Part II

Provisional rules of procedure and related procedural developments
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Introductory note

Part II of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* 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. Whilst the routine application of the provisional rules of procedure is described below, the main focus of the part is to feature the special application of the rules in the proceedings of the Council. Part II is divided into 10 main sections. The sections follow the order of the relevant chapters of the provisional rules of procedure, as outlined below:

Section I, Meetings and records (Article 28 of the Charter and rules 1 to 5 and 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 and 30, and 33);
Section VII, Participation (rules 37 and 39);
Section VIII, Decision-making and voting (Article 27 of the Charter and rules 31 and 32, 34 to 36, 38 and 40);
Section IX, Languages (rules 41 to 47); and
Section X, Status of the provisional rules of procedure (Article 30 of the Charter)

The remaining rules are not covered in part II, but are covered in the following parts of the present Supplement:

Rule 28, concerning subsidiary organs of the Council, in parts IX and X; and
Rule 61, regarding relations with other United Nations organs, in part IV.

During the period under review, there were no instances of application of rules 58 to 60 and therefore no material relating to these rules has been included in the present Supplement.

* * *

During the period under review, the Council held a total of 263 meetings in 2014, 22 of which were private. In 2015, the Council held a total of 245 meetings, 17 of which were private.
In 2014, the Council considered 49 items, out of which 26 dealt with country-specific and regional situations, and 23 with general and thematic and other issues. In 2015, the Council considered at its meetings a total of 45 items out of which 25 dealt with country-specific and regional situations, and 20 with general and thematic and other issues. During the period under review, the Council added three new items to its agenda in 2014, namely, “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)”, 1 “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)”, 2 and “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”. 3 During the period under review, a total of 127 resolutions were adopted (63 in 2014 and 64 in 2015) and 54 presidential statements were issued (28 in 2014 and 26 in 2015). The Council continued its practice of adopting most of its resolutions unanimously, with 116 out of 127 resolutions adopted in this manner. Five draft resolutions taken to a vote were not adopted during the reporting period; four draft resolutions were not adopted due to the negative vote of a permanent member and one draft resolution failed to be adopted because it did not obtain the required number of affirmative votes. 4

In connection with the question of the working methods of the Council, two open debates were held under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)” in the context of which a wide variety of aspects of the procedure and practice of the Council were discussed.

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1 S/PV.7123. 
2 S/PV.7154. 
3 S/PV.7353. 
4 S/2014/916. Also see S/PV.7354.
I. Meetings and records

Note


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.

This section is organized into four sub-sections: A. Convening of meetings in relation to rules 1 to 5, high-level meetings and format of meetings in relation to rule 48; B. Informal consultations of the whole; C. Informal gatherings of members of the Council; and D. Records, maintained in accordance with rules 49 to 57.

In 2014 and 2015, the Council held a total of 508 meetings, an increase of 29.6% with respect to the 2012 to 2013 biennium, and 318 informal consultations of the whole (consultations), a slight decrease from the previous biennium. In 2014, the Council held a total of

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5 Resumptions of meetings are not considered as separate meetings.
263 meetings and 167 consultations; and in 2015, 245 meetings and 151 consultations. Council members also continued to meet in the framework of informal interactive dialogues and Arria-formula meetings, following past practice. In the Statement by the President of 30 October 2015, the Security Council recalled its commitment to making a more effective use of open meetings, and to continue to take steps to improve the focus and interactivity of its open debates.\footnote{S/PRST/2015/19, third paragraph.} During the period under review, the Council expanded the practice of holding “wrap-up” sessions at the end of the month, most of which were conducted as public “wrap-up” sessions.\footnote{See S/PV.7122 (closed), S/PV.7151 (closed), S/PV.7166 (closed), S/PV.7189 (closed), S/PV.7231, S/PV.7254, S/PV.7294, S/PV.7325 and S/PV.7352 in 2014, and S/PV.7373, S/PV.7422, S/PV.7479, S/PV.7516 and S/PV.7547 in 2015, all conducted under the agenda item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”\!.} Also during 2014 and 2015, the question of the format of meetings was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council as illustrated in case 1 below.\footnote{S/PV.7285, S/PV.7285(Resumption1), S/PV.7539 and S/PV.7539(Resumption1).}

Figure 1 shows the total number of meetings and informal consultations of the whole held during the five-year period, between 2011 and 2015.

**Figure 1: Number of meetings, informal consultations of the whole, 2011-2015**

![Bar chart showing number of meetings, informal consultations by year from 2011 to 2015 with details on the chart.](chart_url)
A. Meetings

1. Application of rules related to meetings

During the period under review, the Council did not hold any “periodic meeting” pursuant to provisional rule 4 or any meeting away from headquarters in accordance with provisional rule 5. However, as described in more detail below, there was one instance of a complaint by a Member State regarding the non-convening of a meeting of the Council in spite of its explicit request to do so.

Intervals between meetings

During the period under review, the Council continued to function without intervals exceeding 14 days between its meetings, as provided for under rule 1. In 2014 and 2015, the Council continued the practice of convening, on occasion, more than one meeting a day.

Meetings requested in accordance with rules 2 or 3

During the reporting period, there were several communications from Member States requesting the Council to convene a meeting which explicitly cited rule 2 or 3 as the basis for the request. There were also communications in which Member States made explicit reference to Article 35 of the Charter. Pursuant to rule 3, the President of the Council should call a meeting of the Council if a dispute or situation is brought to the attention of the Council under Article 35. Table 1 below contains a selection of communications from Member States requesting a meeting of the Council explicitly citing rule 2 or 3 and/or Article 35 of the Charter. During the period under review, meetings were also requested to be convened without explicitly citing either rule 2 or 3, and/or Article 35. Table 2 below contains communications requesting an urgent or emergency meeting of the Council without explicitly citing rule 2 or 3 and/or Article 35 of the Charter.

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9 For further details on the application of Article 35 of the Charter during the 2014 to 2015 period, please refer to sect. I, part VI of this Supplement.
10 For details on referrals of situations to the Security Council within the framework of the Charter, see part VI, section I.
**Letters from Member States requesting a meeting in accordance with rule 2 or 3 and Article 35 in 2014 and 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter addressed to the President of the Council</th>
<th>Explicit reference to Charter or provisional rules</th>
<th>Summary of meeting request</th>
<th>Meeting convened on the basis of the request (agenda item and date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the representative of Ukraine (S/2014/136)</td>
<td>Article 35</td>
<td>Due to the deterioration of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea, which threatened the territorial integrity of Ukraine, request for an urgent meeting of the Security Council in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter.</td>
<td>Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136) 7123rd (closed), 28 February 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the representative of the Russian Federation (S/2014/264)</td>
<td>Rule 2</td>
<td>Following the request by the Russian Federation for the convening of urgent consultations in relation to the situation in Ukraine and in view of subsequent proposals by several delegations to hold such a meeting in a public format, in accordance with rule 2, request for the Security Council to convene an emergency meeting of the Council in the briefing format to consider the alarming developments in Ukraine.</td>
<td>Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264) 7154th, 13 April 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 21 July 2014 from the representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (S/2014/512)</td>
<td>Article 35</td>
<td>Strongly requested that the question of the United States-South Korea joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council, and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter.</td>
<td>No meeting was convened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 18 August 2014 from the representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (S/2014/604)</td>
<td>Article 35</td>
<td>Strongly request that the question of the United States-South Korea joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council, and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter.</td>
<td>No meeting was convened</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Explicit reference to Charter or provisional rules

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter addressed to the President of the Council</th>
<th>Rule/Reference</th>
<th>Summary of meeting request</th>
<th>Meeting convened on the basis of the request (agenda item and date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 5 December 2014 from the representatives of Australia, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, the United Kingdom and the United States (S/2014/872)</td>
<td>Rule 2</td>
<td>Request for a meeting of the Security Council on the situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, pursuant to rule 2, and request that a senior official from the Secretariat and a senior official from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights formally brief the Council under that agenda item, which would enable Council members to receive further information from the Secretariat on this situation and its implications for international peace and security.</td>
<td>The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea 7353rd, 22 December 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 25 May 2015 from the representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (S/2015/373)</td>
<td>Article 35</td>
<td>Request that the issue of the United States-South Korea joint military exercises be placed on the Security Council agenda and that a meeting of the Security Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter.</td>
<td>No meeting was convened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 19 August 2015 from the representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (S/2015/650)</td>
<td>Article 35</td>
<td>Request that the issue of the United States joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council and that a meeting of the Security Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter.</td>
<td>No meeting was convened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 21 August 2015 from the representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (S/2015/658)</td>
<td>Article 35</td>
<td>Request that the issues of South Korea’s shelling on the DPRK and psychological warfare campaigns and of the United States-South Korea joint military exercises be placed on the Security Council agenda and that a meeting of the Security Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter.</td>
<td>No meeting was convened</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 3</td>
<td>Rule 2</td>
<td>Request for a meeting of the Council on the situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea</td>
<td>No meeting was convened</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2
Communications of Member States requesting an urgent or emergency meeting in 2014 and 2015 without explicitly referring to any provision of the Charter or the provisional rules of procedure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter addressed to the President of the Council</th>
<th>Summary of meeting request</th>
<th>Meeting convened on the basis of the request (agenda item and date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identical letters dated 9 July 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine (A/ES-10/638-S/2014/483)</td>
<td>Call for an emergency meeting of the Security Council to immediately consider this crisis situation and to act collectively to bring a halt to Israel’s aggression and collective punishment of the Palestinian people throughout Occupied Palestine, particularly in the Gaza Strip.</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question 7214th, 10 July 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 13 February 2015 from the representative of the United States (S/2015/121)</td>
<td>Request for the holding of an emergency meeting on Ebola and adoption of resolution 2177 (2014), which declared the outbreak a threat to international peace and security.</td>
<td>Peace and security in Africa 7268th, 18 September 2014</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Letter addressed to the President of the Council

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Letter address</th>
<th>Summary of meeting request</th>
<th>Meeting convened on the basis of the request (agenda item and date)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Identical letters dated 27 October 2014 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine (A/ES-10/662-S/2014/765)</td>
<td>Called upon the Security Council to immediately convene an emergency meeting to address the crisis situation in Occupied East Jerusalem resulting from the illegal Israeli policies and measures, with a view to compelling Israel to cease immediately and completely its violations and to commit to the path of peace.</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, 7291st, 29 October 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 7 November 2014 from the representative of Ukraine (S/2014/798)</td>
<td>Urged the Security Council to act now to diffuse the situation in the Donbas region of Ukraine</td>
<td>Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136) 7311st, 12 November 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 12 June 2015 from the representative of France (S/2015/420)</td>
<td>The Council held an urgent meeting at the request of a member and unanimously adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2015/8).</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East 7411st, 22 March 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Complaints raised by Member States concerning the application of rule 3

In the letter dated 18 August 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea protested against the non-convening of a meeting by the Security Council “to urgently discuss the question of the United States-South Korea joint military exercises” despite the request made on 21 July 2014.

Referring to this inaction as exposing “the partiality and irresponsibility of the Security Council”, the letter also reaffirmed the position of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea that the Council should take its request into serious consideration and urgently undertake proper action. A year later, on 19 August 2015, in a letter from the Permanent Representative to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea again

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11 S/2014/604.
12 S/2014/512
requested that the issue of the United States joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council, whilst denouncing that the Council had “unjustifiably ignored the several requests of the DPRK”.

*Periodic meetings and meetings away from headquarters*

During the period under review, there were no special instances where the Council applied rule 4 or 5 concerning periodic meetings and meetings away from headquarters.

### 2. Format

**Public meetings**

The Council continued to convene public or open meetings as provided for in rule 48, mainly for the purposes of the following: (i) receiving briefings on country-specific or regional situations, or thematic issues under its consideration; (ii) holding debates on particular agenda items; and (iii) adopting decisions. During the period under review, there were a total of 469 public meetings: 241 in 2014 and 228 in 2015.

**High-level meetings**

During the review period, the Council held 14 high-level meetings in which five or more Council members were represented at the ministerial or higher levels, 10 on thematic agenda items, and 4 on regional and country-specific agenda items (see Table 3).

