

(Footnotes to Meetings: maintenance of international peace and security Table)

- <sup>a</sup> Three Council members were represented at the level of Head of State or Government: Burkina Faso (President), Panama (President) and Croatia (Prime Minister). Seven Council members were represented at the ministerial level: Belgium, France, Indonesia, Italy and South Africa (Minister for Foreign Affairs); Russian Federation (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs); and United Kingdom (Minister of State for Africa, Asia and United Nations Affairs).
- <sup>b</sup> Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Canada, Chile (Special Envoy of the President and Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of the Chamber of Deputies), Colombia, Ecuador, Guatemala, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Spain, Switzerland and United Republic of Tanzania.
- <sup>c</sup> Costa Rica was represented by its President, and Panama was represented by its Vice-President and Minister for Foreign Affairs. France made a statement on behalf of the European Union.
- <sup>d</sup> Algeria, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Canada, Cuba (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Egypt, Finland, Indonesia, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Senegal, South Africa, Sudan, Switzerland, United Republic of Tanzania and Uruguay.
- <sup>e</sup> Eleven Council members were represented by the President: Austria, Burkina Faso, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, France, Mexico, Russian Federation, Uganda, United States and Viet Nam; Japan, Turkey and the United Kingdom were represented by their respective Prime Ministers.

## 40. Security Council mission

### Overview

During the period under review the Security Council completed four missions in which members of the Council visited the field. The destinations of the missions included several African countries,<sup>739</sup> Afghanistan and Haiti, and consisted of all members of the Council. The Council held four meetings in connection with the item entitled “Security Council mission”, and held briefings by the heads of the missions on their findings in those countries. The table below provides an overview of all the missions and associated meetings.

### 18 June 2008: Security Council mission to Africa, 31 May to 10 June 2008

On 18 June 2008, the Council included in its agenda the item entitled “Briefing by the Security Council mission to Africa”. At the meeting the Council heard briefings by the representatives of South Africa and the United Kingdom, who jointly led the mission

to Djibouti in connection with the situation in Somalia, and to the Sudan; the representative of France who led the mission to Chad and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and the representative of Burkina Faso, who led the mission to Côte d’Ivoire.

The representative of South Africa noted that the meetings in Djibouti between the mission and leaders of the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and the opposition Alliance for the Re-Liberation of Somalia were an opportunity for the people of Somalia to put their case before the members of the Council. It also showed that the Somalis were committed to finding a political solution through dialogue. In that regard, he stated that the President of Somalia made it clear that the Transitional Federal Government was willing to engage in dialogue and reach agreement with all the parties in Somalia. Regarding the presence of Ethiopian troops, he noted that the Transitional Federal Government was adamant that those troops must remain until a political agreement was reached, while the opposition was equally adamant that they should leave Somalia as soon as possible. The mission had assured the Somali parties that should there be an improvement in the security situation and a solid political agreement, the Council would consider a

<sup>739</sup> Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti (in connection with the situation in Somalia), Ethiopia (African Union headquarters in Addis Ababa), Liberia, Rwanda and Sudan.

mission that could take over from the United Nations Political Office in Somalia.<sup>740</sup>

The representative of the United Kingdom reported that the mission's discussions with the Government of the Sudan focused on the two crucial issues of the United Nations engagement: the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and Darfur. In regard to Darfur, he stated that the Council focused its discussion on the four tracks where progress was needed to solve the crisis: peacekeeping, political mediation, the humanitarian situation and impunity, including cooperation with the International Criminal Court in line with resolution 1593 (2005).<sup>741</sup>

The representative of France, reporting on the mission's visit to eastern Chad, stated that they had visited camps and other facilities operated by the international community and Chadians and were able to speak freely with camp populations and humanitarian workers. There were reports from aid workers that armed groups from the Sudan, in particular the Janjaweed, posed the principal threat to those populations. In the subsequent meeting with the Prime Minister and other leaders in N'Djamena, the mission called on the Chadian authorities to commit themselves to the path of dialogue with the Sudan, and urged the two countries to distance themselves from armed groups from each others' territories.<sup>742</sup>

In regard to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the representative of France reported on the mission's meetings with the President, ministers, other government officials and representatives from all political groups, including the opposition. The mission noted with satisfaction the planned and ongoing reforms in relation to the status of the opposition, the financing of political parties, in-depth reform of the justice and security sectors, and decentralization. It further stressed the importance of the local elections to complete the electoral cycle started in 2006.<sup>743</sup>

The representative of Burkina Faso, reporting on the mission's activities in Côte d'Ivoire, highlighted the meetings held with the President, other government officials and the leader of the opposition party, where they had discussed the requirements for the upcoming elections and the limited progress in the security and

humanitarian situations. In addition, the opposition party and civil society organizations had urged the Council to maintain the sanctions regime and the arms embargo until the peace process was irreversible and the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process had been completed.<sup>744</sup>

#### **4 December 2008: Security Council mission to Afghanistan, 21 to 28 November 2008**

On 4 December 2008, the Council included in its agenda the item "Briefing by the Head of the Security Council mission to Afghanistan". In his briefing, the representative of Italy and head of the mission reported that the mission had achieved its main goal of developing a first-hand assessment of the situation in the country at a critical juncture. He described the programme of meetings and visits in Kabul, where they had met the President, ministers and representatives of national and international organizations, and in Herat, where they had met with the regional office of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan.<sup>745</sup>

#### **19 March 2009: Security Council mission to Haiti, 11 to 14 March 2009**

On 19 March 2009, the Council included in its agenda the item "Briefing by the Head of the Security Council mission to Haiti". In his briefing, the representative of Costa Rica and head of the mission stated that the mission had gathered information and assessments on the security situation, political dialogue and the elections, the extension of State authority, rule of law and human rights, social/economic development and regional cooperation. Referring to meetings held with the President, Prime Minister and other high-level officials on political dialogue and the electoral processes, he stated that the Haitian leaders had agreed on the need for significant reforms, although there were differing nuances in the various points of view. In conclusion, he stressed the importance of promoting national consensus by the Haitian authorities to ensure stability and political security, as well as to establish a solid basis for the country's socioeconomic development.<sup>746</sup>

Following the briefing, the representative of Haiti acknowledged the improved security situation, but at

---

<sup>740</sup> S/PV.5915, pp. 2-3.

