20. Letter dated 22 November 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held nine meetings and adopted three resolutions and one presidential statement in connection with the item entitled “Letter dated 22 November 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council”.\(^449\)

At the meetings, senior officials of the Secretariat briefed the Council on the progress of the peace process in Nepal and the work of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN). The mandate of UNMIN was renewed three times in 2010, and was terminated on 15 January 2011 after a four-year engagement.\(^450\)

15 and 21 January 2010: progress in the peace process

On 15 January 2010, the Representative of the Secretary-General in Nepal and Head of the United Nations Mission in Nepal reported on positive developments in the peace process that had been initiated with the signing of the 12-point understanding in 2005 and solidified in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement a year later. Positive developments included the establishment of a high-level political mechanism to deal with outstanding peace process issues, including the drafting of a new constitution and the rehabilitation of Maoist army personnel. She noted, however, that growing political instability and the lack of a credible and independent national monitoring mechanism to oversee the implementation of the Agreement could undermine the overall peace process. In that regard, she encouraged the parties to agree, within the Special Committee established to address the supervision, integration and rehabilitation of Maoist army personnel, on the modalities of integration of army personnel into the security forces and on rehabilitation. She stressed that the major peace process actors needed to establish a timeline with clear benchmarks for the withdrawal of UNMIN.\(^451\)

In resolution 1909 (2010) of 21 January 2010, noting that the deadline for the promulgation of the new democratic constitution was 28 May 2010, the Council welcomed the understanding between the

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\(^{449}\) S/2006/920.


For more information on the mandate of UNMIN, see part X, sect. II, “Political and peacebuilding missions”.

\(^{451}\) S/PV.6260, pp. 2-5.
Government of Nepal and the Unified Communist
Party of Nepal (Maoist) on having a timetabled action
plan for the integration and rehabilitation of Maoist
army personnel by 15 May 2010, and called upon them
to work together to ensure its completion and
implementation, renewing the mandate of UNMIN
until the same date.

5 May 2010 to 15 September 2010: briefings
on the status of the peace process and final
extension of mandate of UNMIN

On 5 May 2010, the Representative of the
Secretary-General in Nepal reported that it was a
critical moment in the peace process as negotiators
worked to resolve the current stand-off, including a
general strike, between Maoist supporters and the
Government. She stated that tensions had worsened
and, especially in the light of the slow progress in
meeting the deadline for the new constitution, concerns
had been expressed as to the future course of the peace
process. In response to widespread alarm over a
political vacuum being created after 28 May, the date
on which the new constitution was to be promulgated,
negotiations were underway to extend the tenure of the
Constituent Assembly. Also under negotiation was the
reintegration and rehabilitation of nearly 20,000
Maoist army personnel, which required a carefully
planned and managed process of implementation. She
noted the ongoing discussions concerning the
withdrawal of UNMIN, as well as the different points
of view expressed by stakeholders with respect to the
role played by the Mission in providing support and
facilitation within its mandate to the nationally driven
peace process.452

On 12 May 2010, the Council adopted resolution
1921 (2010), in which it renewed the mandate of
UNMIN until 15 September 2010. Underlining the fact
that the existing arrangements had been conceived as
temporary measures, rather than long-term solutions,
the Council decided that UNMIN should immediately
begin to make the arrangements necessary for its
withdrawal, including handing over any residual
monitoring responsibilities by 15 September 2010. In
addition, expressing its concern at the recent tensions,
the Council called upon all sides to resolve their
differences through peaceful negotiation.

On 7 September 2010, the Representative of the
Secretary-General in Nepal noted that the report of the
Secretary-General453 presented a discouraging picture
of the state of the peace process and the failure of the
political parties to invest in its revival. Negotiations to
form a national consensus government had failed, and
the Government and the opposition were in
disagreement over the role of UNMIN in the peace
process. In respect of the interrelated issues of power-
sharing, the completion of the new constitution and the
integration of Maoist army personnel, she noted that
the existing void in the peace process illustrated a
long-standing reluctance to invest in the kind of
negotiations that might drive progress. She recalled
that UNMIN monitored strictly at the invitation of the
parties and with their agreement. In the absence of a
renewed agreement between the parties, UNMIN could
not continue to monitor one side at the request of the
other, nor did it have the authority to introduce
fundamental changes to the monitoring regime. She
stressed that overall political progress was required for
UNMIN to perform its supportive tasks and recalled
that the Secretary-General, in his report, had proposed
a discussion of the mandate of the Mission with a new,
duly formed Government, in the context of the parties’
fulfilment of their commitments and the phasing-out of
UNMIN. The Secretary-General would then report
back to the Council, and if no consensus emerged,
alternative measures would be proposed, including the
termination of the mission’s mandate.454

