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## Introductory note

Chapter VIII of the *Repertoire* focuses on the substance of each of the questions included in the agenda of the Security Council that relate to its responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Examining the entire chain of proceedings of the Council on each agenda item gives an overall sense of their political context.<sup>1</sup> The range of items covers broadly those that may be deemed to fall under Chapters VI and VII of the Charter.

The overview of the proceedings of the Council provided in chapter VIII of the *Repertoire* constitutes a framework within which the procedural developments recorded in chapters I to VII and the legal and constitutional discussions recorded in chapters X to XII may be considered. Chapter VIII also examines the substantive aspects of the Council's practice that are not covered in other chapters of the *Repertoire*.

The agenda items are grouped by region, for ease of reference, with an additional category of thematic issues. Within each region, items are listed in the order in which they were first included in the list of items of which the Council is seized.

Generally, individual sections cover all proceedings relating to a specific item. In exceptional cases, in order to improve the coherence of the text, related items have been grouped together under the heading "Items relating to ...".

The material included in chapter VIII is drawn from the formal meetings of the Council, and includes summaries of the statements made in the Council and of all Council documents, including reports and letters, that were referred to during the meetings.<sup>2</sup> The chapter also includes summaries of all of the decisions that were adopted at those formal Council meetings.<sup>3</sup>

Each section is organized around the decisions taken by the Council on a specific item. All of the meetings leading to a decision are included under the heading for that decision. Meetings that do not lead to a decision are grouped together under the heading "Deliberations".

When the Council includes a new item in its agenda, the section covering its first consideration bears the heading "Initial proceedings".

Some meetings have been grouped together, and an overview of all developments at those meetings is provided. In some of these cases, similar resolutions, generally renewing the mandate of a subsidiary body and adopted without debate, have also been grouped together; a brief overview of their main provisions is provided.

Meetings with countries contributing troops to a peacekeeping mission are dealt with under the item that covers that mission.

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<sup>1</sup> The *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* covers formal meetings and documents of the Security Council. Some of the questions considered in this chapter were also discussed in informal consultations among the members of the Council.

<sup>2</sup> Other documents relating to a specific item but not mentioned at a formal meeting of the Council are listed in the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly.

<sup>3</sup> The summaries are based on those contained in the *Index to Proceedings of the Security Council*.

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Information on formal meetings held in private is given in a footnote to the subsequent open meeting.

Unless otherwise noted, representatives of States Members of the United Nations who were invited to participate in the Council's proceedings were invited under rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, and all other speakers were invited under rule 39.<sup>4</sup>

Unless otherwise indicated, draft resolutions were prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.

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<sup>4</sup> See chapter III for more information.