

## 34. Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

### Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings, adopting three resolutions and three presidential statements in connection with threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. The Council decided that the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate should continue to operate as a special political mission.<sup>806</sup> The Council also decided to establish a Committee of the Council to oversee sanctions measures in connection with the Taliban and any individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with them.<sup>807</sup> In addition, the Council extended the mandate of the Office of the Ombudsperson for a period of 18 months, and requested the Secretary-General to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsperson to ensure its continued ability to carry out its mandate in an effective and timely manner.<sup>808</sup>

### 27 September 2010: responses to threats posed by terrorist acts

On 27 September 2010, the Council held an open debate at the ministerial level to assess the efforts to combat terrorism over the past 10 years and lay out a strategy for future action. Speakers underscored the importance of a comprehensive approach to combating the global threat posed by terrorism, which required action not only to strengthen security and law enforcement but also to address root causes and conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism.<sup>809</sup> They agreed on the urgent need to eradicate this scourge through coordinated efforts led by the United Nations, in particular in enhancing collective efforts to combat terrorism and to address existing gaps in this global fight.<sup>810</sup> Several speakers highlighted the need for a coordinated approach to address terrorism through international and regional cooperation and

through the sharing of information and best practices.<sup>811</sup>

Following the debate, the Council adopted a presidential statement, in which it noted with concern that terrorism continued to pose a serious threat to international peace and security, and that this threat had become more diffuse. Recognizing that terrorism would not be defeated by military force, law enforcement measures and intelligence operations alone, the Council underlined the need to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism. In that regard, the Council recognized that development, peace and security and human rights were interlinked and mutually reinforcing, and underlined the international effort to eradicate poverty and promote sustained economic growth, sustainable development and global prosperity for all.<sup>812</sup>

### 20 December 2010: resolution concerning the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate

On 20 December 2010, the Council adopted resolution [1963 \(2010\)](#), in which it decided that the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate should continue to operate as a special political mission under the policy guidance of the Counter-Terrorism Committee for the period ending 31 December 2013, and further decided to conduct an interim review by 30 June 2012. It directed the Executive Directorate to produce an updated global implementation survey of resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) by 30 June 2011, and to produce a global implementation survey of resolution [1624 \(2005\)](#) by 31 December 2011. Both surveys were expected to assess the evolution of risks and threats and the impact of their implementation, as well as identify gaps and propose new practical ways to implement them.

<sup>806</sup> Resolution [1963 \(2010\)](#).

<sup>807</sup> Resolutions [1988 \(2011\)](#) and [1989 \(2011\)](#).

<sup>808</sup> Resolution [1989 \(2011\)](#).

<sup>809</sup> [S/PV.6390](#), p. 3 (Secretary-General); p. 5 (Austria); p. 6 (United States); p. 7 (Brazil); p. 8 (United Kingdom); p. 10 (Nigeria); p. 11 (Uganda); p. 13 (Russian Federation); pp. 15-16 (Lebanon); p. 19 (China); and p. 20 (Turkey).

<sup>810</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 4 (Austria); pp. 5-6 (United States); pp. 6-7 (Brazil); and pp. 9-10 (Nigeria).

<sup>811</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 4 (Austria); p. 9 (Gabon); p. 10 (Nigeria); p. 11 (Uganda); p. 12 (Russian Federation); and p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

<sup>812</sup> [S/PRST/2010/19](#).

**2 May 2011: presidential statement concerning  
the death of Osama bin Laden**

On 2 May 2011, the Council adopted a presidential statement welcoming the news on 1 May 2011 that Osama bin Laden would never again be able to perpetrate acts of terrorism, and reaffirmed that terrorism could not and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or group. Furthermore, the Council stressed that no cause or grievance could justify the murder of innocent people and that terrorism would not be defeated by military force, law enforcement measures and intelligence operations alone, and could only be defeated by a sustained and comprehensive approach involving the active participation and collaboration of all States and relevant international and regional organizations and civil society to address the conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and to impede, impair, isolate and incapacitate the terrorist threat.<sup>813</sup>

**17 June 2011: decision to split Al-Qaida and  
Taliban sanctions regime**

On 17 June 2011, the Council adopted resolution 1988 (2011), in which it established a new sanctions regime and requested all States to take measures with respect to the Taliban and individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with them in constituting a threat to the peace, stability and security of Afghanistan as designated on the List of the Committee established pursuant to paragraph 30 of the resolution. The Committee, under the new regime, would oversee the implementation by States of the three sanctions measures (assets freeze, travel ban and arms embargo) imposed by the Council on individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban. In addition, the resolution introduced broader listing criteria and a greater role for the Government of Afghanistan in consultations on listing and delisting decisions.