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13 S/2015/650

Table 3  
**High-level meetings in 2014 and 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>High-level participation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7271&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;, 19 September 2014</td>
<td>The situation concerning Iraq</td>
<td>Ministerial level (10): Argentina (Secretary of Foreign Affairs), Australia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Chad (Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration), Chile (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development), Jordan (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Affairs), Luxembourg (Minister for Foreign and European Affairs), Rwanda (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Undersecretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office), United States (Secretary of State)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7272&lt;sup&gt;nd&lt;/sup&gt;, 24 September 2014</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts</td>
<td>Heads of State and Government (13): Argentina (President), Australia (Prime Minister), Chad (President), Chile (President), France (President), Jordan (King), Lithuania (President), Luxembourg (Prime Minister), Nigeria (President), Republic of Korea (President), Rwanda (President), United Kingdom (Prime Minister), United States (President)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7316&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;, 19 November 2014</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts</td>
<td>Ministerial level (6): Argentina (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship), Australia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Lithuania (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Luxembourg (Minister for Foreign and European Affairs), Republic of Korea (Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs), Rwanda ((Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President’s Cabinet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7351&lt;sup&gt;st&lt;/sup&gt;, 19 December 2014</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security</td>
<td>Ministerial level (9): Argentina (Secretary of Foreign Affairs), Chad (Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration), Chile (Director General of Foreign Policy), Luxembourg (Minister for Foreign and European Affairs), Nigeria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Rwanda (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President’s Cabinet), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President’s Cabinet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7389&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;, 23 February 2015</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>Ministerial level (10): Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Lithuania (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Malaysia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Nigeria (Minister of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting and date</td>
<td>Item</td>
<td>High-level participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7419th. 27 March 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>Ministerial level (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), Chile (Director General of Foreign Policy of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development), Spain (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Undersecretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7432nd. 23 April 2015</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>Ministerial level (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), France (Minister for Urban Affairs, Youth and Sport), Jordan (Crown Prince), Malaysia (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President’s Cabinet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7453rd. 29 May 2015</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts</td>
<td>Ministerial level (8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Chad (Minister of Territorial Administration and Public Security), Lithuania (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Malaysia (Minister of Home Affairs), New Zealand (Attorney General), Nigeria (Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of Interior), Spain (Secretary for Homeland Security), United Kingdom (Permanent Secretary at the Home Office), United States (Secretary for Homeland Security)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7499th. 30 July 2015</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>Ministerial level (5)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), Chile (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Secretary of State for International Cooperation and Latin America), Venezuela (Minister for Foreign Affairs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7527th. 30 September 2015</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>Ministerial level (14)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Angola (Minister of External Relations), Chad (Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration), Chile (Minister for Foreign Affairs), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development), Jordan (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and Expatriates Affairs), Lithuania (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Malaysia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting and date</td>
<td>Item</td>
<td>High-level participation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7533rd, 13 October 2015</td>
<td>Women and peace and security</td>
<td>Heads of State and Government (1): Spain (Prime Minister)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Angola (Minister for Family and the Promotion of Women), Chile (Vice-Minister for the National Service for Women), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development and Member of the Parliament), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President’s Cabinet)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7540th, 22 October 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question</td>
<td>Ministerial level (6)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Jordan (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and Expatriates Affairs), Malaysia (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President’s Cabinet), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Minister for Foreign Affairs)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7587th, 17 December 2015</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts</td>
<td>Ministerial level (9)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Angola (Minister of Finance), Chile (Minister of Finance), France (Minister of Finance and Public Accounts), Jordan (Minister of Finance), Lithuania (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Malaysia (Second Minister of Finance), Spain (Minister for Economic Affairs and Competitiveness), United Kingdom (Chancellor of the Exchequer), United States (Secretary of the Treasury)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7588th, 18 December 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>Ministerial level (9):</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development), Jordan (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and Expatriates Affairs), Lithuania (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Private meetings**

During the period under review, the Council continued to meet in private, in accordance with rule 48. In 2014 and 2015, there were a total of 39 private meetings. 80% of those meetings (a total of 31) were meetings with troop-and-police contributing countries, 10% (a total of four)
were wrap-up sessions, 5% (a total of two) were considered country-specific situations; and 5% (a total of two) consisted of briefings by the President of the International Court of Justice. As shown in Figure 1 above, private meetings constituted a small percentage of all Council meetings during the period under review, approximately 8%. Figure 2 visualizes the distribution of private meetings as described above and Table 4 below provides relevant details on all private meetings held by the Council during the review period, per item and in decreasing order based on the volume of meetings.

**Figure 2: Private meetings held in 2014 and 2015**

![Pie chart showing distribution of private meetings]

Table 4

**Private meetings in 2014 and 2015**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B (31 meetings)</td>
<td>7097th, 21 January 2014; 7133th, 12 March 2014; 7135th, 14 March 2014; 7156th, 16 April 2014; 7195th, 9 June 2014; 7200th, 17 June 2014; 7201st, 17 June 2014; 7223rd, 23 July</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part II – **Provisional rules of procedure**

2014; 7233rd, 5 August 2014; 7241st, 14 August 2014; 7258th, 4 September 2014; 7261st, 10 September 2014; 7305th, 11 November 2014; 7330th, 9 December 2014; 7333rd, 10 December 2014; 7363rd, 21 January 2015; 7404th, 16 March 2015; 7406th, 17 March 2015; 7424th, 8 April 2015; 7429th, 16 April 2015; 7437th, 5 May 2015; 7454th, 3 June 2015; 7456th, 4 June 2015; 7462nd, 16 June 2015; 7465th, 17 June 2015; 7486th, 16 July 2015; 7503rd, 13 August 2015; 7518th, 8 September 2015; 7523rd, 16 September 2015; 7569th, 2 December 2015; 7579th, 14 December 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507) (four meetings)</td>
<td>7122nd, 27 February 2014; 7151st, 31 March 2014; 7166th, 30 April 2014; 7189th, 29 May 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136) (two meetings)</td>
<td>7123rd, 28 February 2014; 7131st, 10 March 2014</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice (two meetings)</td>
<td>7290th, 29 October 2014; 7548th, 4 November 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

B. Informal consultations of the whole

Informal consultations of the whole are not official meetings of the Council. They are gatherings of its members for the purpose of holding discussions and receiving briefings from the Secretariat and representatives of the Secretary-General in private. These meetings are not held in the Council’s chamber.

During the period under review, members of the Council continued to convene a large number of informal consultations of the whole: 167 times in 2014 and 151 times in 2015 (see Figure 1 above). Frequently, informal consultations of the whole would be held immediately after public meetings of the Council.

Pursuant to its established practice, no official records of informal consultations were made, and non-Council members other than briefers were not invited. However, in several
instances, press statements were issued or elements to the press were read by the President of the Council following informal consultations.\footnote{For a complete list of press statements issued during the review period, see: https://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/press/2014.shtml and https://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/press/2015.shtml.}

C. Other informal meetings of the members of the Security Council

During the period under review, the Council continued to hold informal interactive dialogues and Arria-formula meetings. In practice, informal interactive dialogues have been convened with the participation of all Council members, while Arria-formula meetings have been convened with the participation of all or some Council members. Informal interactive dialogues and Arria-formula meetings are convened at the initiative of one or more members of the Council. Whilst informal interactive dialogues are president by the President of the Security Council for the month, Arria-formula meetings are not. Frequently, the member or members convening the Arria-formula meeting would also chair the meeting. However, neither of the two types of meetings is considered a meeting of the Council; neither of these types of meetings is announced in the UN journal or in the Council’s programme of work and no official records are made.

Informal interactive dialogues

During the reporting period, the Council held 13 informal interactive dialogues. As mentioned in paragraph 59 of Note of the President S/2010/507, the Security Council utilizes informal interactive dialogues “to seek the views of Member States that are parties to a conflict and/or other interested and affected parties”. Most of the informal interactive dialogues held in 2014 and 2015 concerned country-specific or regional situations as described in Table 5 below.
Table 5

Informal interactive dialogues in 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Participants (including non-members of the Council)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>20 February 2014</td>
<td>Central African Republic</td>
<td>All Council members; Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union; Special Representative of the Chair of the African Union Commission and Head of the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 April 2014</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>All Council members; National Security Adviser of Somalia; Representative of the African Union Commission Chairperson; Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNOSOM)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 June 2014</td>
<td>Sudan and South Sudan</td>
<td>All Council members; Chair of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) mediation team on South Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 July 2014</td>
<td>Post-conflict peacebuilding</td>
<td>All Council members; Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support; Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC); Switzerland (as Chair of Burundi Configuration); Morocco (as Chair of Central African Republic Configuration); Sweden (as Chair of Liberia Configuration); Canada (Chair of Sierra Leone Configuration); Japan (as Chair of Peacebuilding Commission’s Working group on Lessons Learned); Sierra Leone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 September 2014</td>
<td>Sudan and South Sudan</td>
<td>All Council members; Chair of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel; Joint Special Representative for Darfur and Head of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID); Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Sudan and South Sudan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 November 2014</td>
<td>Mali</td>
<td>All Council members; Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; Under Secretary-General for Field Support; Deputy Military Adviser</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 November 2014</td>
<td>High-level Independent Panel on United Nations Peace Operations</td>
<td>All Council members; Chair of Secretary-General’s High-level Independent Panel on United Nations Peace Operations; Angola; Malaysia; New Zealand; Spain; Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council**


**ADVANCE VERSION**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Participants (including non-members of the Council)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 February 2015</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>All Council members; Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office in Ukraine and Chair of the Trilateral Contact Group; Head of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 May 2015</td>
<td>Migrant trafficking and the crisis in the Mediterranean Sea</td>
<td>All Council members; High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 May 2015</td>
<td>Libya/International Criminal Court (ICC)</td>
<td>All Council members; Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court; Libya</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 June 2015</td>
<td>Somalia</td>
<td>All Council members; Somalia; Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia; Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSMO); Under Secretary-General for Field Support</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 June 2015</td>
<td>Burundi</td>
<td>All Council members; Deputy Secretary-General; Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support; Executive Director of UN Women; Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC); Canada (Chair of Sierra Leone Configuration); Japan (as Chair of the Working group on Lessons Learned); Switzerland (as Chair of Burundi Configuration); Luxembourg (as Chair of Guinea Configuration); Burundi; Central African Republic; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Liberia; Sierra Leone</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**“Arria-formula” meetings**

