

Part II

Provisional rules of procedure and related procedural developments

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Introductory note

Part II of the *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council* covers the practice of the Security Council in relation to its provisional rules of procedure and relevant Articles of the Charter of the United Nations. While the routine application of the provisional rules of procedure is described below, the main focus of the part is the special application of the rules in the proceedings of the Council. Part II is divided into 10 main sections, in the order of the relevant chapters of the provisional rules of procedure, as follows: section I, Meetings and records (Article 28 of the Charter and rules 1 to 5 and 48 to 57); section II, Agenda (rules 6 to 12); section III, Representation and credentials (rules 13 to 17); section IV, Presidency (rules 18 to 20); section V, Secretariat (rules 21 to 26); section VI, Conduct of business (rules 27, 29, 30 and 33); section VII, Participation (rules 37 and 39); section VIII, Decision-making and voting (Article 27 of the Charter and rules 31, 32, 34 to 36, 38 and 40); section IX, Languages (rules 41 to 47); and section X, Provisional status of the rules of procedure (Article 30 of the Charter).

The remaining rules are covered in other parts of the present Supplement, as follows: rule 28, concerning subsidiary organs of the Council, in parts IX and X; and rule 61, concerning relations with other United Nations organs, in part IV.

During the period under review, there were no instances of the application of rules 58 to 60, concerning the admission of new Members, and therefore the present Supplement contains no material relating to those rules.

* * *

During the period under review, the Council held 263 meetings in 2014, 22 of which were private meetings, and 245 meetings in 2015, 17 of which were private meetings. In 2014, the Council considered 49 items, of which 26 dealt with country-specific and regional situations and 23 with general, thematic and other issues. In 2015, the Council considered a total of 46 items, of which 25 dealt with country-specific and regional situations and 21 with general, thematic and other issues. In 2014, the Council included in its agenda three new items, entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)”,¹ “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)”² and “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”.³ During the period under review, the Council adopted 127 resolutions (63 in 2014 and 64 in 2015), and 54 presidential statements were issued (28 in 2014 and 26 in 2015). The Council continued its practice of adopting most of its resolutions unanimously, 116 of 127 resolutions being adopted in this manner. Five draft resolutions put to a vote were not adopted during the reporting period: four draft resolutions were not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent member and one draft resolution was not adopted because it failed to obtain the required number of affirmative votes.⁴

In connection with the question of the working methods of the Council, two open debates were held under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, during which a wide variety of aspects of the procedure and practice of the Council were discussed.

¹ See S/PV.7123.

² See S/PV.7154.

³ See S/PV.7353.

⁴ S/2014/916; see S/PV.7354.

I. Meetings and records

Note

Section I covers the practice of the Security Council concerning meetings, publicity and records of the Council, in relation to Article 28 of the Charter of the United Nations and rules 1 to 5 and 48 to 57 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council.

Article 28

1. *The Security Council shall be so organized as to be able to function continuously. Each member of the Security Council shall for this purpose be represented at all times at the seat of the Organization.*

2. *The Security Council shall hold periodic meetings at which each of its members may, if it so desires, be represented by a member of the government or by some other specially designated representative.*

3. *The Security Council may hold meetings at such places other than the seat of the Organization as in its judgment will best facilitate its work.*

Rule 1

Meetings of the Security Council shall, with the exception of the periodic meetings referred to in rule 4, be held at the call of the President at any time he deems necessary, but the interval between meetings shall not exceed fourteen days.

Rule 2

The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council at the request of any member of the Security Council.

Rule 3

The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council if a dispute or situation is brought to the attention of the Security Council under Article 35 or under Article 11 (3) of the Charter, or if the General Assembly makes recommendations or refers any question to the Security Council under Article 11 (2), or if the Secretary-General brings to the attention of the Security Council any matter under Article 99.

Rule 4

Periodic meetings of the Security Council called for in Article 28 (2) of the Charter shall be held twice a year, at such times as the Security Council may decide.

Rule 5

Meetings of the Security Council shall normally be held at the seat of the United Nations.

Any member of the Security Council or the Secretary-General may propose that the Security Council should meet at another place. Should the Security Council accept any such proposal, it shall decide upon the place, and the period during which the Council shall meet at such place.

Rule 48

Unless it decides otherwise, the Security Council shall meet in public. Any recommendation to the General Assembly regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General shall be discussed and decided at a private meeting.

