## Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security

### 38. Maintenance of international peace and security

During the period under review, the Council held seven meetings, including two high-level meetings, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”. The Council adopted one resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter and issued one presidential statement. Of the seven meetings, two were briefings to the Council, two were debates, one was an open debate and two were convened to adopt decisions. More information on the meetings,

---

**Central African Republic, Chad, Djibouti, Egypt, Gabon, Congo, Rwanda and Sudan.**

**Equatorial Guinea (President of the Council) was represented by its President. Cote d’Ivoire was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. The representative of China spoke in his capacity as Special Representative of its President.**

**The Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Rwanda participated in the meeting on behalf of the President of Rwanda in his capacity as Chairperson of the African Union. Gabon was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Regional Integration. The Chairperson of the African Union Commission participated in the meeting by videoconference from Addis Ababa.**

**Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, Egypt, Estonia, Guatemala, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Mexico, Morocco, Nigeria, Norway, Netherlands, Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Slovenia, Spain, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Viet Nam.**

**The Executive Director of UNODC participated in the meeting by videoconference from Vienna. The representative of Norway spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries; and the Head of the Delegation of the European Union spoke on behalf of the European Union and its member States, as well as Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia and Ukraine.**

**Angola, Austria, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d’Ivoire, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Equatorial Guinea, France, Germany, Guinea, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.**

**Angola, Australia, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Ecuador, Guinea, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Palau, Portugal, Qatar, Serbia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey and United Arab Emirates.**

**Peru (President of the Council) was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.**

**The civil society briefer participated in the meeting by videoconference from Iraq.**

---

687 For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.
including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In 2019, as in previous periods, the Council held meetings under a broad range of sub-items of both a thematic and a regional nature. The thematic sub-items included: (a) addressing the impacts of climate-related disasters on international peace and security; (b) conflict prevention and mediation; and (c) implementation of the youth and peace and security agenda. Region-specific sub-items included: (a) challenges to peace and security in the Middle East; and (b) transnational organized crime at sea as a threat to international peace and security. During the review period, one high-level meeting was devoted to the thematic issue of addressing the impacts of climate-related disasters on international peace and security, while a second was devoted to the challenges to peace and security in the Middle East. In addition, the Council heard a briefing by the Secretary-General in connection with the topic of conflict prevention and mediation. Following the Secretary-General’s briefing, the Council heard briefings by both the Chair of The Elders and the Deputy Chair, the former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon.

Most of the themes addressed in 2019 under the thematic sub-items listed above had been considered in the past in relation to the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”, with the exception of the issue of transnational organized crime at sea as a threat to international peace and security. On 5 February 2019, at the initiative of Equatorial Guinea, which held the Presidency for the month, the Council held an open debate on the topic. At the meeting, the Council heard briefings by the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Executive Secretary of the Gulf of Guinea Commission. The Executive Director of UNODC called for the Council’s continued engagement with the topic, including by encouraging discussion to identify options for enhancing coordination, as well as recommendations to better prevent and counter transnational maritime crime. The Executive Secretary of the Gulf of Guinea Commission proposed a three-pronged approach at the national, regional and international levels to reduce the threat of transnational organized crime at sea to international peace and security in the Gulf of Guinea region. During the ensuing debate, Council members agreed on the importance of tackling transnational organized crime at sea through greater international cooperation and highlighted in that context the existing legal framework, including relevant Council resolutions. Council members also noted the complexity of the issue and the need to address the root causes.

In 2019, the decisions of the Council addressed some of the themes outlined above. By resolution 2491 (2019), adopted on 3 October 2019 under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council renewed for 12 months the authorizations set out in paragraphs 7–10 of resolution 2240 (2015) for Member States to take action to address the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons in the Mediterranean Sea off the coast of Libya. The authorizations included the inspection of vessels on the high seas off the coast of Libya suspected of being used for migrant smuggling or human trafficking from Libya, the seizing of vessels confirmed as being used for those purposes and the use of all measures commensurate to the specific circumstances in confronting migrant smugglers or human traffickers while inspecting or seizing vessels.