In accordance with paragraph 65 of Note of the President S/2010/507, “Arria-formula” meetings are a flexible and informal forum utilized by members of the Council to enhance their deliberations and their contact with civil society and non-governmental organizations. Council members may invite on an informal basis any Member State, relevant organization or individual to participate in “Arria-formula” informal meetings. “Arria-formula” meetings held during the reporting period are listed in Table 6 below.
Table 6
Examples of Arria-formula meetings in 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Subject</th>
<th>Organiser(s)</th>
<th>Other participants (including non-Council members)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>17 January 2014</td>
<td>Women’s participation in resolving the Syrian conflict</td>
<td>Luxembourg; United Kingdom</td>
<td>All Council members; Representatives of the Syrian Women’s League, Syrian Women Network and the Syrian Women Coalition for Democracy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 March 2014</td>
<td>Inter-communities dialogue and prevention of crimes in the Central African Republic</td>
<td>France; Nigeria</td>
<td>All Council members; Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the prevention of genocide; Dieudonné Nzapalainga, Archbishop of Bangui; Oumar Kobine Layama, Imam, President of the Central African Republic Islamic Community (CICA); Nicolas Guérékoyame Gbangou, President of the Alliance of Evangelicals of the Central African Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31 March 2014</td>
<td>Human rights and media freedom situation in Crimea</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>All Council members; Mustafa Dzhemilev, human rights activist and former Chairman of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People; Valentyna Samar, journalist, Director of the Information Press Center in Simferopol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 April 2014</td>
<td>Human rights situation in Syria</td>
<td>France</td>
<td>All Council members; David M. Crane, first Chief Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone; Stuart J. Hamilton, forensic pathologist on the United Kingdom Home Office Register</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17 April 2014</td>
<td>Commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK)</td>
<td>Australia; United States</td>
<td>All Council members; Michael Kirby, Chair of the Commission of inquiry on human rights in the DPRK; Marzuki Darusman, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the DPRK; Sonja Biserko, member of the Commission; Lee Hyongseo and Shin Dong Hyuk, Witnesses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 May 2014</td>
<td>Protection of Internally Displaced Persons: Challenges and Role for the Security Council</td>
<td>Australia; Chile</td>
<td>All Council members; Chief of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs Policy Branch; Chaloka Beyani, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons; representatives from the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and the Women’s Refugee Commission; Alfredo Zamudio, Director of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre/Norwegian Refugee Council; Costantinos Berhutesfa, Trustee of Africa Humanitarian Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Organiser(s)</td>
<td>Other participants (including non-Council members)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 July 2014</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East: Commission of Inquiry on Syria</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>All Council members; Paulo Pinheiro, Chair, and Karen Koning AbuZayd, of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 January</td>
<td>United Nations peacekeeping operations: Human rights in peacekeeping operations</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>All Council members; Head of Human Rights Component of MINUSTAH, UNSMIL, UNAMA, MINUSMA and UNMISS; Head of Africa II Section (West and Central Africa), OHCHR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 February</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East: Commission of Inquiry on Syria</td>
<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>All Council members; Paulo Pinheiro, Chair, Karen AbuZayd; Carla del Ponte (Switzerland) and Vitit Muntarbhorn (Thailand) of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 March</td>
<td>Ukraine</td>
<td>Lithuania</td>
<td>All Council members; Andrey Zubarev, Crimean Human Rights Field Mission; Mustafa Djemilev, Member of the Verkhova Rada of Ukraine and former Chair of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 April</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East: Victims of chemical weapons attacks in Syria</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>All Council members; Mohamed Tennari, Medical doctor; Qusai Zakarya, survivor; Zaher Sahloul, President of the Syrian American Medical Society</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 April</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East: Destruction of cultural heritage and archaeology by extremists</td>
<td>France; Jordan</td>
<td>All Council members; Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO); Secretary-General of Interpol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 April</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East: Syrian Coalition</td>
<td>France; United States</td>
<td>All Council members; Khaled Khoja, President of the National Coalition of Syrian Revolution and Opposition Forces</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 May</td>
<td>Women and peace and security: Peace and Security Reviews</td>
<td>Spain</td>
<td>All Council members; Radhika Coomaraswamy, Lead Author of the Global Study on the Implementation of UNSC resolution 1325 (2000); Amb. Gert Rosenthal, Chair of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture; Ameerah Haq, Vice Chair of the Secretary General’s High-Level independent Panel on Peace Operations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Organiser(s)</td>
<td>Other participants (including non-Council members)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 June 2015</td>
<td>Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan: Ten-year anniversary of the UN Commission of Inquiry for Darfur</td>
<td>United States</td>
<td>All Council members; Hina Jilani, human-rights activist from Lahore, Pakistan, commissioner on the UN International Fact-Finding Commission on Darfur in 2006; Abdelrahman Gasim, human rights lawyer, Darfur Bar Association; Hawa Abdalla, IDP camp leader and activist on women’s issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26 June 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East: Indiscriminate use of weapons, including barrel bombs, against civilians in Syria</td>
<td>France; Spain</td>
<td>All Council members; Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria (pre-recorded message); Nadim Houry, Deputy Director for Middle East and North Africa at Human Rights Watch; Bassam Alahmad, Spokesperson, Head of Research at the Violations Documentation Center in Syria; Raed Saleh, Director of Syria Civil Defence (“White Helmets”)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 June 2015</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security: Climate change</td>
<td>Malaysia; Spain</td>
<td>All Council members; Deputy Secretary-General; Tony de Brum, Foreign Minister of the Marshal Islands; Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad; Pelenise Alofa, Kiribati Climate Action Network; Michael Gerrard, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 July 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question: Gaza</td>
<td>Jordan; Malaysia</td>
<td>All Council members; Vance Culbert, Country Director of the Norwegian Refugee Council; Sara Roy, Senior Research Scholar at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University; Ardi Imseis, Former Policy Officer (Gaza) and Legal Officer (West Bank), UNRWA; Tania Hary, Deputy Director of the Gisha – Legal Center for Freedom of Movement (Israeli NGO)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 August 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East: Vulnerable Groups in Conflict: ISIL’s Targeting of LGBT Individuals</td>
<td>Chile and United States</td>
<td>All Council members; &quot;Adnan&quot; of Iraqi and Subhi Nahas of Syria, affected individuals; Jessica Stern, Executive Director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 October 2015</td>
<td>Victims of terrorism and their role in countering violent extremism</td>
<td>Spain; United States</td>
<td>All Council members; Javier Lesaca, visiting fellow at George Washington University; Maria del Mar Blanco, a victim of the Basque terrorist organisation ETA; Pari Ibrahim, a victim of the Islamic State of Iraq and al-Sham; Saudatu Mahdi, a representative from the “Bring Back Our Girls” campaign</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 October 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East: Yemen</td>
<td>Jordan</td>
<td>All Council members; Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; Abdullah Al-Rabiah, Chairman of the Saudi-based King...</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Subject</td>
<td>Organiser(s)</td>
<td>Other participants (including non-Council members)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30 November</td>
<td>Small arms: The impact of illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons (SALW) to poaching in Africa</td>
<td>Angola; Lithuania</td>
<td>All Council members; Emmanuel de Merode, Chief Warden of Virunga National Park in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Khristopher Carlson, Senior Researcher at the Small Arms Survey; Jorge Rios, Coordinator of the Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime at the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14 December</td>
<td>Protection of civilians in armed conflict: The responsibility to protect and non-State actors</td>
<td>Chile; Spain</td>
<td>All Council members; Jennifer Welsh, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect; Edward Luck, International Advisory Board member, Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect; Luis Peral, Senior Analyst of Global and Strategic Affairs, Club de Madrid</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Other informal meetings**

During the period under review, other informal meetings of an ad hoc nature took place. This was the case in relation to the meetings held with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, a practice established since 2007.16

The format of meetings as well as other forms of informal gatherings of members of the Council was discussed during the course of the two debates on the working methods of the Council held during the period under review, as illustrated in case 1 below.17

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16 The meetings were held on 6 June 2014 (New York) and on 12 March 2015 (Addis Ababa). For details concerning the first informal joint meeting between the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union held in Addis Ababa in June 2007, see Section I. Meetings and records of Part II of 16th Supplement. 17 7285th meeting on 23 October 2014 (S/PV.7285 and S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1)) and 7539th meeting on 20 October 2015 (S/PV.7539 and S/PV.7539 (Resumption 1)).

Case 1

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 7285\textsuperscript{th} meeting, held on 23 October 2014 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, meetings and other informal gatherings of members of the Council were discussed.

Many speakers held the view that the Council should increase the number of open meetings,\textsuperscript{18} especially open debates, thus allowing for the participation of the wider membership.\textsuperscript{19} The representative of Morocco emphasized the importance and usefulness of the open debates and the need that the discussions be focused on precise themes with a specific scope in order for the Council to take full advantage of those deliberations.\textsuperscript{20} With regard to open debates on working methods, the representative of New Zealand suggested that discussions including the wider membership should be held more frequently and that follow-up and monitoring was required.\textsuperscript{21} Some speakers called on the Council to provide a summary of recommendations made at the open debate, with the intention of guiding the work of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions.\textsuperscript{22} Other Member States were of the opinion that the use of private meetings, informal consultations and closed meetings should be minimized.\textsuperscript{23} The representative of the United Kingdom, on the other hand, called for more interactivity in informal consultations.\textsuperscript{24}

Several speakers stressed the importance of wrap-up sessions, in improving the transparency of the work of the Council and its interaction with non-members,\textsuperscript{25} and in helping

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\textsuperscript{18} S/PV.7285, p. 26 (Switzerland, on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency (ACT) group); S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 5 (Brazil); p. 12 (Kazakhstan); p. 20 (Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)); p. 24 (Peru); and p. 34 (Algeria).

\textsuperscript{19} S/PV.7285, p. 26 (Switzerland on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency (ACT) group); S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), pp. 7-8 (Mexico); p. 9 (Italy); p. 15 (Uruguay); p. 21 (Malaysia); and p. 25 (Morocco).

\textsuperscript{20} S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), pp. 25-26.

\textsuperscript{21} Ibid., p. 32 (New Zealand).

\textsuperscript{22} S/PV.7285, p. 26 (Switzerland on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency (ACT) group); and S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 26 (Maldives).

\textsuperscript{23} S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 14 (Nicaragua); and p. 34 (Algeria).

\textsuperscript{24} S/PV.7285, p. 22.

\textsuperscript{25} S/PV.7285, p. 26 (Switzerland on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency (ACT) group); S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 4 (Guatemala); p. 8 (Mexico); p. 15 (Uruguay); p. 18 (Portugal); p. 22 (Malaysia); p. 25 (Morocco); p. 35 (Poland) and p. 37 (Montenegro).
review the agenda of the Council and enhance its awareness for preventive diplomacy. Many speakers further welcomed the holding of wrap-up sessions in public as an important advance. The representatives of Egypt and Uruguay welcomed the efforts to hold more interactive dialogues, and the representative of China favoured such efforts to improve exchanges and interaction with the Member States and regional and subregional organizations. Many speakers welcomed and highlighted the usefulness of the Arria-formula meetings and format, particularly in dealing with sensitive and pressing issues. The representative of Australia stated that Arria-formula meetings “ha[d] brought significant human rights information to the Council and [had] enabled civil society voices to be heard.”

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. No questions were 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. However, at the 7285th meeting on 23 October 2014, the representative of Estonia affirmed that detailed records should be published even for private meetings, while the representative of Nicaragua opined that the access to documentation and information remained a “topic of particular concern.”

26 Ibid., p. 12 (Pakistan).
27 S/PV.7285, p. 8 (Australia); and p. 14 (Rwanda); S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 9 (Italy); p. 23 (Spain); p. 24 (Peru); p. 25 (Morocco); p. 34 (Algeria); p. 36 (Ukraine) and p. 37 (Montenegro)
28 S/PV.7285, pp. 9-10 (China); S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 15 (Uruguay); and p. 30 (Egypt).
29 S/PV.7285, p. 17 (Lithuania); S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p.15 (Uruguay); p. 17 (Estonia); p. 21 (Malaysia); p. 27 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 28 (Ireland); p. 30 (Egypt); p. 32 (Côte d’Ivoire); p. 32 (New Zealand); p. 34 (Algeria); p. 35 (Poland) and p. 37 (Montenegro).
30 S/PV.7285, p. 8 (Australia).
31 S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 14 (Nicaragua); and p. 16 (Estonia).
II. Agenda

Note

The present section deals with the practice of the Security Council concerning the agenda, in relation to rules 6 to 12 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

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 and 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. However, the practice relating to the circulation of communications or the preparation of the provisional agenda was not discussed or questioned. Furthermore, rule 12 was not applied during the period under review, as no periodic meetings were held. Hence, this section focuses on the practice and discussion regarding rules 9 to 11 and is organized under the following three main headings: A. Adoption of the agenda (rule 9); B. Matters of which the Security Council is seized (rules 10-11); C. Discussion concerning the agenda.

A. Adoption of the agenda (rule 9)

In accordance with rule 9, the first item for each meeting of the Council is the adoption of the agenda. During the period under review, objections were raised twice to the inclusion of the item entitled “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” in the agenda of the Council as featured in case 2 below. In both cases, the objections to the agenda led to a procedural vote in the Council.

Newly introduced agenda items

During the period under review, the Council added three new items to its agenda. At the 7123rd meeting on 28 February 2014, the Council considered for the first time the item entitled
“Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)”\(^{32}\). At the 7154\(^{th}\) meeting on 13 April 2014, “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)”, an item also concerning Ukraine was included on the agenda of the Council.\(^{33}\) At the 7353\(^{rd}\) meeting on 22 December 2014 and as described in further detail in case 2 below, the Council included in its agenda, a new item entitled “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” in spite of the negative vote of two permanent members of the Council.\(^{34}\)

Figure 3 provides information on the evolution of newly introduced agenda items since 2009. Whilst between 1997-2007, the Council used to include 23 new agenda items every year, since 2007 the amount of new items per year decreased significantly; a trend that has been maintained to date.

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\(^{32}\) S/PV.7123.

\(^{33}\) S/PV.7154.

\(^{34}\) S/PV.7353.

\(^{35}\) See S/PV.7463; see also, S/Agenda/7463.

\(^{36}\) S/2015/10/Add.25 and S/2015/10/Add.27.