Rule 49

Subject to the provisions of rule 51, the verbatim record of each meeting of the Security Council shall be made available to the representatives on the Security Council and to the representatives of any other States which have participated in the meeting not later than 10 a.m. of the first working day following the meeting.

Rule 50

The representatives of the States which have participated in the meeting shall, within two working days after the time indicated in rule 49, inform the Secretary-General of any corrections they wish to have made in the verbatim record.

Rule 51

The Security Council may decide that for a private meeting the record shall be made in a single copy alone. This record shall be kept by the Secretary-General. The representatives of the States which have participated in the meeting shall, within a period of ten days, inform the Secretary-General of any corrections they wish to have made in this record.

Rule 52

Corrections that have been requested shall be considered approved unless the President is of the opinion that they are sufficiently important to be submitted to the representatives on the Security Council. In the latter case, the representatives on the Security Council shall submit within two working days any comments they may wish to make. In the absence

of objections in this period of time, the record shall be corrected as requested.

Rule 53

The verbatim record referred to in rule 49 or the record referred to in rule 51, in which no corrections have been requested in the period of time required by rules 50 and 51, respectively, or which has been corrected in accordance with the provisions of rule 52, shall be considered as approved. It shall be signed by the President and shall become the official record of the Security Council.

Rule 54

The official record of public meetings of the Security Council, as well as the documents annexed thereto, shall be published in the official languages as soon as possible.

Rule 55

At the close of each private meeting the Security Council shall issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General.

Rule 56

The representatives of the Members of the United Nations which have taken part in a private meeting shall at all times have the right to consult the record of that meeting in the office of the Secretary-General. The Security Council may at any time grant access to this record to authorized representatives of other Members of the United Nations.

Rule 57

The Secretary-General shall, once each year, submit to the Security Council a list of the records and documents which up to that time have been considered confidential. The Security Council shall decide which of these shall be made available to other Members of the United Nations, which shall be made public, and which shall continue to remain confidential.

Section I comprises four subsections, namely: A. Meetings, concerning the convening of meetings pursuant to rules 1 to 5, high-level meetings and the format of meetings under rule 48; B. Informal consultations of the whole; C. Other informal meetings of the members of the Security Council; and D. Records, which are maintained in accordance with rules 49 to 57.

In 2014 and 2015, the Council held a total of 508 meetings,⁵ an increase of 29.6 per cent with respect to the years 2012 and 2013, and 318 informal consultations of the whole, a slight decrease from the previous biennium. In 2014, the Council held 263 meetings and 167 consultations and, in 2015, 245 meetings and 151 consultations. Council members also continued to hold informal interactive dialogues and Arria-formula meetings, following past practice. In the statement by the President of 30 October 2015, the Council recalled its commitment to making a more effective use of open meetings, and to continue to take steps to improve the focus and interactivity of its open debates.⁶ During the period under review, the Council expanded the practice of holding “wrap-up” sessions at the end of the month, most of which were conducted as public meetings.⁷ Also during 2014 and 2015, the question of the format of meetings was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (see subsection C, case 1).⁸

Figure I shows the total number of meetings and informal consultations of the whole held during the five-year period from 2011 to 2015.

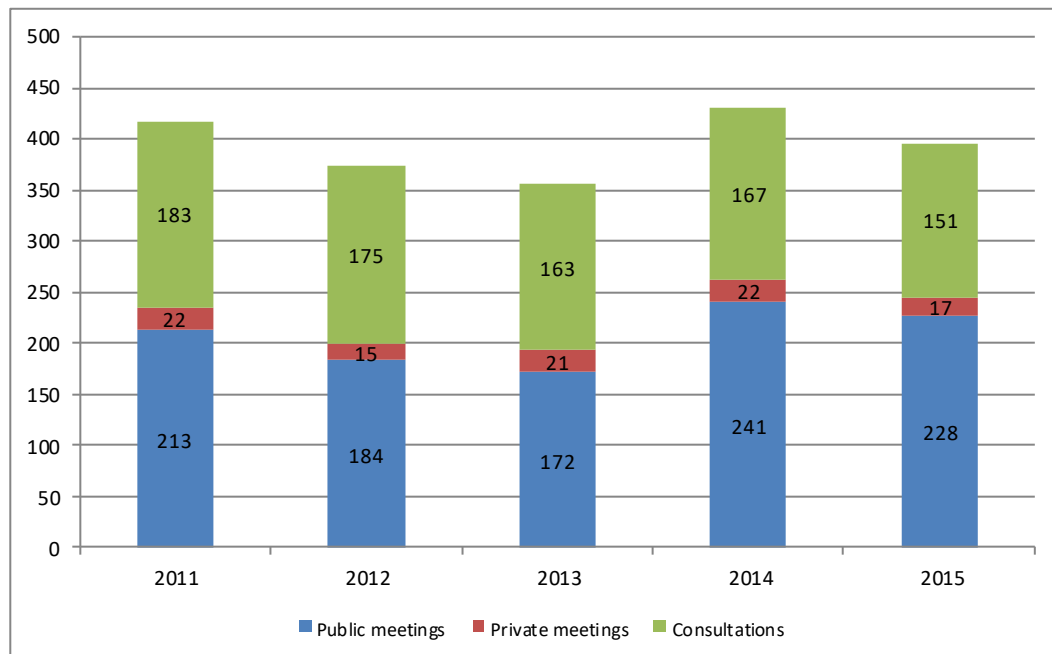
⁵ A resumption of a meeting is not counted as a separate meeting.