In addition, in a presidential statement issued on 22 November 2019, the Council welcomed the briefing given by the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) to the Council on 5 November 2019 under the agenda item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”. In the presidential statement, the Council recalled its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirmed that the proliferation of chemical weapons, as well as their means of delivery, constituted a threat to international peace and security. The Council reaffirmed its strong support for the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, underlined that the objectives of the Convention would not be fully realized as long as there remained States not party to the Convention that could possess or acquire chemical weapons, and reaffirmed that the use of such weapons constituted a violation of international

---

688 For more information on new sub-items, see part II, sect. II.A.
689 See S/PV.8451 and S/PV.8600.
690 See S/PV.8546.
691 The Council had before it a concept note annexed to a letter dated 31 January 2019 (S/2019/98).
692 See S/PV.8457.
693 The resolution was adopted further to the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 2437 (2018) (S/2019/711).
694 Resolution 2240 (2015), paras. 7–8 and 10.
695 S/PRST/2019/14, first paragraph. See also S/PV.8659.
696 For more information, see part I, sect. 22.
697 S/PRST/2019/14, second paragraph.
law and a threat to international peace and security.\textsuperscript{697} Expressing its strong conviction that those responsible for the use of chemical weapons should be held accountable, the Council further noted its strong support for the efforts of OPCW to ensure the implementation of the Convention’s provisions, including those for international verification of compliance.\textsuperscript{698}

\textsuperscript{697} Ibid., third, fourth and fifth paragraphs.

\textsuperscript{698} Ibid., sixth and seventh paragraphs.

### Meetings: maintenance of international peace and security

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting record and date</th>
<th>Sub-item</th>
<th>Other documents</th>
<th>Rule 37 invitations</th>
<th>Rule 39 and other invitations</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
<th>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S/PV.8451 25 January 2019</td>
<td>Addressing the impacts of climate-related disasters on international peace and security</td>
<td>61 Member States\textsuperscript{a}</td>
<td>Eight invitees\textsuperscript{h}</td>
<td>All Council members,\textsuperscript{c} 59 rule 37 invitees,\textsuperscript{d} all other invitees\textsuperscript{e}</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\textsuperscript{a} Letter dated 2 January 2019 from the Permanent Representative of the Dominican Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2019/1)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/PV.8457 5 February 2019</td>
<td>Transnational organized crime at sea as a threat to international peace and security</td>
<td>Seven Member States\textsuperscript{f}</td>
<td>Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Executive Secretary of the Gulf of Guinea Commission</td>
<td>All Council members,\textsuperscript{g} all invitees\textsuperscript{d}</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\textsuperscript{f} Letter dated 31 January 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Equatorial Guinea to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2019/98)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/PV.8546 12 June 2019</td>
<td>Conflict prevention and mediation</td>
<td>Chair of the Elders, Deputy Chair of the Elders and former Secretary-General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon</td>
<td>Secretary-General, all Council members,\textsuperscript{i} all invitees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>\textsuperscript{g} Letter dated 31 May 2019 from the Permanent Representative of Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2019/456)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Meeting record and date

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting record and date</th>
<th>Sub-item</th>
<th>Other documents</th>
<th>Rule 37 invitations</th>
<th>Rule 39 and other invitations</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
<th>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S/PV.8577 17 July 2019</td>
<td>Implementation of the youth and peace and security agenda</td>
<td></td>
<td>Envoy of the Secretary-General on Youth, Programme Coordinator of HAKI Africa, Executive Director of Afghans for Progressive Thinking</td>
<td>13 Council members, all invitees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/PV.8600 20 August 2019</td>
<td>Challenges to peace and security in the Middle East</td>
<td></td>
<td>12 Member States</td>
<td>Chef de Cabinet of the Secretary-General, Chargé d’affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Chargé d’affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the League of Arab States to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations</td>
<td>All Council members, all invitees</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S/PV.8673 22 November 2019</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Three Council members (France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom)</td>
<td>S/PRST/2019/14</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

a Algeria, Armenia, Australia, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belize, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Estonia, Fiji, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Haiti, Hungary, India, Iraq, Ireland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Maldives, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Morocco, Nauru, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Norway, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Portugal, Qatar, Philippines, Republic of Korea, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Somalia, Slovakia, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Tuvalu, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Uzbekistan and Viet Nam.

b Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs; Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme; Chief Scientist of the World Meteorological Organization; research assistant at the Environmental Security Program of the Stimson Center; Minister Counsellor of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations; Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations; Permanent Observer of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the United Nations; and Permanent Observer of the Holy See to the United Nations.
39. Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security

In 2019, the Council held five meetings, including three high-level meetings, in connection with the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security”. Of the five meetings, two took the form of briefings, one was held as a debate and two took the form of open debates. In 2019, the Council adopted one resolution and issued one presidential statement in connection with this item. Two meetings were focused on the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union on peace and security issues in 2019. In addition, the Council conducted a mission to Addis Ababa to hold the thirteenth annual joint consultative meeting with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union on 21 and 22 October. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

On 27 February 2019, at the initiative of Equatorial Guinea, which held the Presidency for the month, the Council held a high-level open debate to consider the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union on peace and security issues.

---

699 For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.
700 Resolution 2457 (2019).
702 See S/PV.8473 and S/PV.8650.
703 For more information on the mission, see part I, sect. 34.
704 The Council had before it a concept note annexed to a letter dated 13 February 2019 (S/2019/169).