8. The situation in Guinea-Bissau

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings and adopted one resolution in connection with the situation in Guinea-Bissau. Except for one meeting convened for the adoption of the decision, all other meetings took the form of briefings.82 More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During 2018, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) and the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs on the evolving political situation in Guinea-Bissau and the steps taken to implement the Conakry Agreement on the Implementation of the Economic Community of West African States Road Map for the Resolution of the Political Crisis in Guinea-Bissau. The briefings were also focused on the preparations for legislative elections scheduled for November 2018 and later postponed until March 2019.

Under this item, the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission also briefed the Council. He focused on his visit to Bissau and Portugal from 24 to 27 July 2018 and on the Peacebuilding Commission’s continued engagement in Guinea-Bissau, including the support provided to the justice sector and national reconciliation efforts, the implementation of the Peacebuilding Commission’s portfolio for Guinea-Bissau, the engagement with regional and international partners to assist in overcoming the political impasse in the country, and the preparations for legislative and presidential elections.

The Council also heard a briefing by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau on his visit to Bissau and Conakry from 25 to 29 June 2018.83 The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) briefed the Council on the work conducted to combat drug trafficking and transnational organized crime in Guinea-Bissau.84 The spokesperson for the Network on Peace and Security for Women in the Economic

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82 For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.
83 S/PV.8337, pp. 4–5.
84 S/PV.8261, p. 4.
Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Region focused during her briefing on the engagement of civil society, especially women, in the political and peace processes in Guinea-Bissau.\(^85\)

The issues outlined above were also addressed by the Council in its decision on the situation in Guinea-Bissau in 2018. On 28 February 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2404 (2018), extending the mandate of UNIOGBIS for 12 months, until 28 February 2019.\(^86\) In the resolution, the Council called for the implementation of the recommendations of the strategic review mission regarding the need of UNIOGBIS to refocus its existing efforts towards political capacities in support of the Special Representative’s good offices and to streamline its management structure, and encouraged UNIOGBIS to operate in a more effective and efficient manner.\(^87\) In that regard, the Council requested UNIOGBIS to focus in particular on a series of priorities, including to support the implementation of the Conakry Agreement and the ECOWAS road map, and to support, through good offices, the electoral process to ensure free and credible elections. The Council also included, as a priority, to provide support to national authorities in expediting and completing the review of the Constitution of Guinea-Bissau.\(^88\) The Council affirmed that, in addition to those priorities, UNIOGBIS and the Special Representative would continue to assist, coordinate and lead international efforts to ensure lasting peace and stability in a broad range of other issues, including strengthening democratic institutions and enhancing the capacity of State organs.\(^89\)

In its decision, the Council also supported the efforts of ECOWAS to ensure a swift resolution of the crisis and took note of the ECOWAS decision to impose sanctions against those obstructing the implementation of the Conakry Agreement, while calling upon the stakeholders of Guinea-Bissau to strictly respect and comply with the Agreement and the ECOWAS road map.\(^90\) The Council also welcomed the joint efforts undertaken by international partners to enhance cooperation in support of the Government of Guinea-Bissau, in accordance with the priority structural reforms established by the Government, and recognized the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in enhancing those efforts with a view to supporting the long-term peacebuilding priorities of Guinea-Bissau.\(^91\)

In the resolution, the Council requested the Secretary-General to provide an oral update within three months on the political and security situation in the country, to submit regular reports every six months on the implementation of the resolution and to submit his assessment of UNIOGBIS within nine months, including options for a possible reconfiguration of the United Nations presence in the country and reprioritization of tasks.\(^92\)

On 6 December 2018, the Secretary-General submitted a special report on the strategic assessment of UNIOGBIS in which he outlined a three-phased approach to the exit of the Mission by no later than 31 December 2020, including the establishment of a streamlined good offices special political mission in Bissau led by a special representative and focused on facilitating the political process.\(^93\)

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**Meetings: the situation in Guinea-Bissau**

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<tr>
<td>14 February 2018</td>
<td>Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (S/2018/110)</td>
<td>Guinea-Bissau, Togo</td>
<td>Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of the United Nations Integrated</td>
<td>All Council members, all invitees(^a)</td>
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</tbody>
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\(^{85}\) S/PV.8337, pp. 8–10.  
\(^{86}\) Resolution 2404 (2018), para. 1. For more information on the mandate of UNIOGBIS, see part X, sect. II.  
\(^{87}\) Resolution 2404 (2018), para. 2.  
\(^{88}\) Ibid., para. 3.  
\(^{89}\) Ibid., para. 4.  
\(^{90}\) Ibid., paras. 5 and 6.  
\(^{91}\) Ibid., para. 16.  
\(^{92}\) Ibid., para. 28.  
\(^{93}\) S/2018/1086.
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<tr>
<td>S/PV.8261 16 May 2018</td>
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<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission</td>
<td>All Council members, all invitees</td>
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<tr>
<td>S/PV.8337 30 August 2018</td>
<td>Report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (S/2018/771)</td>
<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, spokesperson for the Network on Peace and Security for</td>
<td>All Council members, all invitees</td>
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Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security

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<tr>
<td>S/PV.8438 21 December 2018</td>
<td>Special report of the Secretary-General on the strategic assessment of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (S/2018/1086)</td>
<td>Guinea-Bissau</td>
<td>Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission</td>
<td>All Council members, all invitees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a The representative of Togo spoke on behalf of ECOWAS. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General participated in the meeting via videoconference from Bissau.
b The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime participated in the meeting via videoconference from Vienna.
c The representative of Equatorial Guinea spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau.
d Guinea-Bissau was represented by its Prime Minister. The spokesperson for the Network on Peace and Security for Women in the ECOWAS Region participated in the meeting via videoconference from Bissau.

9. Central African region

During the period under review, the Security Council held three meetings and issued one presidential statement under the item entitled “Central African region”. Except for one meeting convened for the adoption of a decision of the Council, all other meetings took the form of briefings. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During the period under review, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa and Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) on the activities of UNOCA, its continued cooperation with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), and its activities as the secretariat of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa. The Special Representative briefed the Council on the serious threats to the security and the political and socioeconomic stability of the Central African region, especially in the Central African Republic and the Democratic Republic of the Congo because of their long-standing armed conflicts, and on the effects of terrorism and violent extremism in the Central African region, notably the continued attacks and human rights abuses committed by Boko Haram and the Lord’s Resistance Army. The Special Representative also briefed the Council on the continued violence in the north-west and south-west regions of Cameroon and its effect in neighbouring Nigeria, as well as the electoral processes under way in the region during 2018, especially in Burundi, Chad, Gabon and Sao Tome and Principe.

The Council also heard a briefing from the Secretary-General of ECCAS on the participation of ECCAS in the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic, the development, with support of UNOCA, of a subregional strategy for combating terrorism and the inauguration of the Interregional Coordination Centre

94 For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.