⁶ S/PRST/2015/19, third paragraph.

⁷ See S/PV.7122 (closed), S/PV.7151 (closed), S/PV.7166 (closed), S/PV.7189 (closed), S/PV.7231, S/PV.7254, S/PV.7294, S/PV.7325 and S/PV.7352 in 2014, and S/PV.7373, S/PV.7422, S/PV.7479, S/PV.7516 and S/PV.7547 in 2015; all meetings were held under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”.

⁸ See S/PV.7285, S/PV.7285 (Resumption1), S/PV.7539 and S/PV.7539 (Resumption1).

Figure I
Number of meetings and informal consultations of the whole, 2011–2015



A. Meetings

1. Application of rules relating to meetings

During the period under review, the Council did not hold any “periodic meeting” pursuant to rule 4 of the provisional rules of procedure or any meeting away from Headquarters in accordance with rule 5. One Member State protested about the failure of the Council to convene a meeting in spite of its explicit request that it do so.

Intervals between meetings

During the period under review, there were no intervals exceeding 14 days between meetings of the Council, as provided for under rule 1. In 2014 and 2015, the Council continued the practice of convening, on occasion, more than one meeting a day.

Meetings requested in accordance with rule 2 or rule 3

During the reporting period, several communications were received from Member States requesting the Council to convene a meeting which explicitly cited rule 2 or rule 3 as the basis for the request. There were also communications in which Member States made explicit reference to Article 35 of the Charter. Pursuant to rule 3, the President of the Council shall call a meeting of the Council if a dispute or situation is brought to the attention of the Council under Article 35.⁹ Table 1 lists selected communications from Member States explicitly citing rule 2 or rule 3 and/or Article 35 of the Charter. Requests to convene urgent or emergency meetings were also received which did not explicitly cite either rule 2 or rule 3 or Article 35, and which in some instances led to a meeting of the Council.¹⁰

⁹ For information on referral of disputes or situations to the Security Council, see part VI, sect. I.

¹⁰ See, for example, the letters dated 9 July 2014 and 27 October 2014 from the observer of the State of Palestine (S/2014/483 and S/2014/765).

Table 1
Letters from Member States requesting a meeting in accordance with rule 2 or rule 3 or Article 35, 2014–2015

<i>Letter addressed to the President of the Council</i>	<i>Explicit reference to Charter or rule</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Meeting convened (record, date and item)</i>
Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the representative of Ukraine (S/2014/136)	Article 35	Due to the deterioration of the situation in the Autonomous Republic of the Crimea, which threatened the territorial integrity of Ukraine, request for an urgent meeting of the Security Council in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter	S/PV.7123 (closed) 28 February 2014 Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)
Letter dated 1 March 2014 from the representative of Ukraine (S/2014/139)	Article 35, rule 3	Referring to letter dated 28 February 2014, request for an urgent open meeting of the Security Council in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter and rule 3 of the provisional rules of procedure	S/PV.7124 1 March 2014 Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)
Letter dated 9 March 2014 from the representative of Ukraine (S/2014/166)	Article 35	Request for an urgent meeting of the Security Council in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter	S/PV.7131 (closed) 10 March 2014 Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)
Letter dated 10 March 2014 from the representative of Ukraine (S/2014/170)	Article 35, rule 3	Request for an open meeting of the Security Council in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter and rule 3 of the provisional rules of procedure	S/PV.7134 13 March 2014 Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)
Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the representative of the Russian Federation (S/2014/264)	Rule 2	Following the request by the Russian Federation for the convening of urgent consultations in relation to the situation in Ukraine and in view of subsequent proposals by several delegations to hold such a meeting in a public format, request, in accordance with rule 2, for an emergency meeting of the Council in the briefing format to consider the alarming developments in Ukraine	S/PV.7154 13 April 2014 Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)
Letter dated 21 July 2014 from the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (S/2014/512)	Article 35	Request that the question of the United States-Republic of Korea joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council, and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter	No meeting was convened