Part II – Provisional rules of procedure

Case 2

The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

Further to the letter dated 5 December 2014 from the representatives of Australia, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, the United Kingdom and the United States, 37 the Council held its 7353rd meeting on 22 December 2014. 38 In spite of the objection of certain members of the Council, the item entitled “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” was included on the agenda of the Council. The representative of China stated that human rights issues were not within the purview of the Security Council in maintaining international peace and security, nor should human rights issues be politicized, and that dialogue with the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea would be the way to resolve issues concerning the situation in the Korean peninsula. 39 The representative of Australia, citing the letter dated 5 December 2014 addressed to the President of the Council, 40 expressed the view that the gravity and systematic nature of human rights violations in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea constituted a threat to international peace and security and that therefore the issue should be considered formally by the Council. 41 The President put the provisional agenda to the vote and the agenda was adopted with 11 votes in favour, two against and two abstentions. 42

During the 7575th meeting held on 10 December 2015, 43 following the letter dated 3 December 2015 from the representatives of Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States, 44 the inclusion of the item “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” was again objected to by certain members of the Council. Speaking before the vote on the provisional agenda, the representative of China reiterated its continued opposition to the Council’s intervention on issues concerning the human rights situation in any country, and in particular asserted that the human rights

37 S/2014/872.
38 S/PV.7353.
39 S/PV.7353, p. 2.
40 S/2014/872.
41 S/PV.7353, pp. 2-3.
42 See S/PV.7353; see also, S/Agenda/7353.
43 S/PV.7575.
44 S/2015/931.
situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea did not constitute a threat to international peace and security.\footnote{S/PV.7575, p. 2.} The President of the Council, making a statement in her national capacity as the representative of the United States, opined that the Council should continue to meet on this item provided that the situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea remained unchanged.\footnote{Ibid.} The provisional agenda was put to a vote and adopted after receiving nine votes in favour, four against and two abstentions.\footnote{See S/PV.7575; see also, S/Agenda/7575.}

\textit{Modification of agenda items}

On 16 June 2015, at the 7463\textsuperscript{rd} meeting of the Council,\footnote{See S/PV.7463; see also, S/Agenda/7463.} the wording of the item “Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council” was revised to read “Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”.\footnote{S/2015/10/Add.25 and S/2015/10/Add.27.} The revision not only brought the Security Council into conformity with the practice of the other principal organs, but was also made consistent with the Council’s own practice. Indeed, since 2013, the annual Note by the President of the Security Council, which includes the list of the bureaux of the Council’s subsidiary bodies, was modified to employ the titles “Chair” and “Vice-Chair” for representatives chairing the subsidiary bodies, different to the titles used prior to 2013, namely, “Chairman” and “Vice-Chairman”.\footnote{See S/2013/2, S/2014/2/Rev.3 and S/2015/2/Rev.4.}

\textit{Utilization of existing regional items for country-specific discussions}

During the period under review, the Council continued the practice of utilizing items of a regional nature to discuss several evolving country-specific situations. For example, the Council continued to consider the situations in Syria and Yemen under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”.

\textit{Utilization of existing items with addition of new sub-items}

\footnote{S/PV.7575, p. 2.} I\footnote{Ibid.} bid.\footnote{See S/PV.7575; see also, S/Agenda/7575.} See S/PV.7463; see also, S/Agenda/7463.\footnote{S/2015/10/Add.25 and S/2015/10/Add.27.} See S/2013/2, S/2014/2/Rev.3 and S/2015/2/Rev.4.
During the period under review, the Council continued its practice of utilizing existing items, at times with the addition of new sub-items, to discuss evolving general and cross-border threats to peace and security. Among them, “Maintenance of international peace and security” was the agenda item which registered the highest number of new sub-items. Other items such as “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and “United Nations peacekeeping operations” also included new sub-items during the period under review, as detailed in Table 7 below. The table is organized in chronological order of appearance of the new sub-item. 51

Table 7

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>New sub-item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7105th.</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>War, its lessons, and the search for a permanent peace</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29 January 2014</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security</td>
<td>Prevention and fight against genocide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 April 2014</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>Security sector reform: challenges and opportunities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 April 2014</td>
<td>Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction</td>
<td>Commemorating the tenth anniversary of resolution 1540 (2004) and looking ahead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7 May 2014</td>
<td>United Nations peacekeeping operations</td>
<td>New trends</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11 June 2014</td>
<td>United Nations peacekeeping operations</td>
<td>The United Nations and regional partnerships and its evolution</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>28 July 2014</td>
<td>Protections of civilians in armed conflict</td>
<td>World Humanitarian Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19 August 2014</td>
<td>Peace and security in Africa</td>
<td>Ebola</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18 September 2014</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts</td>
<td>Foreign terrorist fighters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24 September 2014</td>
<td>Women and peace and security</td>
<td>Displaced women and girls: leaders and survivors</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

51 The table does not include cases of routine sub-items related to briefings by the Security Council missions, briefings by the Chair of the Security Council committees, letters addressed to the President of the Security Council, reports of the Secretary-General, and meetings of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B.

Part II – Provisional rules of procedure
Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council

28 October 2014
7316th. Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts International cooperation on combating terrorism and violent extremism

19 November 2014
7317th. United Nations peacekeeping operations The role of policing in peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding

20 November 2014
7343rd. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security

16 December 2014
7351st. Threats to international peace and security

19 December 2014
7361st. Maintenance of international peace and security Inclusive development for the maintenance of international peace and security

19 January 2015
7389th. Maintenance of international peace and security Reflect on history, reaffirm the strong commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations

23 February 2015
7414th. Children and armed conflict Child victims of non-State armed groups

25 March 2015
7419th. The situation in the Middle East The victims of attacks and abuses on ethnic or religious grounds in the Middle East

27 March 2015
7432nd. Maintenance of international peace and security The role of youth in countering violent extremism and promoting peace

23 April 2015
7442nd. Small arms The human cost of the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons

13 May 2015
7450th. Protection of civilians in armed conflict The protection of journalists in conflict situations

27 May 2015
7453rd. Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts Foreign terrorist fighters

29 May 2015
7499th. Maintenance of international peace and security Peace and security challenges facing small island developing States

30 July 2015
7502nd. Peace and security in Africa The global response to the 2013 Ebola virus disease outbreak

13 August 2015
7505th. Maintenance of international peace and security Regional organizations and contemporary challenges of global security

18 August 2015

20 August 2015
7527th. Maintenance of international peace and security Settlement of conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa and countering the terrorist threat in the region

30 September 2015
7558th. United Nations peacekeeping operations The challenges of policing within a protection of civilians mandate

13 November 2015

Part II – Provisional rules of procedure
B. Matters of which the Security Council is seized (rules 10 and 11)

During the period under review, pursuant to rule 11 of the provisional rules of procedure and in accordance with the note by the President S/2010/507, 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 agenda item in the summary statement upon its adoption at a formal meeting of the Council remained unchanged.

During 2014, the Council considered at its meetings a total of 49 agenda items, 26 dealing with country-specific and regional situations; and 23 with thematic and other issues. In 2015, the Council considered at its meetings a total of 45 agenda items, 25 dealing with country-specific and regional situations; and 20 with thematic and other issues. In 2014 and 2015, following deletion of several items, the Council remained seized of a total of 76 agenda items and 68 agenda items respectively. For the breakdown of items by year, see Table 8.

Table 8
Agenda items considered at meetings in 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Country-specific and regional situations</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Africa</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Central African region</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace and security in Africa</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peace consolidation in West Africa</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

52 S/2015/10 and S/2016/10.
53 Three agenda items were deleted in 2014 (S/2014/10/Add.9) and ten agenda items in 2015 (S/2015/10/Add.9) from the seizure list. For additional details, see table 8.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation concerning Western Sahara</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Burundi</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Côte d'Ivoire</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Liberia</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Libya</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Mali</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Sierra Leone</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Somalia</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in the Central African Republic</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The question concerning Haiti</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Americas</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Afghanistan</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Asia</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Europe</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security Council (S/2014/136)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of the Security Council (S/2014/264)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in Cyprus</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Middle East</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation concerning Iraq</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>**Total agenda items concerning country-specific and regional</td>
<td>26 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>situations**</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Thematic and other issues**

| Briefing by the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe | ●    |
| Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice         | ●    |
| Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council      | ●    |
| Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council        | ●    |
| Children and armed conflict                                            | ●    |

Part II – Provisional rules of procedure

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General issues relating to sanctions</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>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</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-proliferation</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-proliferation/Democratic People’s Republic of Korea</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-conflict peacebuilding</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Protection of civilians in armed conflict</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Security Council mission</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Small arms</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threats to international peace and security</td>
<td>●</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>United Nations peacekeeping operations</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women and peace and security</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total agenda items concerning thematic issues</strong></td>
<td>21 items</td>
<td>18 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other matters</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>●</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Subtotal</strong></td>
<td>2 items</td>
<td>2 items</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total agenda items discussed per year</strong></td>
<td>49 items</td>
<td>45 items</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Deletion and retention of the agenda

In accordance with rule 11 and the note by the President S/2010/507, the Council continued the practice of reviewing the summary statement in January to identify for deletion items which had not been considered in the preceding three years. Agenda items which have not been considered at a Council meeting in the preceding three years are deleted unless a Member State objects before the end of February. In the latter case, an item will remain on the list for an additional year, and will be subject to the same procedure described above if not considered.

In 2014, three out of 27 items that had been identified for deletion in January were deleted in March, while the 24 remaining were retained for one additional year at the request of Member States. In 2015, ten out of 25 items which had been identified for deletion in January were deleted through the same procedure in March, while the 15 remaining were retained for one additional year at the request of Member States as featured in Table 9 below.
## Table 9

### Items proposed for deletion from the summary statement in 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Date of first and last consideration</th>
<th>Proposed for deletion in 2014</th>
<th>Status in March 2014</th>
<th>Proposed for deletion in 2015</th>
<th>Status in March 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Palestine question</td>
<td>9 December 1947; 25 November 1966</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Deleted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The India-Pakistan question</td>
<td>6 January 1948; 5 November 1965</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Hyderabad question</td>
<td>16 September 1948; 24 May 1949</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 11 July 1960 from Cuba</td>
<td>18 July 1960; 5 January 1961</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 31 December 1960 from Cuba</td>
<td>4 January 1961; 5 January 1961</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent</td>
<td>4 December 1971; 27 December 1971</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 3 December 1971 from Algeria, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Republic and the People’s Democratic Republic of Yemen</td>
<td>9 December 1971; 9 December 1971</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complaint by Cuba</td>
<td>17 September 1973; 18 September 1973</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Arrangements for the proposed Peace Conference on the Middle East</td>
<td>15 December 1973; 15 December 1973</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Deleted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Middle East problem, including the Palestinian question</td>
<td>12 January 1976; 11 October 1985</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Deleted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in the occupied Arab territories</td>
<td>4 May 1976; 13 July 1998</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Deleted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The question of the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights</td>
<td>9 June 1976; 30 April 1980</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Deleted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation between Iran and Iraq</td>
<td>26 September 1980; 31 January 1991</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 1 October 1985 from Tunisia</td>
<td>2 October 1985; 4 October 1985</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>Retained</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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Part II – Provisional rules of procedure

### Part II – Provisional rules of procedure


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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
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C. Discussions concerning the agenda

Members of the Council discussed the agenda and in particular matters of which the Security Council was seized during meetings held under the agenda item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, including the two annual open debates on the working methods of the Council. Case study 3 below features in particular the discussion on the departure from the language of the agenda when addressing the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic under the item entitled ”The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”. Case 4, on the other hand, features the discussion held on the suggested phrasing of an agenda item by resorting to neutral formulations which give direct indication as to the nature of the question under consideration, instead of using the letter-based approach.

Case 3

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

At the 7164th meeting, on 29 April 2014 under the agenda item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that some delegations had insisted on delivering elaborate, misleading and provocative statements about the situation in his country, which only contributed to “extremism and terrorism in Syria and the region at large” under the agenda item “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the essence of which was intended to deal with issues relating to the Israeli-Palestinian question. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic denounced the intention of some members of the Council and argued that it was an attempt to distract the attention from the Palestinian question by convening two meetings in the General Assembly simultaneously with the meetings of the Security Council and its subsidiary bodies. He also expressed concern over the negative impact that this would have on the Syrian

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58 The 7285th meeting held on 23 October 2014 (S/PV.7285), and the 7539th meeting held on 20 October 2015 (S/PV.7539).
59 S/PV.7164, p. 36.
“question”.\(^6^0\) He made similar remarks at the 7222\(^\text{nd}\) meeting on 22 July 2014, at the 7281\(^\text{st}\) meeting on 21 October 2014 and at the 7430\(^\text{th}\) meeting on 21 April 2015 under the same agenda item\(^6^1\) as well as at the 7271\(^\text{st}\) meeting on 19 September 2014 under the agenda item “The situation concerning Iraq”.\(^6^2\)

Case 4

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

At the 7234\(^\text{th}\) meeting, on 5 August 2014 under the item entitled “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)”, the representative of Rwanda suggested that the Council held a monthly meeting under the agenda item “The situation in Ukraine”, which would enable the Council to remain seized of the matter and to consider the Ukrainian crisis in all its aspects.\(^6^3\) The representative of Rwanda recalled this position at the 7239\(^\text{th}\) meeting on 8 August 2014 and the 7311\(^\text{st}\) meeting on 12 November 2014 under the agenda item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)”.\(^6^4\) A monthly meeting under the item “The situation in Ukraine” was not included on the agenda of the Council during the period under review.

