistan said that the Council should have more structured interaction with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as troop- and police-contributing countries.¹⁵³

The question of the contributions of Member States at open debates was also raised, several speakers calling for them to be duly reflected in the outcome documents of the Council. The representative of Finland, on behalf of the Nordic countries, said that they welcomed an increased focus on how the thematic debates could become more action-oriented, and could feed into future decisions of the Council on the topic, ensuring that key provisions of the thematic resolutions were incorporated into country-specific resolutions.¹⁵⁴ The representative of Cuba said that opinions expressed by Member States in thematic open debates should be reflected in the decisions of the Council.¹⁵⁵ The representative of Costa Rica said that the adoption of decisions by the Council agreed upon before the debate seemed to indicate that the Council was not

¹⁴³ *Ibid.*, p. 34.

¹⁴⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 15 (Brazil); p. 24 (Finland); p. 34 (South Africa); and p. 36 (Slovenia); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 5 (New Zealand); p. 6 (Australia); p. 7 (Costa Rica); p. 10 (India); p. 13 (Islamic Republic of Iran); p. 17 (Germany); p. 18 (Colombia); p. 20 (Namibia); and p. 23 (Malaysia).

¹⁴⁵ [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 18.

¹⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 20.

¹⁴⁷ [S/PV.6300](#), p. 3 (Turkey); p. 5 (Russian Federation); p. 6 (China); p. 7 (Austria); p. 8 (United Kingdom); p. 11 (Nigeria); p. 13 (France); p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 15 (Brazil); p. 25 (Finland); p. 30 (Italy); and p. 32 (Jordan); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 3 (Canada); p. 4 (New Zealand); p. 6 (Australia); p. 7 (Costa Rica); p. 10 (India); p. 11 (Uruguay); p. 16 (Ukraine); p. 17 (Germany); p. 20 (Namibia); p. 21 (Czech Republic); p. 23 (Malaysia); p. 24 (Ecuador); p. 27 (Pakistan); and p. 28 (Republic of Korea).

¹⁴⁸ [S/PV.6300](#), p. 15.

¹⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 25.

¹⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 7 (Austria); p. 9 (United Kingdom); p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 15 (Brazil); p. 23 (Luxembourg); p. 25 (Finland, on behalf of the Nordic countries); p. 29 (Slovakia); p. 34 (South Africa); and p. 38 (Switzerland); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 4 (Canada); p. 6 (Australia); p. 8 (Argentina); p. 12 (Malta); p. 17 (Germany); pp. 21-22 (Czech Republic); and p. 27 (Pakistan).

¹⁵¹ [S/PV.6300](#), p. 7.

¹⁵² [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 17.

¹⁵³ *Ibid.*, p. 27.

¹⁵⁴ [S/PV.6300](#), p. 24.

¹⁵⁵ [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9.

interested in hearing the points of view of the broader membership before making decisions.¹⁵⁶

At the 6672nd meeting, on 30 November 2011, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the question of the decision-making process was again discussed.¹⁵⁷ The representative of Brazil said that the Council should grant non-members of the Council access to the subsidiary bodies of the Council, including the right to participate as appropriate.¹⁵⁸ The representative of Mexico said that the sanctions committees should be encouraged to hear the views of Member States affected by sanctions and to include

such views in their mandatory reports to the Council.¹⁵⁹

Several speakers made suggestions concerning the process by which the outcome documents of the Council were produced. The representative of Singapore said that open debates in themselves did not necessarily enhance the accountability, transparency, inclusiveness or effectiveness of the Council and, given that their outcomes were often predetermined, it was difficult to see how open debates could give Member States insight into the deliberations of the Council, or enable the Council to benefit from the views of Member States on its work.¹⁶⁰ The representative of Slovenia said that consideration could be given to the order of speakers at open briefings and debates, while at the same time allowing some time between the meeting and the adoption of the possible outcome document, thus demonstrating that the Council was willing to reflect on the views presented by the wider membership before the final decision was taken.¹⁶¹

¹⁵⁶ Ibid., p. 8.