<i>Letter addressed to the President of the Council</i>	<i>Explicit reference to Charter or rule</i>	<i>Summary</i>	<i>Meeting convened (record, date and item)</i>
Letter dated 18 August 2014 from the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (S/2014/604)	Article 35	Request that the question of the joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council, and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter	No meeting was convened
Letter dated 28 August 2014 from the representative of Ukraine (S/2014/638)	Article 35	Request for an urgent open meeting of the Security Council in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter	S/PV.7253 28 August 2014 Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)
Letter dated 5 December 2014 from the representatives of Australia, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, the United Kingdom and the United States (S/2014/872)	Rule 2	Request for a meeting of the Security Council on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuant to rule 2	S/PV.7353 22 December 2014 The situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Letter dated 25 May 2015 from the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (S/2015/373)	Article 35	Request that the issue of the United States-Republic of Korea joint military exercises be placed on the Security Council agenda and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter	No meeting was convened
Letter dated 19 August 2015 from the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (S/2015/650)	Article 35	Request that the issue of the United States joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Security Council and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter	No meeting was convened
Letter dated 21 August 2015 from the representative of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (S/2015/658)	Article 35	Request that the issues of shelling by the Republic of Korea on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, psychological warfare campaigns and the joint military exercises be placed on the Security Council agenda and that a meeting of the Council be urgently held in accordance with Articles 34 and 35 of the Charter	No meeting was convened
Letter dated 3 December 2015 from the representatives of Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States (S/2015/931)	Rule 2	Request for a meeting of the Council on the situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, pursuant to rule 2	S/PV.7575 10 December 2015 The situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

Complaints raised by Member States concerning the application of rule 3

In a letter dated 18 August 2014 from the representative of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea addressed to the President of the Security Council,¹¹ the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea protested that the Security Council had ignored its request made on 21 July to convene a meeting “to urgently discuss” the question of the United States–Republic of Korea joint military exercises.¹² Referring to this inaction as exposing “the partiality and irresponsibility of the Security Council”, the representative also reaffirmed the position of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea that the Council should take its request into serious consideration and urgently take proper action. A year later, on 19 August 2015, in a letter from its representative to the President of the Security Council, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea again requested that the issue of the United States joint military exercises be placed on the agenda of the Council, while recalling that the Council had “unjustifiably ignored the several requests” of the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea.¹³

¹¹ S/2014/604.

¹² S/2014/512.

¹³ S/2015/650.

2. Format

Public meetings

The Council continued to convene public or open meetings as provided for in rule 48, mainly for the purposes of (a) receiving briefings on country-specific or regional situations, or thematic issues, under its consideration; (b) holding debates on particular items; and (c) adopting decisions. During the period under review, there were a total of 469 public meetings: 241 in 2014 and 228 in 2015.

High-level meetings

During the review period, the Council held 14 high-level meetings in which five or more Council members were represented at the ministerial or higher levels, 10 on thematic items, and 4 on regional and country-specific items (see table 2).¹⁴

¹⁴ For a complete list and the records of the public meetings of the Security Council, see www.un.org/en/sc/meetings/.

Table 2
High-level meetings, 2014–2015

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>
S/PV.7271 19 September 2014	The situation concerning Iraq	Ministerial level (10) Argentina (Secretary of Foreign Affairs), Australia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Chad (Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration), Chile (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development), Jordan (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates Affairs), Luxembourg (Minister for Foreign and European Affairs), Rwanda (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Undersecretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office), United States (Secretary of State)
S/PV.7272 24 September 2014	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	Heads of State and Government (13) Argentina (President), Australia (Prime Minister), Chad (President), Chile (President), France (President), Jordan (King), Lithuania (President), Luxembourg (Prime Minister), Nigeria (President), Republic of Korea (President), Rwanda (President), United Kingdom (Prime Minister), United States (President)