\(^{6^0}\) Ibid, p. 37.
\(^{6^1}\) S/PV.7222, p. 54, S/PV.7281, p. 35 and S/PV.7430, p. 35.
\(^{6^2}\) S/PV.7271, p. 43.
\(^{6^3}\) S/PV.7234, p. 13.
\(^{6^4}\) S/PV.7239, p. 9 and S/PV.7311, p. 9.
III. Representation and credentials

Note

The present section 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, the credentials of representatives of members of the Council were communicated to the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 13. The Secretary-General then submitted his report to the Council pursuant to rule 15. Such reports were transmitted to the Council when there were changes in the representation of members of the Council,\(^{65}\) as well as when representatives of the newly elected non-permanent members of the

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Council were designated prior to the beginning of their term. No discussion or special cases arose during the period under review regarding the interpretation and application of rules 13 to 17.

66 For the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the representatives and deputies and alternate representatives of Council members elected for the periods 2014 to 2015 and 2015 to 2016, see S/2013/576 and S/2014/959, respectively.
IV. Presidency

Note

The present section 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 directly connected with the Member State represented by the President, in application of rules 18 to 20 of the provisional rules of procedure. This notwithstanding, during the period under review, there were no instances of 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 on a
monthly basis by the members of the Council in the English alphabetical order of their names in
accordance with rule 18. The President of the Council, in addition to presiding over meetings of
the Council, informal consultations of the whole and informal interactive dialogues, continued to
perform several functions under the authority of the Council, in accordance with rule 19. These
included: (i) briefing non-Council members and the media on the monthly programme of work of
the Council at the beginning of the month; (ii) representing and delivering statements on behalf
of the Council, including the presentation of the annual report of the Council to the General
Assembly, and (iii) delivering statements or remarks to the press, following informal
consultations of the whole or whenever Council members reached an agreement on the text.

Concerning rule 19 specifically, in the Identical letters dated 30 November 2015 to the
United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council, the
Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic denounced that “the Permanent
Representative of the United Kingdom, in his capacity as President of the Security Council for

67 For example, at the 51st plenary meeting of the 70th session of the General Assembly, on 12 November 2015, the
President of the Council for the month of November (United Kingdom) introduced the annual report of the Council
to the General Assembly covering the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2015 (A/70/2). For other meetings that
the President attended, see part IV, sections I and II entitled “Relations with the General Assembly” and “Relations
with the Economic and Social Council”.

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November 2015, ignored the request for a meeting” repeatedly and protested against that “course of action”. He further affirmed that it was regrettable that the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom had shown “such disregard for diplomatic standards and the fundamental and binding rules of procedure in force at the United Nations” and opined that he had exploited the Presidency of the Council to “serve the political agenda of his own country”. 68

During the period under review, representatives of members of the Council continued to submit monthly assessments in their national capacities providing information on the main aspects of the work of the Council during their respective presidencies, following their completion. 69

Increasingly, during their respective presidency, Council members have taken the initiative to bring to the attention of the Council emerging general and cross-border threats to peace and security, at times adding new sub-items to existing thematic agenda items with a view to defining the approach. In several such instances, concept papers prepared by the presidency were circulated in advance of the meetings to frame the discussion. 70 Oftentimes, these meetings were held as high-level meetings and, in some instances, national summaries of the discussion were submitted by the President and circulated as documents of the Council. 71

Following previous practice, in accordance with the note by the President S/2010/507, 72 members of the Council that held the presidency during the months of July 2014 and July 2015 continued to prepare the introduction to the Annual Report of the Council to the General Assembly. To this end, the presidency for the two months continued to convene informal meetings with Member States to exchange views on the draft Annual Report, a practice initiated in 2008. 73

68 S/2015/915.
69 A list of the monthly assessments during the period under review is provided in the annual reports of the Council to the General Assembly (A/69/2, p. 123; A/70/2, p. 92; and A/71/2, p. 109).
70 For example, S/2014/648, prepared for the 7272nd meeting on 24 September 2014 (S/PV.7272) and S/2015/678, prepared for the 7527th meeting on 30 September 2015 (S/PV.7527).
71 For example, France submitted a summary of the 25 March 2015 meeting on “Child victims of non-State armed groups” (S/2015/372, 21 May 2015), and New Zealand submitted a summary of the 30 July 2015 meeting on “Peace and security challenges facing small island developing States” (S/2015/754, 2 October 2015). Each of these summaries was published two to three months after the meeting date.
72 S/2010/507, para. 71 (a).
73 For details, see S/PV.7283 and S/PV.7538. Also, see Section IV. Presidency of Part II of 16th Supplement.
During the period under review, the Council deliberated on the roles and responsibilities of the President of the Security Council, including relating to (i) the President’s representative role vis-à-vis the media,\(^7\) (ii) the President’s prerogatives such as, making the statement last of all Council members, making a single statement comprising introductory remarks before other members took the floor, adjusting the list of speakers according to various criteria, including the delegation(s) responsibility for the drafting process, their roles as Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Council or, for reasons of protocol, when high-level officials are representing members of the Security Council;\(^7\) and (iii) the President’s role in connection to the Annual Report.

During the month in which the Annual Report of the Security Council is presented to the General Assembly, the President would make reference to the verbatim record of the Council’s discussion prior to its adoption of the Annual Report, and consistent with prior practice would not schedule meetings or informal consultations of the Council on the first day of the debate on the report in the General Assembly.\(^7\)

\(^7\) S/2014/213.
\(^7\) S/2014/739.
\(^7\) S/2015/944.
V. Secretariat

Note

The present section covers the practice of the Security Council concerning the functions and powers of the Secretary-General in connection with meetings of the Council, in relation to rules 21 to 26 of its provisional rules of procedure.\textsuperscript{77}

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

\textsuperscript{77} For non-administrative functions that the Secretary-General was requested or authorized to carry out in accordance with Article 98 of the Charter during the period under review, see part IV of this Supplement.
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 to 26)

During the period under review and consistent with previous practice, the Secretary-General and senior officials of the Secretariat continued to attend Council meetings and to provide briefings to the Council as requested.

In this regard, at the 7479th meeting on 30 June 2015, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representative of Lithuania noted that the briefings by the Secretariat should not duplicate the contents of the reports of the Secretary-General, and expected briefers to be succinct and to focus on critical issues. On 31 December 2015, at its 7599th meeting under the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, the Council adopted a statement by the President recognizing

78 S/PV.7479, p. 5.
that sustained consultations with the Secretariat and troop- and police-contributing countries (triangular consultations) were essential for a shared understanding of appropriate responses and their implications for the mandate and conduct of an operation, and that these consultations must extend further to areas such as safety and security of peacekeepers, strategic force generation, gender, conduct and discipline, implementation of protection of civilian mandates, capability, performance, equipment and national caveats. In addition, the Council encouraged the Secretariat to further provide to relevant troop- and police-contributing countries, information in a timely manner, in particular related to critical security incidents within missions.79

In addition to providing briefings the Council, the Secretariat also assisted in the organization of Council meetings and informal consultations, including the preparation and dissemination of documents. Several notes by the President of the Council, adopted during the reporting period, covered various aspects of the administrative functions of the Secretariat. For example, the note by the President of the Council of 5 June 2014 stated that the Secretariat could assist the outgoing Chairs of subsidiary bodies in preparing the background information and maintaining information meetings with the incoming Chairs.80 By the note by the President of the Council of 15 October 2014, Council members were recommended to inform the Secretariat, as soon as possible, if they agreed to trade slots in the list of speakers.81 The note by the President of the Council of 18 December 2014 encouraged members and non-members of the Council to provide the texts of the statements made at Council meetings to the Secretariat when delegations were not able or chose not to provide the number of copies required.82 In connection with the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly, in the note by the President of the Council of 10 December 2015, the Council reiterated that whilst the introduction to the annual report shall be prepared by the President of the Council for the month of July, the Secretariat would prepare the remainder of the report. In addition, in the note the Council requested that the Secretariat submit the draft report to Council members no later than 15 March immediately following the period covered by the report to be discussed and adopted by the Council in time for

79 S/PRST/2015/26, first, fifth and seventh paragraphs.
80 S/2014/393.
81 S/2014/739.
82 S/2014/922.
consideration by the General Assembly in the spring of that calendar year. According to the note the Secretariat should also prepare and post on the United Nations website the annual report as well as information related to Council activities that could have been contained in annexes to the annual report in a timely manner and in all the official UN languages. Finally, the Council in the same note encouraged the Secretariat to advise, at least once a year, the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions on the preparation of the draft annual report, including ways to improve its structure in a cost-efficient way and taking into account the publication of relevant information on the website.  

83 The role of the Secretariat was discussed during a briefing by the Chairs of the Council’s subsidiary bodies as illustrated in case 5.  

84 In addition, the question of the various aspects of the functions of the Secretariat was also raised at the debates concerning the working methods of the Council as described case 6.

Case 5

Briefing by Chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

At the 7331st meeting on 9 December 2014, under the item entitled “Briefing by Chairmen of the subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”, the representative of Argentina opined that the Secretariat should provide the troop- and police-contributing countries with copies of the reports of the Secretary-General with enough lead time, to ensure that preparations and timely meetings were held with these countries prior to the consultations on the relevant draft resolutions.  

85 She further referred to an agreement made in the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions requesting the Secretariat to implement a new practice “for the issuance of edited and concorded versions of the resolutions and presidential statements adopted by the Council”.  

86 The representative of Luxembourg expressed his agreement with the objective of seeking better coordination within the Secretariat so as to

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83 S/2015/944.
84 As from the 7463rd meeting, held on 16 June 2015, the wording of the item “Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council” was revised to read “Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”.
85 S/PV.7331, p. 6.
86 S/PV.7331, p. 6.
streamline its work and make support to the Committees more effective, and in particular, he welcomed the work by the Secretariat to standardize the format of all UN sanctions lists and establish a consolidated list of the Council sanctions in all official languages.\textsuperscript{87}

\section*{Case 6}

\textbf{Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)}

At the 7285\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 23 October 2014 concerning the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representative of Morocco welcomed the efforts made by the Secretariat to make regularly available updated information on the website of the Council, in particular in relation to the monthly programme of work.\textsuperscript{88} The representative of Algeria additionally mentioned that “issues to be covered at any briefing by the Secretariat should be determined in coordination with the concerned State”.\textsuperscript{89}

At the 7539\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 20 October 2015, under the same item, the representative of China emphasized that communications with troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat should be enhanced before deploying in peacekeeping missions or adjusting their mandates,\textsuperscript{90} while the representative of Brazil, in the same vein, stated that the consultations among the Council, the troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat should become more institutionalized.\textsuperscript{91} The representative of Australia opined that the Secretariat should be empowered to bring to the Council’s attention emerging threats, in line with the Human Rights Up Front initiative and Article 99 of the Charter.\textsuperscript{92} Also, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), expressed the view that briefings by the Special Envoys or Representatives of the Secretary-General and the Secretariat should be open.\textsuperscript{93}

\textsuperscript{87} Ibid., p. 11.
\textsuperscript{88} S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 26.
\textsuperscript{89} Ibid., p. 34.
\textsuperscript{90} S/PV.7539, p. 13.
\textsuperscript{91} S/PV.7539 (Resumption 1), p. 15.
\textsuperscript{92} Ibid., p. 5.
\textsuperscript{93} Ibid., p. 9.
VI. Conduct of business

Note

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning the conduct of business in its meetings, in relations 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.