¹⁵⁷ S/PV.6672, p. 3 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 4 (Russian Federation); p. 5 (France); p. 7 (Colombia); p. 8 (Nigeria); p. 9 (Germany); p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 11 (South Africa); p. 13 (India); p. 14 (United Kingdom); p. 16 (Brazil); p. 17 (United States); p. 18 (Guatemala); p. 20 (Switzerland); and p. 24 (Egypt); S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 2 (Mexico); p. 3 (Slovenia); p. 5 (Australia, Costa Rica); p. 6 (Luxembourg); p. 7 (Finland); p. 9 (Morocco); p. 11 (Sudan); pp. 12-13 (Malaysia); p. 13 (Singapore); p. 14 (Islamic Republic of Iran); pp. 15-16 (Belgium); p. 17 (New Zealand); and p. 20 (Portugal).

¹⁵⁸ S/PV.6672, p. 16.

¹⁵⁹ S/PV.6672 (Resumption 1), p. 2.

¹⁶⁰ Ibid., p. 13.

¹⁶¹ Ibid., p. 3.

IX. Languages

Note

Section IX covers rules 41 to 47 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, relating to the official and working languages of the Council, interpretation and the languages of meeting records and published resolutions and decisions.

Rule 41

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be both the official and the working languages of the Security Council.

Rule 42

Speeches made in any of the six languages of the Security Council shall be interpreted into the other five languages.

Rule 43

[Deleted]

Rule 44

Any representative may make a speech in a language other than the languages of the Security Council. In this case, he shall himself provide for interpretation into one of those languages. Interpretation into the other languages of the Security Council by the interpreters of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.

Rule 45

Verbatim records of meetings of the Security Council shall be drawn up in the languages of the Council.

Rule 46

All resolutions and other documents shall be published in the languages of the Security Council.

Rule 47

Documents of the Security Council shall, if the Security Council so decides, be published in any language other than the languages of the Council.

During the period under review, rules 41 to 47 were consistently applied. At several meetings, speakers delivered their statements in a language other

than the six official languages of the Security Council in accordance with rule 44.¹⁶²

¹⁶² For example, at the 6341st meeting, on 16 June 2010, a former child soldier briefed the Council in Nepalese; an English text was provided by the speaker (see [S/PV.6341](#), p. 9). At the 6359th meeting, on 15 July 2010, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau delivered his statement in Portuguese; an English text was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6359](#), p. 6). At the 6389th meeting, on 23 September 2010, the Prime Minister of Japan spoke in Japanese; an English text was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6389](#), p. 13). At the 6411th meeting, on 26 October 2010, the Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan spoke in Japanese; an English text was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6411](#), p. 15). At the 6421st meeting, on 11 November 2010, the Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina spoke in Bosnian; English interpretation was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6421](#), p. 5). At the 6425th meeting, on 16 November 2010, the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Japan spoke in Japanese; English interpretation was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6425](#), p. 24). At the 6650th meeting, on 9 November 2011, the President of the Council (Portugal) spoke in Portuguese; English interpretation was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6650](#), p. 2). At the 6664th meeting, on 22 November 2011, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Timor-Leste spoke in Portuguese; English interpretation was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6664](#), p. 5).

X. Provisional status of the rules of procedure

Note

Section X covers the practice of the Council concerning the status of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council. Article 30 of the Charter provides that the Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure. Since the adoption of the provisional rules of procedure at its first meeting, held on 17 January 1946, the Council has continued to use its provisional rules of procedure, last amended in 1982.¹⁶³

¹⁶³ The provisional rules of procedure of the Council were amended 11 times between 1946 and 1982: five times during the Council's first year, at its 31st, 41st, 42nd, 44th and 48th meetings, on 9 April, 16 and 17 May, and 6 and 24 June 1946; twice in its second year, at the 138th and 222nd meetings, on 4 June and 9 December 1947; and at the 468th meeting, on 28 February 1950; 1463rd meeting, on 24 January 1969; 1761st meeting, on 17 January 1974; and 2410th meeting, on 21 December

Article 30

The Security Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its President.