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>
		Ministerial level (2) China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs)
S/PV.7316 19 November 2014	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	Ministerial level (6) Argentina (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship), Australia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Lithuania (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Luxembourg (Minister for Foreign and European Affairs), Republic of Korea (Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs), Rwanda (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet)
S/PV.7351 19 December 2014	Threats to international peace and security	Ministerial level (7) Argentina (Secretary of Foreign Affairs), Chad (Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration), Chile (Director General of Foreign Policy), Luxembourg (Minister for Foreign and European Affairs), Nigeria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Rwanda (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet)
S/PV.7389 23 February 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Ministerial level (10) Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Lithuania (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Malaysia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Nigeria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (Minister for Foreign Affairs)
S/PV.7419 27 March 2015	The situation in the Middle East	Ministerial level (5) Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), Chile (Director General of Foreign Policy), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development), Spain (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Undersecretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office)
S/PV.7432 23 April 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Ministerial level (6) Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), France (Minister for Urban Affairs, Youth and Sport), Jordan (Crown Prince), Malaysia (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet)
S/PV.7453 29 May 2015	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	Ministerial level (8) Chad (Minister of Territorial Administration and Public Security), Lithuania (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Malaysia (Minister of Home Affairs), New Zealand (Attorney General), Nigeria (Permanent Secretary at the Ministry of the Interior), Spain (Secretary for Homeland Security), United Kingdom (Permanent Secretary at the Home Office), United States (Secretary for Homeland Security)

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>
S/PV.7499 30 July 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Ministerial level (5) Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), Chile (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Secretary of State for International Cooperation and Latin America) Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (Minister for Foreign Affairs)
S/PV.7527 30 September 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Ministerial level (14) Angola (Minister of External Relations), Chad (Minister for Foreign Affairs and African Integration), Chile (Minister for Foreign Affairs), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development), Jordan (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and Expatriates Affairs), Lithuania (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Malaysia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (Minister for Foreign Affairs)
S/PV.7533 13 October 2015	Women and peace and security	Heads of State and Government (1) Spain (Prime Minister) Ministerial level (4) Angola (Minister for Family and the Promotion of Women), Chile (Vice-Minister at the National Service for Women), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet)
S/PV.7540 22 October 2015	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	Ministerial level (6) Jordan (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and Expatriates Affairs), Malaysia (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), New Zealand (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and member of the President's Cabinet), Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) (Minister for Foreign Affairs)
S/PV.7587 17 December 2015	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	Ministerial level (9) Angola (Minister of Finance), Chile (Minister of Finance), France (Minister of Finance and Public Accounts), Jordan (Minister of Finance), Lithuania (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Malaysia (Second Minister of Finance), Spain (Minister for Economic Affairs and Competitiveness), United Kingdom (Chancellor of the Exchequer), United States (Secretary of the Treasury)

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>
S/PV.7588 18 December 2015	The situation in the Middle East	Ministerial level (9) Angola (Secretary of State for External Relations), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Development), Jordan (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and Expatriates Affairs), Lithuania (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Spain (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)

Private meetings

During the period under review, the Council continued to meet in private, in accordance with rule 48. In 2014 and 2015, there were 39 private meetings, 31 of which (80 per cent) were meetings with troop- and police-contributing countries; 4 (10 per cent) were wrap-up sessions on the implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council; 2 (5 per cent) concerned a country-specific situation; and 2 (5 per

cent) consisted of briefings by the President of the International Court of Justice. As shown above (figure I), private meetings constituted a small percentage of all Council meetings during the period under review, approximately 8 per cent. Figure II illustrates the distribution of private meetings and table 3 provides a list of all private meetings held by the Council during the review period, by item and in decreasing order of the number of meetings devoted to each item.