<sup>741</sup> Ibid., pp. 3-6.

<sup>742</sup> Ibid., pp. 6-9.

<sup>743</sup> Ibid.

---

<sup>744</sup> S/PV.5915, pp. 9-12.

<sup>745</sup> S/PV.6031, pp. 2-4.

<sup>746</sup> S/PV.6093, pp. 2-6.

the same time highlighted the fragile social and economic situation. He further noted that the “meagre economic progress” that had been achieved in 2007 had been battered by repeated hurricanes. Nonetheless, he reaffirmed that his country was resolutely committed to reconstruction and development.<sup>747</sup>

**28 May 2009: Security Council mission to  
Africa, 14 to 21 May 2009**

On 28 May 2009, the Council included in its agenda the item entitled “Briefing by Security Council mission to Africa”. It heard briefings by the representatives of Uganda and the United Kingdom, who jointly led the mission to Ethiopia in connection with the African Union and the mission to the Great Lakes region in connection with Rwanda; the representative of France, who led the mission to the Great Lakes region in connection with the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and the representative of the United States, who led the mission to Liberia.

The representative of Uganda, reporting on the mission’s visit in Addis Ababa, elaborated on the meetings between the Council and the African Union, which had focused on the situations in the Sudan and Somalia, and on the resurgence of unconstitutional changes of government and the financing of peacekeeping operations in Africa. He added that, while in Addis Ababa, the mission had a discussion with the Prime Minister of Ethiopia on the peace and security situation in the region.<sup>748</sup>

The representative of the United Kingdom, in regard to the mission to Ethiopia and the Great Lakes region, reported that the Council and the African Union had discussed, *inter alia*, ways to address difficulties

facing the United Nations-African Union Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), as well as ways to strengthen action on the ground in support of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).<sup>749</sup>

The representative of France, reporting on the mission’s visit to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, stated that the situation in the Great Lakes region had improved considerably, which was particularly due to the rapprochement between the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda. The representative of France also stated that the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) remained indispensable.<sup>750</sup>

Reporting on the last leg of the mission, the representative of the United States indicated that the purpose of the visit to Liberia was to reaffirm the Council’s support for the Government and people of Liberia, and for the efforts of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) to promote peace and security. She elaborated on the mission’s meetings in Liberia with the President and others.<sup>751</sup>

Following the briefings, the representative of Costa Rica made a brief statement related to working methods, transparency in the decisions that affect the practical work of the Council and, in particular, the legal equality of the rights and obligations of Council members. He expressed concern about the existence of double standards and unwritten regulations related to Council missions, stating that this practice had led to inequalities between treatment of permanent and elected members.<sup>752</sup>

---

<sup>747</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 6.

<sup>748</sup> S/PV.6131, pp. 2-3.

<sup>749</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 3-4.

<sup>750</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 4-6.

<sup>751</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.

<sup>752</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

**Meetings: Security Council mission**

| <i>Meeting and date</i>   | <i>Sub-item</i>   | <i>Documents</i>   | <i>Invitations</i>            | <i>Speakers</i>   |
|---------------------------|---|--|-------------------------------|---|
| 5915th<br>18 June 2008    | Briefing by the Security Council mission to Africa (31 May to 10 June 2008) | Letter from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General containing the terms of reference for the mission ( <a href="#">S/2008/347</a> )<br><br>Report of the Security Council mission to Djibouti (on Somalia), the Sudan, Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Côte d'Ivoire, 31 May to 10 June 2008 ( <a href="#">S/2008/460</a> ) |                               | Burkina Faso, France, South Africa, United Kingdom        |
| 6031st<br>4 December 2008 | Briefing by the Head of the Security Council mission to Afghanistan         | Letter from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General containing the terms of reference for the mission ( <a href="#">S/2008/708</a> )<br><br>Report of the Security Council mission to Afghanistan, 21 to 28 November 2008 ( <a href="#">S/2008/782</a> )  | <b>Rule 37</b><br>Afghanistan | Italy   |
| 6093rd<br>19 March 2009   | Briefing by Security Council mission to Haiti (11 to 14 March 2009)         | Letter from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General containing the terms of reference for the mission ( <a href="#">S/2009/139</a> )<br><br>Report of the Security Council mission to Haiti (11 to 14 March 2009) ( <a href="#">S/2009/175</a> )  | <b>Rule 37</b><br>Haiti       | Costa Rica, Haiti   |
| 6131st<br>28 May 2009     | Briefing by Security Council mission to Africa (14 to 21 May 2009)          | Letter from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General containing the terms of reference for the mission ( <a href="#">S/2009/243</a> )<br><br>Report of the Security Council mission to the African Union; Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and Liberia ( <a href="#">S/2009/303</a> )  |                               | Costa Rica, France, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States |