Discussions concerning the provisional status of the rules of procedure

During the period under review, the question of the provisional rules of procedure, including with reference to Article 30 of the Charter, was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 9).

1982. Previous versions of the provisional rules were issued under the symbols [S/96](#) and [Rev.1-6](#), the current version under the symbol [S/96/Rev.7](#).

Case 9
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council

At the 6300th meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”,¹⁶⁴ several speakers noted that the rules of procedure of the Council were still provisional, and called for the formal adoption of the rules of procedure.¹⁶⁵ The representative of Cuba said that the rules of procedure should be formalized to increase transparency and accountability.¹⁶⁶ The representative of Kenya said that the Council should finalize its rules of procedure, including new methods of work and practices that had already been agreed upon.¹⁶⁷

Several speakers explicitly referred to Article 30 of the Charter. The representative of the Russian Federation, emphasizing that Article 30 defined the prerogative of the Council to establish its own rules of procedure, said that in implementation of that role, the Council was striving methodically to improve its working methods in its Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions.¹⁶⁸ The representative of the United States, also citing Article 30, said that the Council understood the importance of making sure that other Member States were informed of and appropriately involved in its work.¹⁶⁹ The representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, speaking on behalf of the 14 members of the Caribbean Community, questioned the expansive reading that some States gave to Article 30. He said that it was impossible to read Article 30 in such a way

as to make it immune from the explicit authority of the General Assembly to discuss and make recommendations on any matters within the scope of the Charter relating to the functions of any organ of the United Nations, including the Council. While the Council might have the responsibility of formally adopting its rules of procedure, he emphasized that the General Assembly was clearly empowered not only to discuss the working methods of the Council, but to make recommendations to the Council, whether or not those recommendations touched on and concerned the rules of procedure.¹⁷⁰ The representative of Qatar noted that in Article 30 the Council was called upon to adopt its rules of procedure, and outlined several proposals for the improvement of the working methods of the Council. He said that the Council represented all Member States, and it should take their views into account when adopting its rules of procedure.¹⁷¹

At the 6672nd meeting, on 30 November 2011, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, several speakers pointed to the provisional status of the rules of procedure and called for their formal adoption.¹⁷² The representative of Switzerland said that Council was still working under the provisional rules of procedure prepared in 1946, or was following informal traditions, and those rules of procedure were neither adequate nor adapted to the needs of the present day.¹⁷³ The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, said that an initial and major concrete step towards improving the working methods of the Council would be to reach an agreement on permanent rules of procedure to replace the current provisional rules, which had been in force for more than 60 years.¹⁷⁴ The representative of the United States, citing Article 30, said that the Council recognized the need for other Member States to be informed of and appropriately involved in its work.¹⁷⁵

¹⁶⁴ The note by the President of the Council dated 19 July 2006 (S/2006/507) was superseded by a note dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507). The agenda for the 6300th meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, while the agenda for the 6672nd meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

¹⁶⁵ S/PV.6300, p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 22 (Egypt); and p. 28 (Sierra Leone); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 9 (Cuba); p. 18 (Colombia); p. 19 (Kenya); p. 20 (Namibia); and p. 22 (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela).

¹⁶⁶ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 9.

¹⁶⁷ Ibid., p. 19.

¹⁶⁸ S/PV.6300, p. 5.

¹⁶⁹ Ibid., p. 11.

¹⁷⁰ Ibid., pp. 26-27.

¹⁷¹ S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 25.

¹⁷² S/PV.6672, p. 11 (South Africa); p. 17 (United States); p. 19 (Switzerland); and p. 25 (Egypt).

¹⁷³ Ibid., p. 19.

¹⁷⁴ Ibid., p. 25.

¹⁷⁵ Ibid., p. 17.