Figure II
Private meetings, by subject, 2014–2015

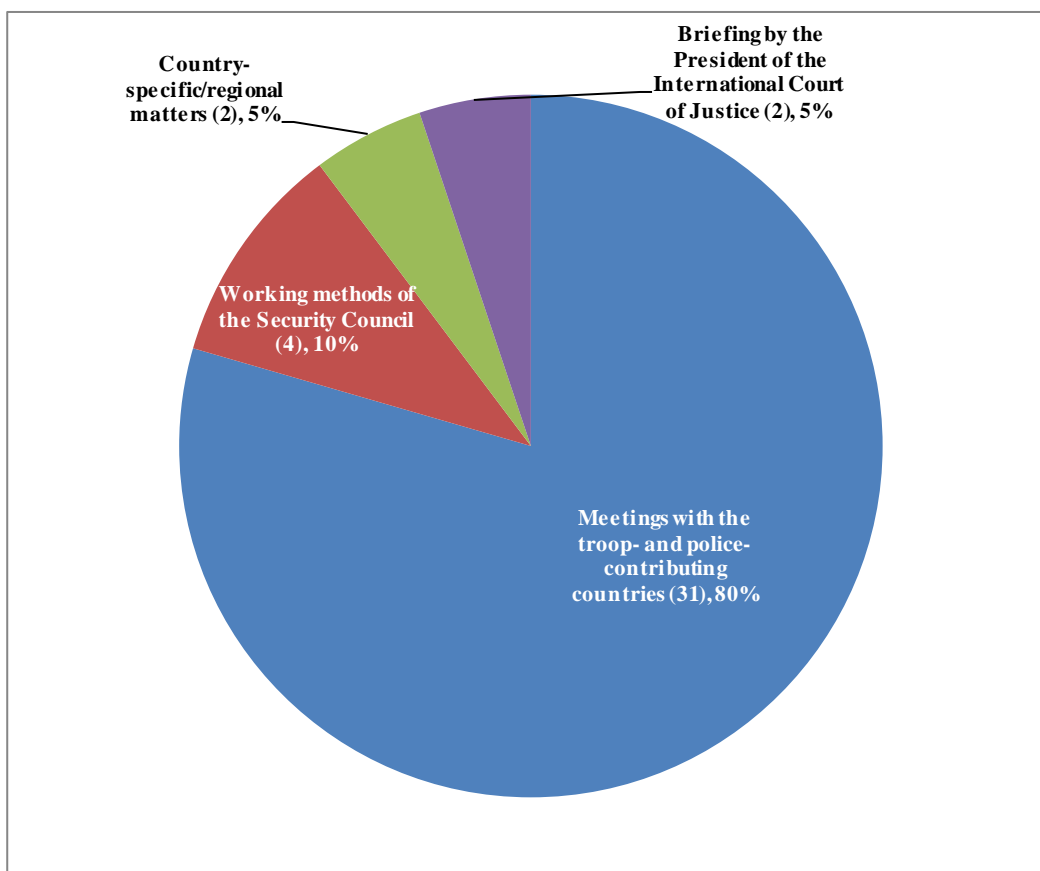


Table 3
Private meetings, 2014–2015

<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>
Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B (31 meetings)	S/PV.7097 , 21 January 2014; S/PV.7133 , 12 March 2014; S/PV.7135 , 14 March 2014; S/PV.7156 , 16 April 2014; S/PV.7195 , 9 June 2014; S/PV.7200 , 17 June 2014; S/PV.7201 , 17 June 2014; S/PV.7223 , 23 July 2014; S/PV.7233 , 5 August 2014; S/PV.7241 , 14 August 2014; S/PV.7258 , 4 September 2014; S/PV.7261 , 10 September 2014; S/PV.7305 , 11 November 2014; S/PV.7330 , 9 December 2014; S/PV.7333 , 10 December 2014; S/PV.7363 , 21 January 2015; S/PV.7404 , 16 March 2015; S/PV.7406 , 17 March 2015; S/PV.7424 , 8 April 2015; S/PV.7429 , 16 April 2015; S/PV.7437 , 5 May 2015; S/PV.7454 , 3 June 2015; S/PV.7456 , 4 June 2015; S/PV.7462 , 16 June 2015; S/PV.7465 , 17 June 2015; S/PV.7486 , 16 July 2015; S/PV.7503 , 13 August 2015; S/PV.7518 , 8 September 2015; S/PV.7523 , 16 September 2015; S/PV.7569 , 2 December 2015; S/PV.7579 , 14 December 2015
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507) (four meetings)	S/PV.7122 , 27 February 2014; S/PV.7151 , 31 March 2014; S/PV.7166 , 30 April 2014; S/PV.7189 , 29 May 2014
Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136) (two meetings)	S/PV.7123 , 28 February 2014; S/PV.7131 , 10 March 2014
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice (two meetings)	S/PV.7290 , 29 October 2014; S/PV.7548 , 4 November 2015

B. Informal consultations of the whole

Informal consultations of the whole are not official meetings of the Council. They are gatherings of its members for the purpose of holding discussions and receiving briefings from the Secretariat and representatives of the Secretary-General in private. These meetings are not held in the Security Council Chamber.