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 efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of its meetings and work. For example, at the 7547th meeting on 30 October 2015, in connection with the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the Council adopted a presidential statement recalling its commitment to making more effective use of open meetings, and to this end expressed its commitment to continue to take steps to improve the focus and interactivity of its open debates. It also welcomed joint statements by both Council members and other Member States.94 Furthermore, during the period under review, the President routinely requested speakers to limit their statements to four minutes, to deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Council chamber, and to circulate the full text of their statements in the Council chamber in

94 S/PRST/2015/19, third paragraph.
accordance with the note by the President S/2010/507. For instance, at the 7169th meeting on 7 May 2014, under the item entitled “Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction”, the President reminded all speakers to limit their statements to no more than four minutes and requested delegations with lengthy statements to circulate their texts in writing and to only deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Chamber.95 At the same meeting, the representative of Poland jointly delivered his statement with Croatia, and the representative of Trinidad and Tobago spoke on behalf of the 14 States members of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).96 In other meetings as well, speakers delivered a condensed version of their statements without a request by the President,97 or delivered joint statements also on behalf of other delegations.98

With regard to the speaking order, in the note by the President of the Security Council dated 15 October 2014,99 Council members agreed that, as a general practice, the speaking order for meetings of the Council would be established by a draw and the President of the Council would make his or her national statement last of all Council members. In certain cases, however, according to the note, the speaking order would be established by the use of a sign-up sheet, and the President of the Council could make a statement before the other members took the floor. During 2014 and 2015, members of the Council implemented some of the agreed practices as

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95 S/PV.7169, pp. 20, 36 and 43.
96 S/PV.7169, p. 36 and p. 64.
97 For example, at the 7164th meeting on 29 April 2014, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the observer of the European Union delivered a shortened version of his statement and circulated the full text in the Chamber and posted on the website: see S/PV.7164, p. 40; and at the 7472nd meeting on 25 June 2015, under the item entitled “Post-conflict peacebuilding”, the representative of Spain spoke briefly as the full text of the statement would be made available on the website of the Spanish mission: see S/PV.7472, p. 6.
98 For example, at the 7184th meeting on 28 May 2014, under the item entitled “Briefing by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”, the representative of Belgium took the floor on behalf of the Group of Like-Minded States on Targeted Sanctions: see S/PV.7184, pp. 28-29; at the 7262nd meeting on 11 September 2014, under the item entitled “The question concerning Haiti”, the representative of Uruguay spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Haiti: see S/PV.7262, p. 22; at the 7539th meeting on 20 October 2015, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representative of Angola spoke also on behalf of Chile, Jordan, Malaysia, New Zealand and Spain – six Council members from six different regions of the world: see S/PV.7539, p. 7. In the same meeting, the President of the Council (Spain) stated that, in this open debate, up to ten minutes were allotted to joint statements by groups, three minutes to national statements, and two minutes to national statements complementing joint statements, a more innovative way to make the Council more effective: see S/PV.7539, pp. 19-20.
99 S/2014/739.
revealed in note S/2014/739. Consistent with the note, during the reporting period, the President of the Council adjusted the list of speakers and inscribed first the delegation(s) responsible for the drafting process in order to allow the delegation(s) to make an introductory or explanatory presentation. When an unscheduled or emergency meeting was convened, the President also adjusted the list of speakers so that the delegation having requested the meeting could speak before other Council members in order to present the reasons for convening the meeting in accordance with the practice as reflected in the note. Finally, the President of the Council following practice and agreement inscribed first the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the Council when presenting their work, and, for reasons of protocol, high-level officials representing Council members.

The report of the eleventh annual workshop for the newly elected members of the Council outlined a series of steps taken by members of the Council which had lowered costs and increased the efficiency of the work of the Council. For example, the use of the non-objection or silence procedure, the process of issuing presidential statements and press statements became easier. Furthermore, according to the report, the use of informal informals, missions and other non-formal gatherings had reduced costs and encouraged dialogue among the members of the Council. The practice of keeping most Fridays free of meetings of the whole had served both as a cost-cutting measure and as way of regularizing meetings of the subsidiary bodies. Presidents of the Council had been encouraged to try to avoid voting on Mondays in order to reduce staff overtime charges on the weekends. Moreover, the expanded use of video teleconference (VTC) technology had reduced travel costs for briefers, while providing the members with a closer feel for the dynamics on the ground. In that connection, at the 7539th meeting, under agenda item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the Deputy Secretary-General noted the active support provided by the Secretariat to the proposals to

100 For example, at the 7533rd meeting on 13 October 2015, under the item entitled “Women and peace and security”, the representative of Spain, as the President of the Council, spoke after the briefers but before all other Council members (S/PV.7533, pp. 11-13).
101 See, for example, S/PV.7403, pp. 6-7 (Spain).
102 See, for example, S/PV.7125, pp. 3-4 (Russian Federation).
103 See, for example, S/PV.7412, pp. 2-3 (Spain).
104 See, for example, S/PV.7466, pp. 11-13 (Spain).
arrange briefings via secure video teleconferences from United Nations offices around the world, highlighting that such video-teleconferences had increased from one in 2009 to 41 times in 2013, and to 101 in 2014. \(^{106}\) As shown in figure 4 below, the Council continued to make significant use of videoconferencing in 2015, with 85 instances.

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**Figure 4: Number of video teleconferencing, 2009-2015**

![bar chart showing number of video teleconferencing from 2009 to 2015]

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VII. Participation

Note

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning the extension of invitations to non-members of the Council for their participation 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 instances where invitations can be extended to non-members of the Council to participate, without vote, when it 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, the Council continued to invite non-members to participate in its meetings. These invitations were extended by the President at the beginning or during Council meetings either under the “relevant provisions” of the Charter without an explicit reference to a specific article or 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.

While Member States requested invitations in letters addressed to the President of the Council, in most cases these were not issued as official documents of the Council.

This section is divided into four sub-sections: A. Invitations extended under rule 37; B. Invitations extended under rule 39; C. Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39; 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, can be invited to participate in Council meetings when: (a) the interests of a Member State are “specially affected” (Article 31 of the Charter 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 of the Charter); and (c) a Member State of the United Nations brings a matter to the attention of the Council in accordance with Article 35 (1) of the Charter (rule 37).  

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. As previously mentioned in section VI (Conduct of business), on 30 October 2015, the President of the Council made a statement on behalf of the Council in which the Council welcomed joint statements by both Council members and other Member States. In such situations, Member States invited under rule 37 continued with previous practice to speak occasionally in other capacities, such as on behalf of regional or international organizations, or groups of States through delivering joint statements.

Requests for invitations denied or not acted upon

There was no instance during the period under review where a request from a Member State to participate in a Council meeting was put to a vote or denied at a public meeting.

B. Invitations extended under rule 39

107 For more details on referral of a dispute or situation to the Council by States, see part VI, section I.
108 S/PRST/2015/19, third paragraph.
109 For example, at the 7164th meeting, on 29 April 2014, the representative of Guinea, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (S/PV.7164, p. 64). At the 7228th meeting, on 28 July 2014, the representative of Egypt, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (S/PV.7228, p. 54). At the 7539th meeting on 20 October 2015, the representative of Sweden, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Peacebuilding Commission as well as on behalf of the Nordic countries, and the representative of Switzerland, also invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency group (S/PV.7539, pp. 20-22).
In accordance with rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure, members of the Secretariat or other persons may be invited to provide the Council with information or other assistance in examining matters within its competence.

Following previous practice, invitations under rule 39 were extended to representatives of Member States on an exceptional basis, only if their participation was in a role other than as representative of their State; for example, as chairpersons of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and its country-specific configurations.\textsuperscript{110}

**Invitations under rule 39**

During the period under review, a total of 585 invitations were extended under rule 39, with 287 in 2014 and 298 in 2015 (see figure 5).

![Figure 5: Invitations extended under rule 39, 2011 to 2015](image)

Invitations under rule 39 can be grouped into the following five categories: (a) the Secretariat and subsidiary bodies of the Council;\textsuperscript{111} (b) other organs of the United Nations,  
\textsuperscript{110} For example, at the 7143\textsuperscript{rd} meeting on 19 March 2014, the representative of Brazil and Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission was invited under rule 39 (S/PV.7143, p. 2).

\textsuperscript{111} For example, at the 7092\textsuperscript{nd} meeting on 6 January 2014, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs was invited under rule 39. Also, at the 7094\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 13 January 2014, the Special Representative of the Secretary-
subsidiary bodies or agencies;\textsuperscript{112} (c) regional and other intergovernmental organizations;\textsuperscript{113} (d) other persons;\textsuperscript{114} and (e) persons holding joint appointments by the United Nations and the African Union.\textsuperscript{115} Figure 6 below provides a breakdown of rule 39 invitations during the period 2014 and 2015.

In 2014, the number of rule 39 invitations extended under category (a) above increased significantly from 125 in 2013 to 190. On the other hand, invitations extended under category (c) declined from 69 in 2013 to 65, and invitations extended under category (d) decreased from 16 in 2013 to 12. In 2015, in comparison with the previous year, the number of invitations extended under category (a) above declined to 183, but invitations extended under category (c) and (d) increased to 72 and 25 respectively. During the review period, invitations under rule 39 were most frequently extended to representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and Security Council subsidiary bodies.

\begin{footnotesize}
\begin{enumerate}
\item For example, at the 7128\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 6 March 2014, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was invited under rule 39. Also, at the 7129\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 7 March 2014, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children’s Fund was invited under rule 39.
\item For example, at the 7139\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 17 March 2014, the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations was invited under rule 39. Also, at the 7160\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 25 April 2014, the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations was invited under rule 39.
\item For example, at the 7244\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 19 August 2014, the Director and co-founder of The Liaison Office was invited under rule 39. Also, at the 7259\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 8 September 2014, a survivor of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was invited under rule 39.
\item For example, at the 7233\textsuperscript{rd} meeting on 5 August 2014, the Joint African Union-United Nations Special Representative for Darfur and Head of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) was invited under rule 39.
\end{enumerate}
\end{footnotesize}
Videoconferencing

During the period under review, videoconferencing continued to be utilized at meetings of the Council. Generally, videoconferencing was used for briefings by the representatives of the Secretary-General and other personnel located in the field. As shown in Figure 4 above, the Council was briefed via videoconferencing at meetings and consultations 101 times in 2014 and 85 times in 2015.

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).

For example, at the 7094th meeting on 13 January 2014, on the situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region of Africa briefed from Kinshasa (S/PV.7094, pp. 5-8). At the 7109th meeting on 12 February 2014 on “Protection of civilians in armed conflict”, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross briefed via videoconferencing from Geneva (S/PV.7109, pp. 2-4; and pp. 8-10).
Invitations to representatives of the Holy See and 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”.

Table 10
Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39 in 2014-2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Invitee</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Palestine</td>
<td>7113rd, 19 February 2014</td>
<td>The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7151st, 31 March 2014</td>
<td>Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7164th, 29 April 2014; 7220th, 18 July 2014; 7222nd, 22 July 2014; 7232nd, 31 July 2014; 7281st, 21 October 2014; 7354th, 30 December 2014; 7360th, 15 January 2015; 7430th, 21 April 2015; 7490th, 23 July 2015; 7536th, 16 October 2015; 7540th, 22 October 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7414th, 25 March 2015; 7466th, 18 June 2015</td>
<td>Children and armed conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holy See</td>
<td>7122nd, 27 February 2014; 7151st, 31 March 2014; 7189th, 29 May 2014; 7539th, 20 October 2015</td>
<td>Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7374th, 30 January 2015</td>
<td>Protection of civilians in armed conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7414th, 25 March 2015; 7466th, 18 June 2015</td>
<td>Children and armed conflict</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7428th, 15 April 2015</td>
<td>Women and peace and security</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7281st, 21 October 2014; 7430th, 21 April 2015; 7490th, 23 July 2015; 7540th, 22 October 2015</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
D. Discussions relating to participation

During the period under review, when non-Council members were invited to participate in a meeting, Council members generally spoke before Member States invited under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure and before those not expressly invited under any rule, except in some instances when parties directly involved in the matter under consideration took the floor before Council members.117

During the period under review, there were discussions on the participation of rule 37 and/or rule 39 invitees. For instance, at the 7251th meeting on 27 August 2014, on the situation in Libya, the representative of Libya, invited in accordance with rule 37, inquired about the reason why the Libyan delegation was not invited to participate in the meeting and was not seated in the Chamber while the resolution was being adopted.118 Also, at the 7435th meeting on 28 April 2015, on the situation concerning Western Sahara, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed regret that the consultations held on the agenda were not preceded by an open meeting to ensure participation of the Special Envoy of the African Union for Western

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117 For example, at the 7124th meeting on 1 March 2014, under the item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)”, the representative of Ukraine spoke after the Deputy Secretary-General but before all Council members (S/PV.7124, p. 3). At the 7347th meeting on 18 December 2014, on the situation in Afghanistan, following the briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNAMA and the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the representative of Afghanistan spoke before Council members (S/PV.7347, pp. 6-9). Also, at the 7540th meeting on 22 October 2015, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, consistent with consolidated practice in relation to this item, following the statement by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine and the representative of Israel spoke before Council members and other Member States invited under rule 37 (S/PV.7540, pp. 4-9).

