Europe

21. The situation in Cyprus

During the period 2016 to 2017, the Security Council held four meetings and adopted four resolutions concerning the situation in Cyprus. More information on the meetings, including on invitees, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. The Council also held four closed meetings in 2016 and 2017 with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001).239

During the period under review, against the backdrop of the positive momentum in the settlement negotiations, the Council welcomed the commitments set out in the joint statements issued by Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot leaders on 15 May 2016, 8 June 2016, 14 September 2016 and 2 April 2017.240 The Council also encouraged the sides to intensify the substantive negotiations on the unresolved core issues and to sustain their commitment, while stressing that the status quo was unsustainable.241 The Council further requested the Secretary-General to intensify transition planning in relation to a settlement, guided by developments in negotiations, and encouraged both sides to engage with each other, as well as with UNFICYP and the United Nations mission of good offices in Cyprus, on issues related to the implementation of a settlement.242 Throughout the period, the Council urged the implementation of confidence-building measures and looked forward to an agreement on the implementation of mutually acceptable steps, including military confidence-building measures and the opening of crossing points.243

In 2016 and 2017, the Council extended the mandate of UNFICYP four times, in accordance with the recommendations contained in the reports of the Secretary-General.244 The Council also increased the force levels of UNFICYP from 860 to 888, in accordance with the recommendation of the Secretary-General,245 and, in a letter dated 25 July 2016 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General, took note of his intention to appoint a new Force Commander of UNFICYP.246 In addition, the Council requested the Secretary-General to conduct

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* Myanmar was represented by the Special Envoy of the State Counsellor and National Security Adviser.

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239 Held on 13 January and 20 July 2016 and 20 January and 13 July 2017, under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop-and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B”; see S/PV.7620, S/PV.7741, S/PV.7867 and S/PV.8000.

240 Resolutions 2300 (2016), 2338 (2017) and 2369 (2017), fourth preambular paragraph. See also S/PV.7613, p. 2 (Egypt); and p. 3 (United Kingdom, United States).


242 Resolutions 2300 (2016) and 2338 (2017), para. 4, and 2369 (2017), para. 5.


245 Resolution 2263 (2016), para. 7. See also S/2016/11.

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a strategic review of UNFICYP, focused on findings and recommendations for how the Force could be optimally configured to implement its existing mandate based exclusively on a rigorous evidence-based assessment of the impact of its activities.\textsuperscript{247}

\textsuperscript{247} Resolution 2369 (2017), para. 12.

Meetings: the situation in Cyprus

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<td>S/PV.7613 28 January 2016</td>
<td>Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2016/11)</td>
<td>Draft resolution submitted by nine Member States\textsuperscript{a} (S/2016/82)</td>
<td></td>
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<td>Four Council members (Egypt, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States)</td>
<td>Resolution 2263 (2016) 15-0-0</td>
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\textsuperscript{a} Angola, France, Japan, New Zealand, Spain, Ukraine, United Kingdom, United States and Uruguay.
22. Items relating to the situation in the former Yugoslavia

A. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

During 2016 and 2017, the Security Council held four meetings concerning the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. Under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council twice renewed the authorization of the multinational stabilization force, EUFOR-Althea, and the continued presence of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in the country, for periods of 12 months each, until 8 November 2017 and 7 November 2018, respectively.248

The Council heard semi-annual briefings on the item by the High Representative for the Implementation of the Peace Agreement on Bosnia and Herzegovina, who updated the Council on the developments covered in his most recent reports. While noting the progress achieved since the end of the conflict in 1995, the High Representative highlighted the significant challenges ahead, including the general elections scheduled for October 2018. In that connection, the Council reiterated its calls to all political leaders to advance reconciliation and mutual understanding and urged the parties to step up the implementation of comprehensive reforms and avoid polarization.249 The Council also reiterated its calls to the competent authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina to take the steps required to complete the 5 plus 2 agenda, which was necessary for the closure of the Office of the High Representative.250

Meetings: the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

248 Resolutions 2315 (2016) and 2384 (2017), paras. 3 and 4. For more information on the mandate of EUFOR-Althea, see part VIII, sect. III, “Peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements”.

249 Resolution 2384 (2017), thirteenth preambular paragraph and para. 8.

250 Resolutions 2315 (2016) and 2384 (2017), tenth preambular paragraph.

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<td>S/PV.7688 5 May 2016</td>
<td>Letter dated 26 April 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2016/395)</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia</td>
<td>High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, representative of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations</td>
<td>All Council members, all invitees</td>
<td>Resolution 2315 (2016) 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)</td>
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<td>S/PV.7803 8 November 2016</td>
<td>Letter dated 28 October 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2016/911)</td>
<td>Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2016/935)</td>
<td>Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia</td>
<td>High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Head of the Delegation of the European Union</td>
<td>All Council members, all invitees</td>
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<td>S/PV.7943 18 May 2017</td>
<td>Letter dated 28 April 2017 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2017/379)</td>
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<td>High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Head of the Delegation of the European Union</td>
<td>All Council members, all invitees</td>
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