In resolution 1989 (2011), the Council decided that the sanctions list maintained by the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities<sup>814</sup> would henceforth be known as the

“Al-Qaida Sanctions List”, and that it should include only the names of those individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida. The Council directed the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) to transmit to the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) all listing submissions, delisting requests and proposed updates to the existing information associated with the Taliban. In addition, the Council renewed the mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, directed it to keep the Committee informed of instances of non-compliance with the measures imposed, and further directed it to provide recommendations to the Committee on actions taken to respond to non-compliance.

Following the adoption of resolutions 1988 (2011) and 1989 (2011), speakers stressed that their adoption was an important step to further support political dialogue in Afghanistan, to counter the threat to international peace and security posed by Al-Qaida and its affiliates, and to strengthen the effectiveness of targeted sanctions through further enhancing fair and clear procedures.<sup>815</sup>

**28 February and 17 June 2011: strengthening  
the Office of the Ombudsperson and renewal of  
its mandate**

On 28 February 2011, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it underlined its commitment to ensuring that the Office of the Ombudsperson was able to continue to carry out its role effectively, in accordance with its mandate and, in that regard, undertook to renew the Office’s mandate in June 2011. The Council welcomed the first report<sup>816</sup> of the Ombudsperson submitted pursuant to annex II of resolution 1904 (2009) and the work of the Ombudsperson to date. The Council took note of the observations in the report, to which it would respond in the context of the renewal of the Ombudsperson’s mandate in June 2011 to ensure that any necessary improvements to the Ombudsperson procedure were implemented.<sup>817</sup>

On 17 June 2011, the Council adopted resolution 1989 (2011), in which it extended the mandate of the

<sup>813</sup> S/PRST/2011/9.

<sup>814</sup> Formerly “Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities”.

<sup>815</sup> S/PV.6557, p. 2 (United States); p. 3 (Germany); p. 4 (France); p. 5 (Portugal); and p. 5 (United Kingdom).

<sup>816</sup> S/2011/29, annex.

<sup>817</sup> S/PRST/2011/5.

Ombudsperson for a period of 18 months from the date of adoption of the resolution. The Council further decided that the sanctions measures described in paragraph 1 of the resolution with respect to a listed individual, group, undertaking or entity should terminate 60 days after the Committee had completed consideration of a comprehensive report of the Ombudsperson, where the Ombudsperson recommended delisting, unless the Committee decided otherwise by consensus. In cases where consensus did not exist, the Chair of the Committee should, on the request of a Committee member, submit the question of whether to delist that individual, group, undertaking or entity to the Council for a decision within a period of 60 days. The Council also requested the Secretary-General to strengthen the capacity of the Office of the Ombudsperson to ensure its continued ability to carry out its mandate in an effective and timely manner.

Following the adoption of resolution [1989 \(2011\)](#), the representative of Germany hailed it as a

major achievement that the Committee would need consensus for keeping individuals on the list if the Ombudsperson had recommended delisting.<sup>818</sup> The representative of Portugal concurred that the strengthened Office of the Ombudsperson was in a better position to play a crucial role in assisting individuals in the process of reviewing their cases.<sup>819</sup> The representative of the United Kingdom noted that the introduction of two sunset clauses, to be triggered by a delisting recommendation from the Ombudsperson or a delisting request from a designating State, would make it more straightforward to delist individuals and entities that no longer constituted a threat, while ensuring that those who continued to pose a threat remained listed.<sup>820</sup>

<sup>818</sup> [S/PV.6557](#), p. 3.

<sup>819</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5.

<sup>820</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 6.

#### Meetings: threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">6390</a> 27 September 2010	Letter dated 1 September 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General ( <a href="#">S/2010/462</a> )				Secretary-General, all Council members	<a href="#">S/PRST/2010/19</a>
<a href="#">6459</a> 20 December 2010	Letter dated 3 December 2010 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1373 (2001)</a> concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2010/616</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France, Japan, Nigeria, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States ( <a href="#">S/2010/645</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">1963 (2010)</a> 15-0-0

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6492 28 February 2011	Letter dated 21 January 2011 from the Ombudsperson addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2011/29)					S/PRST/2011/5
6526 2 May 2011						S/PRST/2011/9
6557 17 June 2011		Draft resolution submitted by France, Germany, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States (S/2011/368)  Draft resolution submitted by France, Germany, United Kingdom, United States (S/2011/369)		7 Council members (France, Germany, India, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States)	Resolution 1988 (2011) 15-0-0  Resolution 1989 (2011) 15-0-0	

## 35. Briefings

### Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council heard a number of briefings that were not explicitly connected to any specific item on the Council's agenda, but included under a number of unique items.

### Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

From 2010 to 2011, the Council held six meetings in connection with the item entitled "Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council" at which the Chairmen of various sanctions and counter-terrorism committees and working groups provided an overview of the work of those organs to the Council.

### Other briefings

During the period under review, the Council also heard two briefings by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and two briefings held in closed sessions by the President of the International Court of Justice.

### Briefing by Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

On 5 February 2010, the Secretary of State and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, speaking as Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, briefed the Council on areas of cooperation between the United Nations and