118 S/PV.7251, p. 4.
Sahara, in the light of the request made by the African Union, which together with the United Nations was facilitating the process of negotiation between the parties.\textsuperscript{119}

Discussion on the question of the participation of non-Council members in Council meetings, in particular that of Member States directly involved or specially affected by situations under consideration by the Council, took place during two debates on the working methods of the Council as described case 7 below.

Case 7

**Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)**

At the 7285\textsuperscript{th} meeting, on 23 October 2014, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, some speakers expressed their view that the Council should comply with the provisions of Article 31 of the Charter, which allowed any non-member of the Council to participate in the discussions on any matter that affected it.\textsuperscript{120} The representative of China noted that the Council should pay more attention to the views of the general membership, in particular the countries on its agenda.\textsuperscript{121} Furthermore, the representative of Estonia stated that the wider membership’s involvement should be a continuous process from the very beginning of the discussion of a decision until its implementation, giving the stakeholders greater input into decision-making.\textsuperscript{122} Similarly, the representative of Ukraine restated his position that a stronger voice should be given to Member States directly involved in the implementation of its decisions.\textsuperscript{123}

Also, at the 7539\textsuperscript{th} meeting on 20 October 2015 under the same agenda item, the representatives of Brazil and Sudan stated that States with a special interest in a substantive matter under the Council’s consideration, in particular those on the Council’s agenda, and troop- and police-contributing countries, should be allowed to participate in consultations.\textsuperscript{124}

\begin{footnotes}

\item[119] S/PV.7435, p. 5.
\item[120] S/PV.7285 (Resumption1), p. 20 (Islamic Republic of Iran (on behalf of NAM)); and p. 34 (Algeria).
\item[121] S/PV.7285, p. 10.
\item[122] S/PV.7285 (Resumption1), p. 16.
\item[123] S/PV.7285 (Resumption1), p. 36.
\item[124] S/PV.7539 (Resumption1), pp. 14-15 (Brazil) and p.29.
\end{footnotes}
VIII. Decision-making and voting

Note

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning decision-making and voting. Article 27 of the Charter, along with rule 40, governs the voting in the Council. According to these provisions, decisions of the Council on procedural matters require an affirmative vote of nine out of the fifteen Council members. On the other hand, decisions on “all other matters” are made by an affirmative vote of nine Council members, including the concurring votes of all permanent members.

The section also covers rules 31, 32, 34 to 36 and 38 that govern the conduct of business in the context of voting on draft resolutions, amendments and substantive motions.

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.

This section is organized in five sub-sections: A. Decisions of the Council; B. Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38; C. Decision-making by voting; D. Decision-making without a vote; 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 were no instances of motions or amendments requiring voting, submission of competing draft resolutions, withdrawal of draft resolutions, or requests for separate voting on parts of a draft resolution, there were no instances where rules 32, and 34 to 36 were invoked.
A. Decisions of the Council

During the period under review, the Council continued to adopt, at its meetings, resolutions and statements by the President, in addition to taking procedural decisions. Decisions of the Council also took the form of notes or letters by the President, which were seldom adopted at meetings and mostly issued as official documents of the Council.\textsuperscript{125}

Number of resolutions and statements by the President

During the two year period under review, the Council adopted a total of 127 resolutions and issued 54 statements by the President. In 2014, the Council adopted 63 resolutions and issued 28 statements by the President, and in 2015, the Council adopted 64 resolutions and issued 26 statements by the President.

Figure 7 shows the total number of resolutions adopted and statements issued by the President during the five-year period between 2011 and 2015.

\textsuperscript{125} For the text of all resolutions, statements, procedural decisions taken at Council meetings, as well as notes or letters issued by the President during the period under review, see “Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council” volumes (S/INF/69 and S/INF/70). Also, for a complete list of resolutions for the review period, see http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/ and for a complete list of presidential statements, see http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/statements/.
Multiple decisions in one meeting

While during the period under review the regular practice of the Council was to adopt a single decision in a meeting, there were four instances where the Council adopted more than one decision at a single meeting. At the 7198th meeting on the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” the Council adopted resolutions 2160 (2014) and 2161 (2014). At the 7208th meeting on the agenda item “The situation in Afghanistan” the Council issued presidential statements S/PRST/2014/11 and S/PRST/2014/12. At the 7348th meeting on the agenda item of “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

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126 S/PV.7198.
127 S/PV.7208.
for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994”, the Council adopted resolutions 2193 (2014) and 2194 (2014) concerning the two Tribunals respectively. And at the 7420th meeting on the agenda item of “The situation in Libya” the Council adopted resolutions 2213 (2015) and 2214 (2015).

B. Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38

According to rule 38 of the provisional rules of procedure, a member of the United Nations, which is not a member of the Council, may submit a proposal, which may be put to a vote only at the request of a Council member. A draft resolution may be directly submitted by any member of the Council, which then becomes its sponsor. A draft resolution becomes a presidential text if all Council members agree to be co-sponsors. Draft resolutions can be co-sponsored by members and non-members of the Council alike.

During the period under review, a total of 132 draft resolutions were considered by the Council, 129 of which were sponsored texts, and three were presidential texts. 25 draft resolutions were co-sponsored by non-Council members (see table 11).

Table 11
Draft resolutions co-sponsored by non-members of the Council in 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draft resolution</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Council member sponsors</th>
<th>Non-Council member co-sponsors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/149</td>
<td>Children and armed conflict</td>
<td>7129th, 7 March 2014</td>
<td>2143 (2014)</td>
<td>12 Council members¹</td>
<td>35 Member States²</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/189</td>
<td>Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent</td>
<td>7138th, 15 March 2014</td>
<td>Not adopted owing to negative vote</td>
<td>6 Council members: Australia, France, Lithuania,</td>
<td>36 Member States³</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ S/PV.7348.
² S/PV.7420.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draft resolution</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Council member sponsors</th>
<th>Non-Council member co-sponsors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/270</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security</td>
<td>7155(^{16}), 16 April 2014</td>
<td>2150 (2014)</td>
<td>All Council members(^d)</td>
<td>33 Member States(^e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/302</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>7161(^{16}), 28 April 2014</td>
<td>2151 (2014)</td>
<td>13 Council members(^f)</td>
<td>28 Member States(^g)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/299</td>
<td>The situation concerning Western Sahara</td>
<td>7162(^{16}), 29 April 2014</td>
<td>2152 (2014)</td>
<td>4 Council members:</td>
<td>Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/348</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>7180(^{16}), 22 May 2014</td>
<td>Not adopted owing to negative votes of China and Russian Federation</td>
<td>9 Council members: Australia, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States</td>
<td>56 Member States(^h)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/510</td>
<td>Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)</td>
<td>7221(^{16}), 21 July 2014</td>
<td>2166 (2014)</td>
<td>13 Council members(^d)</td>
<td>12 Member States(^i)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/614</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>7248(^{16}), 26 August 2014</td>
<td>2172 (2014)</td>
<td>7 Council members:</td>
<td>Italy, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Draft resolution</td>
<td>Agenda item</td>
<td>Meeting and date</td>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>Council member sponsors</td>
<td>Non-Council member co-sponsors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------------</td>
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<td>-------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/629</td>
<td>The situation in Libya</td>
<td>7251st, 27 August 2014</td>
<td>2174 (2014)</td>
<td>Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States</td>
<td>7 Council members: Australia, France, Jordan, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/673</td>
<td>Peace and security in Africa</td>
<td>7268th, 18 September 2014</td>
<td>2177 (2014)</td>
<td>All Council members⁴</td>
<td>119 Member States¹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/688</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts</td>
<td>7272nd, 24 September 2014</td>
<td>2178 (2014)</td>
<td>12 Council members⁶</td>
<td>92 Member States⁶</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/732</td>
<td>The question concerning Haiti</td>
<td>7277th, 14 October 2014</td>
<td>2180 (2014)</td>
<td>France, United States</td>
<td>Brazil, Canada, Uruguay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/803</td>
<td>The situation in Somalia</td>
<td>7309th, 12 November 2014</td>
<td>2184 (2014)</td>
<td>8 Council members: Australia, France, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States</td>
<td>6 Member States: Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands, Spain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2015/100</td>
<td>Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts</td>
<td>7379th, 12 February 2015</td>
<td>2199 (2015)</td>
<td>13 Council members⁶</td>
<td>42 Member States⁹</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2015/153</td>
<td>Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan</td>
<td>7396th, 3 March 2015</td>
<td>2206 (2015)</td>
<td>6 Council members: Chile, France, Lithuania, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States</td>
<td>Australia, Luxembourg, Norway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2015/161</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>7401st, 6 March 2015</td>
<td>2209 (2015)</td>
<td>5 Council members: France, Lithuania, Spain, United</td>
<td>32 Member States⁹</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Part II – **Provisional rules of procedure**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draft resolution</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Council member sponsors</th>
<th>Non-Council member co-sponsors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S/2015/562</td>
<td>Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)</td>
<td>7498th, 29 July 2015</td>
<td>Not adopted owing to negative vote of Russian Federation</td>
<td>7 Council members: United States</td>
<td>11 Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2015/652</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>7509th, 21 August 2015</td>
<td>2236 (2015)</td>
<td>7 Council members: United States</td>
<td>Italy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2015/768</td>
<td>Maintenance of international peace and security</td>
<td>7531st, 9 October 2015</td>
<td>2240 (2015)</td>
<td>6 Council members: United States</td>
<td>29 Member States</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2015/775</td>
<td>The question concerning Haiti</td>
<td>7534th, 14 October 2015</td>
<td>2243 (2015)</td>
<td>11 Council members</td>
<td>7 Member States: Argentina, Brazil,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Draft resolution

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Council member sponsors</th>
<th>Non-Council member co-sponsors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

[^a]: Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States.

[^b]: Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey.

[^c]: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine.

[^d]: Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, China, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

[^e]: Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey.

[^f]: Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

[^g]: Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

[^h]: Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates.

[^i]: Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

[^j]: Belgium, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Ukraine, Viet Nam.

[^k]: Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, China, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

[^l]: Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt,
Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

Afgahnistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Colombia, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Federated States of Micronesia, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen.

Angola, Chad, China, France, Jordan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Sweden, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey.

Angola, Chad, China, France, Jordan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Albania, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden.

Albania, Austria, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine.

Angola, Chad, Chile, China, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Spain, United Kingdom, United States.

Albania, Austria, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine.

Angola, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

Part II – Provisional rules of procedure

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 Council members, while an affirmative vote of nine Council 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 often does not in itself indicate whether the Council considers the matter voted upon as a procedural or other matter. For example, whether a vote is procedural or not, 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 without having obtained the necessary nine affirmative votes.
On the other hand, instances when a proposal is adopted, having obtained nine or more affirmative votes, with one or more permanent members casting a negative vote, indicate that the vote is considered procedural. Conversely, if the proposal is not adopted, the vote is considered to fall under the category of “all other matters”, namely, substantive or non-procedural. On certain occasions, in its early years, the Council had found it necessary to decide, by vote, the question of whether or not the matter under consideration was procedural within the meaning of Article 27 (2) of the Charter. This procedure became 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 of the Council having to decide on 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, the Council voted instances on the inclusion of an item in its agenda (see Table 12).

Table 12
Cases in which the vote indicated the procedural character of the matter

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Proposal</th>
<th>Vote (for-against-abstain)</th>
<th>Permanent members casting negative vote⁹</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea</td>
<td>7353rd, 22 December 2014</td>
<td>Adoption of the agenda</td>
<td>11-2-2</td>
<td>China, Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea</td>
<td>7575th, 10 December 2015</td>
<td>Adoption of the agenda</td>
<td>9-4-2</td>
<td>China, Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

⁹For the context and explanations of vote, see Section II, case studies 3 and 4.
Adoption of resolutions

During the period under review, the majority of resolutions (116 out of 127) were adopted unanimously. Only 11 out of a total 127 resolutions were adopted without a unanimous vote and in all these cases, no negative vote was cast by any permanent or non-permanent member of the Council; only abstentions were exercised (see table 13).

