

^b Belgium, China, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, the Russian Federation, South Africa (also on behalf of Côte d'Ivoire and Equatorial Guinea), United Kingdom and United States. Germany was represented by its Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs; and Poland (President of the Council) was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

^c The President of ICRC participated in the meeting by videoconference from Geneva.

35. Items relating to non-proliferation

A. Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

During the period under review, the Council held one meeting in relation to the item entitled “Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction”. The meeting took the form of a briefing.⁶⁴⁴ More information on the meeting, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

On 19 March 2019, the Council heard a briefing by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).⁶⁴⁵ The Chair focused on the progress made by Member States in implementing resolution 1540 (2004) and the outcome of the 2016 comprehensive review, including resolution 2325 (2016). He stressed that since the adoption of resolution 1540 (2004), significant progress had been made towards its implementation. Nevertheless, he noted that the Council, in its resolution 2325 (2016), had recognized that the full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) was a long-term task that would require continuous efforts at the national, regional and international levels. As at 19 March 2019, 182 countries had submitted initial reports providing the Committee with information on the measures they had taken, or planned to take, to comply with their obligations under the resolution. He informed the Council that he had sent letters to non-reporting States seeking their first reports, as well as notes verbales to reporting States requesting up-to-date information to assist the Committee in its preparations for the next comprehensive review.

He emphasized the importance of taking practical steps at the national level to implement the resolution

by continuing to develop national implementation action plans, as encouraged in paragraph 5 of resolution 2325 (2016), and of exchanging information among Member States and establishing national points of contact. He recalled that, in accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution 1977 (2011), the Council had decided to conduct a comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) prior to the expiry of the Committee’s mandate in April 2021. In that regard, the Committee had been mandated to include, if necessary, recommendations on adjustments to its mandate and to submit to the Council a report on the conclusions of the review. He informed the Council that the Committee had begun its preparatory work for the upcoming comprehensive review. The Chair also expressed concern over the ongoing financial challenges affecting the United Nations and stressed that if the situation was not remedied before the end of April 2019, the Committee would face serious challenges in meeting its obligations to the Council and realizing the activities agreed upon under its current programme of work. After the briefing, Council members emphasized the importance of implementing resolution 1540 (2004), expressed support for the comprehensive review and underlined the significance of the Committee’s role in assisting States to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their access by non-State actors.

In 2019, the Council also heard a briefing by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) under a separate item of the agenda, entitled “Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”.⁶⁴⁶

⁶⁴⁴ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

⁶⁴⁵ See [S/PV.8487](#).

⁶⁴⁶ See [S/PV.8528](#). For more details, see part I, sect. 32.

Meetings: non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

<i>Meeting record 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>
S/PV.8487 19 March 2019					All Council members ^a	

^a The representative of Indonesia spoke twice, once in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) and once in his national capacity.

B. Non-proliferation

In 2019, the Council held three meetings, including one high-level meeting, under the item entitled “Non-proliferation” and did not adopt any decisions. All meetings took the form of briefings.⁶⁴⁷ More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers, is given in the table below.

Under this item, the Council heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations.

On 2 April 2019, the Council held a high-level meeting under the sub-item entitled “Supporting the Non-Proliferation Treaty ahead of the 2020 Review Conference”.⁶⁴⁸ At the meeting, the Council heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and the Director General of IAEA. The High Representative for Disarmament Affairs stressed that the potential consequences of a nuclear war would be global and affect all Member States and that it was therefore entirely appropriate that the Council discussed measures related to preventing such a catastrophic outcome, in particular the implementation of the Non-Proliferation Treaty, which was the one instrument that had perhaps played the greatest role in doing so. She further noted that there were four key elements to the success of the Treaty: the inclusion of verifiable non-proliferation obligations through safeguards on peaceful nuclear activities; the inclusion of legally binding disarmament commitments to pursue nuclear disarmament; the establishment of a strategic balance across the three pillars of the Treaty, namely, nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and access to the peaceful uses of

nuclear energy; and the Treaty’s near universality, which provided clear authority and ensured almost global subscription to its normative framework. She cautioned that the durability of the Treaty should not be taken for granted in an international environment defined by competition over cooperation and in which the acquisition of arms was prioritized over the pursuit of diplomacy. She encouraged all States to view the Review Conference as a golden opportunity to make the practical gains that would ensure the Treaty’s continued viability. The Director General of IAEA provided an overview of the activities of the Agency, including the conclusion of comprehensive safeguards agreements with States parties to the Treaty, under which they must declare all nuclear material in peaceful nuclear activities. Despite encouraging developments in implementing the additional protocols to the Treaty, the Agency was faced with challenges, such as the steady increase in the amount of nuclear material and the number of nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards, along with continuing pressure on its regular budget. He also reported on the nuclear programmes of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, which remained at the top of the Agency’s agenda. IAEA continued to verify the non-diversion of nuclear material declared by the Islamic Republic of Iran. The implementation in the Islamic Republic of Iran of its comprehensive safeguards agreement, the additional protocol and additional transparency measures under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action amounted to the most robust verification system in existence anywhere in the world. With regard to the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea, despite the lack of direct access, the Agency had continued to monitor the country’s nuclear programme and evaluate all safeguards information available to it, including open-source information and satellite imagery. He expressed hope that the ongoing international developments would lead to an agreement and to the implementation of concrete denuclearization measures, but stressed that any agreement on denuclearization must be accompanied by an effective and sustainable verification mechanism.

⁶⁴⁷ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

⁶⁴⁸ See [S/PV.8500](#).