The representative of Nepal stated that they
would have liked to see a more balanced, nuanced and
reflective assessment of the situation in the report of
the Secretary-General. He called for appropriate
recognition of the efforts of the Government to move
the peace process forward, including accelerating the
constitution-building process in the Constituent
Assembly.455

On 15 September 2010, the Council adopted
resolution 1939 (2010), in which it decided to
terminate UNMIN on 15 January 2011, and requested
the Secretary-General to report by 15 October 2010 on
the implementation of the four-point agreement of
13 September 2010 between the caretaker Government
of Nepal and the political parties. The agreement
entailed the finalization of documents prepared in the

452 S/PV.6308, pp. 2-5.
454 S/PV.6377, pp. 2-6.
455 Ibid., pp. 6-8.
Special Committee with an understanding to forge ahead on the peace process, and their implementation; the bringing of the combatants of the Maoist army under the Special Committee; the completion of the remaining tasks of the peace process by 14 January 2011; and the final extension of the UNMIN mandate for a further four months.

14 October 2010 and 5 January 2011: briefings on concluding the work of UNMIN and consideration of transition and post-UNMIN periods

On 14 October 2010, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, following his recent visit to Nepal, briefed the Council on his assessment of the state of the peace process. He reported that despite the parties’ efforts, the political impasse remained, and that it was too early to conclude that the parties were on a course that would lead to implementation of the 13 September agreement before 15 January 2011. He pointed out that UNMIN, initially established with a one-year mandate and conceived as a focused mission of limited duration, had largely accomplished its tasks. He said that the Mission’s presence had been extended seven times at the request of the parties, without any adjustment in its mandate that might have enabled it to deliver more effective support to resolve the ongoing disputes. Highlighting the unfulfilled commitments by the parties and the Government as well as the controversies to which UNMIN had been subjected, he stated that the United Nations was not in favour of repeated extensions of the Mission’s mandate in a climate that undermined its ability to function effectively.456

On 5 January 2011, looking back on the work of UNMIN 10 days before the conclusion of its four-year engagement, the Representative of the Secretary-General in Nepal recalled that UNMIN had been established to assist Nepal in holding successful elections to the Constituent Assembly in 2008 by monitoring the arms and armies of the Government and Maoist sides, providing assistance to the Independent Electoral Commission and assisting in the monitoring of the ceasefire code of conduct. She stressed that the Mission would have benefited from a review of its mandate after the elections. She highlighted the strong divisions among the parties and the persistent political stalemate, especially in respect of the future of Maoist army personnel and the promulgation of a new constitution. Despite political gains harvested throughout the process, she warned against remaining threats such as possible revolt or army-backed coup. With regard to the transition period until the drawdown of the Mission scheduled on 15 January 2011, she stressed that no consensus had been reached over the creation of a mechanism to which UNMIN could hand over its monitoring responsibilities; therefore, a legal void could be expected after the departure of the mission. On the political front, she regretted that important pending issues had not been resolved such as the formation of a new government and the rehabilitation of Maoist Army personnel. Despite some progress made on the constitution, meeting the 28 May 2011 deadline for its promulgation was unlikely. The representative concluded that the United Nations would remain engaged and continue to make its contribution to the success of the peace process.457

14 January 2011: adoption of a presidential statement preceding the departure of UNMIN

On 14 January 2011, the day prior to the termination of the Mission, the Council adopted a presidential statement, in which it called upon the parties to redouble their efforts to fulfil their commitments under the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, and encouraged the caretaker Government of Nepal to complete its new constitution within the foreseen time frame. It also welcomed the ongoing engagement of the Secretary-General and United Nations bodies as they continued to be supportive of the peace process, and reaffirmed its own support for it.458

456 S/PV.6398, pp. 2-5.
457 S/PV.6465, pp. 2-7.
### Meetings: letter dated 22 November 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

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Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of
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21. Letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council and other relevant letters

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held one meeting and adopted one presidential statement in connection with the item entitled “Letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2010/281) and other relevant letters”. In a statement by the president dated 9 July 2010, the Council deplored the attack on 26 March 2010, which led to the sinking of the Republic of Korea naval ship Cheonan, with the loss of 46 lives. The Council underscored the importance of preventing further such attacks or hostilities against the Republic of Korea or in the region, called for full adherence to the Korean Armistice Agreement and encouraged the settlement of outstanding issues by peaceful means.459


Meeting: letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council and other relevant letters

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