Table 13

Resolutions adopted without a unanimous vote in 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Resolution</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Vote (for-against-abstain)</th>
<th>Abstention by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2183 (2014)</td>
<td>The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>7307th, 11 November 2014</td>
<td>14-0-1</td>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2209 (2015)</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>7401st, 6 March 2015</td>
<td>14-0-1</td>
<td>Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resolution</td>
<td>Agenda item</td>
<td>Meeting and date</td>
<td>Vote (for-against-abstain)</td>
<td>Abstention by</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
<td>-------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-----------------------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2216 (2015)</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>7426th, 14 April 2015</td>
<td>14-0-1</td>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2241 (2015)</td>
<td>Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan</td>
<td>7532nd, 9 October 2015</td>
<td>13-0-2</td>
<td>Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2252 (2015)</td>
<td>Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan</td>
<td>7581st, 15 December 2015</td>
<td>13-0-2</td>
<td>Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Draft resolutions not adopted

According to Article 27 (3) of the Charter, a draft resolution on a non-procedural matter is not adopted when it fails to obtain the nine affirmative votes required, or when a negative vote is cast by a permanent member, also known as the veto. During the period under review, there was only one instance when a draft resolution failed to be adopted due to the lack of the necessary affirmative votes in relation to the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”. In addition, during the reporting period there were four instances of draft resolutions that failed to be adopted due to the negative vote of one or more permanent members as shown in Table 14 below.

Table 14
Draft resolutions not adopted due to a veto or lack of requisite number of votes in 2014 and 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Draft resolution</th>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Meeting and date</th>
<th>Vote (for-against - abstain)</th>
<th>Permanent member(s) casting a negative vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/348</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East</td>
<td>7180th, 22 May 2014</td>
<td>13-2-0</td>
<td>China, Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2014/916</td>
<td>The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question</td>
<td>7354th, 30 December 2014</td>
<td>8-2-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/2015/508</td>
<td>The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina</td>
<td>7481st, 8 July 2015</td>
<td>10-1-4</td>
<td>Russian Federation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

131 At the 7354th meeting of 30 December 2014 on the agenda item titled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, two Council members (Australia and United States) voted against and five Council members (Lithuania, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda and United Kingdom) abstained to vote on draft resolution S/2014/916.
Draft resolution | Agenda item | Meeting and date | Vote (for-against - abstain) | Permanent member(s) casting a negative vote
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
(S/2014/136)

### D. Decision-making without a vote

A procedural motion or a substantive motion may be adopted in the Council without a vote or by consensus. During the period 2014-2015, there was no instance of a resolution being adopted without a vote; all 127 resolutions were adopted by a show of hands.

Statements by the President continued to be adopted by consensus. A total of 54 statements by the President were adopted during the period under review. In comparison to past practice where most of the statements by the President adopted were read out at meetings, during the period under review, half of the statements were adopted without the text being read out, with the President announcing only that the statement would be issued as a document of the Security Council. Also, in several instances, resolutions and statements by the President were adopted during the course of a meeting rather than at the beginning or the end.

While a statement by the President is usually discussed and agreed upon by the members of the Council in prior consultations, there was one instance during the reporting period where a Council member announced its intention to disassociate itself from the statement by the President. At the 7504th meeting held on 17 August 2015, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”, the Council adopted a statement by the President concerning the Syrian Arab Republic. Immediately following the adoption, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela disassociated himself from paragraphs 8 and 10 of the presidential statement, stating that, in his view, the two paragraphs violated the sovereignty and the right to self-determination of the Syrian people by promoting its political transition, including the establishment of a transitional Government, without its consent, and thereby contravened the

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133 For example, see S/PV.7109; S/PV.7112; S/PV.7169; S/PV.7208; and S/PV.7289.

134 S/PRST/2015/15.
Charter of the United Nations. However, he did not block the adoption of presidential statement S/PRST/2015/15 and joined in the consensus.\(^{135}\)

Similarly, notes and letters by the President of the Council were issued as official documents of the Council without a vote. During the reporting period, the Council issued 30 notes and 80 letters by the President.\(^{136}\) There were two instances of issuance of the notes announced at a formal meeting. On both occasions, it concerned the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly. At those meetings, the President of the Council announced that the draft report had been adopted without a vote.\(^{137}\) During the period under review, the Council also adopted six notes on working methods building upon the provisions of the note by the President S/2010/507 and covering various aspects of the working methods of the Council, including wider participation of Council members in the drafting of Council products ("penholder(s)"),\(^{138}\) practical measures in ensuring continuity in the work of the Council’s subsidiary bodies,\(^{139}\) enhancing intra-Council dialogue, communication and exchange of information,\(^{140}\) the speaking order for Council meetings,\(^{141}\) the official records of the Council,\(^{142}\) and the annual report of the Council.\(^{143}\) These notes were not adopted at formal meetings of the Council, but rather during the course of the work of its Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions.

E. Discussions concerning the decision-making process

During the period under review, the question of the decision-making process of the Council was raised in the context of the two annual thematic debates on the working methods of

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\(^{135}\) S/PV.7504, pp. 3-4.  
\(^{136}\) For the complete list of notes by the President of the Security Council issued in 2014 and 2015, see part I, section XIV of the report of the Security Council to the 69th, 70th and 71st session of the General Assembly (A/69/2, A/70/2 and A/71/2), respectively, or https://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/notes/. For the complete list of letters from the President of the Council issued in 2014 and 2015, see appendix IV of the above-mentioned reports or https://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/letters/.  
\(^{137}\) S/PV.7283 and S/PV.7538.  
\(^{138}\) S/2014/268.  
\(^{139}\) S/2014/393.  
\(^{140}\) S/2014/565.  
\(^{141}\) S/2014/739.  
\(^{142}\) S/2014/922.  
\(^{143}\) S/2015/944.
the Council. The following case study features the discussion held on the decision-making process during one of these debates.

Case 8

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 7285th meeting, on 23 October 2014, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representatives of Australia and Ukraine stated that the Council should apply Article 27 of the Charter of the United Nations, which provides that a Council member must refrain from voting on a matter in which it is a party to a dispute. The representative of China expressed the view that all Council members should have ample time for studying the draft resolutions and presidential statements and, through patient consultations and negotiations, reach broad consensus and preserve the solidarity of the Council, rather than forcing texts through on which there were still major differences. The representative of Peru noted that for transparency it was important to have open debates to provide non-members of the Council an opportunity to express their opinions.

Several speakers referred to the issue of penholders. The representative of Sweden, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries and the representative of Egypt suggested that it was imperative that all members of the Council, permanent and non-permanent, have a possibility of drafting and presenting products. The representative of Malaysia supported a fairer and more inclusive allocation of penholdership. The representative of Maldives welcomed presidential note S/2014/268 in which penholders were encouraged to exchange information and consult with all Council members and relevant stakeholder Member States from the wider UN membership.

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144 The 7285th meeting on 23 October 2014 (S/PV.7285 and S/PV.7285 (Resumption1)), and the 7539th meeting on 20 October 2015 (S/PV.7539 and S/PV.7539 (Resumption1)).
145 S/PV.7285, p. 8 (Australia) and S/PV.7285(Resumption1), p. 36 (Ukraine).
146 S/PV.7285, p. 10.
148 Ibid., p. 7 (Sweden) and pp. 30-31 (Egypt).
149 Ibid., p. 22.
The same presidential note was referred to by several other speakers, expressing the hope that the Council would make tangible progress on the issue of penholders on the basis of the note.  

Regarding the issue of the veto, many speakers welcomed France’s initiative on restraint in the use of the veto in situations of mass atrocities, genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity. The representative of Costa Rica further encouraged permanent members of the Council to adopt a declaration of principles on the use of the veto to mark the 70th anniversary of the United Nations in 2015. While supporting the French initiative, the representative of Kazakhstan expressed the view that a definition of genocide, crimes against humanity and serious crimes against international humanitarian law was needed, and that the issue could be resolved by the permanent members by taking into account all their approaches on the basis of goodwill and compromise. In addition, the representatives of Uruguay and Peru expressed the hope that the veto as an institution could be eliminated.

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151 S/PV.7285, p. 14 (Rwanda); S/PV.7285 (Resumption1), p. 18 (Portugal); p. 32 (New Zealand); and p. 36 (Ukraine).
152 S/PV.7285, p. 8 (Australia); p. 9 (Chile); p. 14 (Rwanda); p. 17 (Lithuania); p. 19 (Luxembourg); p. 26 (Liechtenstein); S/PV.7285 (Resumption1), p. 7 (Sweden (on behalf of the Nordic countries)); p. 8 (Mexico); p. 9 (Netherlands (also on behalf of Belgium)); p. 10 (Italy); p. 11 (Germany); p. 15 (Uruguay); p. 17 (Estonia); p. 19 (Indonesia); p. 22 (Malaysia); p. 24 (Peru); p. 26 (Maldives); p. 27 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 28 (Ireland); p. 32 (Côte d’Ivoire); pp. 33-34 (Botswana); p. 35 (Poland); p. 36 (Ukraine); and p. 37 (Montenegro).
153 S/PV.7285, p. 29.
155 Ibid, p. 15 (Uruguay) and p. 24 (Peru).
IX. Languages

Note

The present section covers rules 41 to 47 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, in relation 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. There were several meetings where speakers delivered their statements in a language other than the six official languages of the Security Council in accordance with rule 44.\(^{156}\)

\(^{156}\) For example, at the 7108\(^{th}\) meeting, on 10 February 2014, the representative of Serbia (Prime Minister) spoke in Serbian while the representative of Albania spoke in Albanian. The English translations of both statements were made available by the respective delegations (pp. 4-9 and pp. 9-11). At the 7272\(^{nd}\) meeting, on 24 September 2014, the representative of Turkey (President) spoke in Turkish, and the representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (President) spoke in Macedonian. The English interpretations of both statements were provided by the respective delegations (pp. 19-20 and pp. 23-24). At the 7561\(^{st}\) meeting, on 17 November 2015, the representative of Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation) delivered his statement in Portuguese. The English text was provided by the delegation (pp. 29-31).
X. Provisional status of the rules of procedure

**Note**

The present section covers the deliberations of the Security Council concerning the provisional status of the rules of procedure of the Council, last amended in 1982. Article 30 of the Charter of the United Nations provides that the Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure. However, since their adoption by the Council at its first meeting held on 17 January 1946, the rules of procedure have remained provisional.

**Article 30**

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

During the period under review, the question of the status of the provisional rules of procedure, including in connection with Article 30 of the Charter, was raised at the two annual open debates concerning the working methods of the Council.

At the 7285th meeting on the item “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)” on 23 October 2014, several speakers opined that the rules of procedure of the Security Council should be formalized. The representative of Ukraine explicitly noted that members of the Council should further maintain and build on the dynamics.

157 The provisional rules of procedure of the Council were amended eleven times between 1946 and 1982: five times during its first year at its 31st, 41st, 42nd, 44th and 48th meetings on 9 April, 16 and 17 May, 6 and 24 June 1946; twice in its second year at the 138th and 222nd meetings, on 4 June and 9 December 1947; at its 468th meeting on 28 February 1950; 1463rd meeting, on 24 January 1969; 1761st meeting, on 17 January 1974; and 2410th meeting, on 21 December 1982. The provisional rules have been issued as documents S/96 and Rev.1 to 7, the latest version having been issued under the symbol S/96/Rev.7.

158 The 7285th meeting on 23 October 2014 (S/PV.7285 and S/PV.7285 (Resumption1)), and the 7539th meeting on 20 October 2015 (S/PV.7539 and S/PV.7539 (Resumption1)).

159 S/PV.7285, pp. 27-28 (Saint Lucia, on behalf of the L. 69 group); and p. 29 (Costa Rica); S/PV.7285 (Resumption1), p. 20 (Iran (Islamic Republic of), on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)) and p.34 (Algeria).
in streamlining its “modus operandi in line with Article 30 of the Charter of the United Nations”.

Furthermore, at the 7539th meeting, held on 20 October 2015, several speakers stated that the provisional rules of procedure of the Council should be formalized and adopted in order to improve its transparency and accountability.

160 S/PV.7285 (Resumption1), p. 36.
161 S/PV.7539, p. 14 (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)); S/PV.7539 (Resumption1), p. 8 (Iran (Islamic Republic of)), on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)); p. 10 (Singapore); p. 12 (Sierra Leone); p. 17 (Costa Rica); pp. 20-21 (Pakistan); p. 21 (Cuba); p. 24 (Algeria); pp. 28-29 (Kuwait, on behalf of the Group of Arab States); p. 32 (Spain).