During the period under review, members of the Council continued to convene a large number of informal consultations of the whole: 167 times in 2014 and 151 times in 2015 (see figure I). Informal consultations of the whole were often held immediately after public meetings of the Council.

Pursuant to established practice, no official records of informal consultations were made, and non-members of the Council, other than briefers, were not invited. On several occasions, however, press statements were issued or elements to the press were read out by the President of the Council following informal consultations.¹⁵

¹⁵ For a complete list of statements to the press issued during the period under review, see www.un.org/en/sc/documents/press/2014.shtml and www.un.org/en/sc/documents/press/2015.shtml.

C. Other informal meetings of the members of the Security Council

During the period under review, the Council continued to hold informal interactive dialogues and “Arria-formula” meetings. In practice, informal interactive dialogues are convened with the participation of all Council members, while Arria-formula meetings are convened with the participation of all or some Council members. Informal interactive dialogues and Arria-formula meetings are convened at the initiative of one or more members of the Council. Informal interactive dialogues are presided by the President of the Security Council for the month, but Arria-formula meetings are not. Frequently, the member or members convening the Arria-formula meeting also chairs the meeting. Neither of the two types of meeting is considered a meeting of the Council; neither type of meeting is announced in the *Journal* of the United Nations or in the Council’s programme of work and no official records are made.

Informal interactive dialogues

During the reporting period, the Council held 13 informal interactive dialogues. As mentioned in the

note by the President, the Security Council utilizes informal interactive dialogues “to seek the views of Member States that are parties to a conflict and/or other interested and affected parties”.¹⁶ Most of the informal interactive dialogues held in 2014 and 2015 concerned country-specific or regional situations (see table 4).

¹⁶ S/2010/507, para. 59.

Table 4
Informal interactive dialogues, 2014–2015

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Participants (including non-members of the Council)</i>
20 February 2014	Central African Republic	All Council members; Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union; Special Representative of the Chair of the African Union Commission and Head of the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic
23 April 2014	Somalia	All Council members; National Security Adviser of Somalia; Representative of the African Union Commission Chairperson; Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM)
27 June 2014	Sudan and South Sudan	All Council members; Chair of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development mediation team on South Sudan
15 July 2014	Post-conflict peacebuilding	All Council members; Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support; Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission; Switzerland (as Chair of the Burundi configuration); Morocco (as Chair of the Central African Republic configuration); Sweden (as Chair of the Liberia configuration); Canada (as Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration); Japan (as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission Working Group on Lessons Learned); Sierra Leone
17 September 2014	Sudan and South Sudan	All Council members; Chair of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel; Joint Special Representative for Darfur and Head of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID); Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan
10 November 2014	Mali	All Council members; Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; Under-Secretary-General for Field Support; Deputy Military Adviser
20 November 2014	High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations	All Council members; Chair of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations; Angola; Malaysia; New Zealand; Spain; Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
20 January 2015	International Commission of Inquiry on the Central African Republic	All Council members; Interim Chair and one member of the International Commission of Inquiry on the Central African Republic
27 February 2015	Ukraine	All Council members; Special Representative of the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) in Ukraine and Chair of the Trilateral Contact Group; Head of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission to Ukraine

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<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Participants (including non-members of the Council)</i>
11 May 2015	Migrant trafficking and the crisis in the Mediterranean Sea	All Council members; High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy
11 May 2015	Libya/International Criminal Court	All Council members; Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court; Libya
8 June 2015	Somalia	All Council members; Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia; Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNSOM; Under-Secretary-General for Field Support; Somalia
25 June 2015	Burundi	All Council members; Deputy Secretary-General; Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support; Executive Director of UN-Women; Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission; Canada (as Chair of the Sierra Leone configuration); Japan (as Chair of the Working Group on Lessons Learned); Switzerland (as Chair of the Burundi configuration); Luxembourg (as Chair of the Guinea configuration); Burundi; Central African Republic; Guinea; Guinea-Bissau; Liberia; Sierra Leone

Abbreviations: ISIL, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant; MINUSMA, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali; MINUSTAH, United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti; UNAMA, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan; UNMISS, United Nations Mission in South Sudan; UNRWA, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; UNSMIL, United Nations Support Mission in Libya.

Arria-formula meetings

In accordance with the note by the President, Arria-formula meetings are a flexible and informal forum utilized by members of the Council to enhance their deliberations and their contact with civil society and non-governmental organizations.¹⁷ Council members may invite on an informal basis any Member State, relevant organization or individual to participate in Arria-formula informal meetings. Some Arria-formula meetings held during the reporting period are listed in table 5.

¹⁷ *Ibid.*, para. 65.

Table 5
Arria-formula meetings, 2014–2015

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Organizer(s)</i>	<i>Participants (other than Council members)</i>
17 January 2014	Women's participation in resolving the Syrian conflict	Luxembourg, United Kingdom	All Council members; representatives of the Syrian Women's League, Syrian Women's Network and Syrian Women's Coalition for Democracy
14 March 2014	Inter-communities dialogue and prevention of crimes in the Central African Republic	France, Nigeria	All Council members; Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the prevention of genocide; Dieudonné Nzapalainga, Archbishop of Bangui; Oumar Kobine Layama, imam, President of the Central African Republic Islamic community;

Part II. Provisional rules of procedure and related procedural developments

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Organizer(s)</i>	<i>Participants (other than Council members)</i>
			Nicolas Guérékoyame Gbangou, President of the Evangelical Alliance of the Central African Republic
31 March 2014	Situation of human rights and media freedom in Crimea	Lithuania	All Council members; Mustafa Dzhemilev, human rights activist and former Chair of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People; Valentyna Samar, journalist, Director of the Information Press Centre in Simferopol
15 April 2014	Situation of human rights in the Syrian Arab Republic	France	All Council members; David M. Crane, first Chief Prosecutor of the Special Court for Sierra Leone; Stuart J. Hamilton, forensic pathologist on the United Kingdom Home Office register
17 April 2014	Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Australia, France, United States	All Council members; Michael Kirby, Chair of the Commission of Inquiry on Human Rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Marzuki Darusman, Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea; Sonja Biserko, member of the Commission; Lee Hyeon-seo and Shin Dong-hyuk, witnesses
30 May 2014	Protection of internally displaced persons: challenges and role for the Security Council	Australia, Chile	All Council members; Chief of the Policy Development and Studies Branch of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; Chaloka Beyani, Special Rapporteur on the human rights of internally displaced persons; representatives of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Women's Refugee Commission; Alfredo Zamudio, Director of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre/Norwegian Refugee Council; Costantinos Berhutesfa Costantinos, trustee of Africa Humanitarian Action
25 July 2014	The situation in the Middle East: commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic	United Kingdom	All Council members; Paulo Pinheiro, Chair, and Karen Koning AbuZayd, commissioner, of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
23 January 2015	United Nations peacekeeping operations: human rights in peacekeeping operations	Lithuania	All Council members; heads of human rights components of MINUSMA, MINUSTAH, UNAMA, UNMISS and UNSMIL; Head of Africa II Section (West and Central Africa), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
20 February 2015	The situation in the Middle East: commission of inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic	United Kingdom	All Council members; Paulo Pinheiro, Chair, and Karen Koning AbuZayd, Carla del Ponte and Vitit Muntarbhorn, commissioners, of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic

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<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Organizer(s)</i>	<i>Participants (other than Council members)</i>
19 March 2015	Ukraine	Lithuania	All Council members; Andrey Zubarev, Crimean Field Mission on Human Rights; Mustafa Dzhemilev, member of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and former Chair of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People
16 April 2015	The situation in the Middle East: victims of chemical weapons attacks in the Syrian Arab Republic	United States	All Council members; Mohamed Tennari, medical doctor; Qusai Zakarya, survivor; Zaher Sahloul, President of the Syrian American Medical Society
27 April 2015	The situation in the Middle East: destruction of cultural heritage and archaeology by extremists	France, Jordan	All Council members; Director General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization; Secretary-General of INTERPOL
29 April 2015	The situation in the Middle East: Syrian Coalition	France, United Kingdom, United States	All Council members; Khaled Khoja, President of the National Coalition of Syrian Revolutionary and Opposition Forces
21 May 2015	Women and peace and security: peace and security reviews	Spain	All Council members; Radhika Coomaraswamy, lead author of the global study on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) ; Gert Rosenthal, Chair of the Advisory Group of Experts on the Review of the Peacebuilding Architecture; Ameerah Haq, Vice-Chair of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations
19 June 2015	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan: ten-year anniversary of the International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur	United States	All Council members; Hina Jilani (Pakistan), human rights activist and commissioner, International Commission of Inquiry on Darfur; Abdelrahman Gasim, human rights lawyer, Darfur Bar Association; Hawa Abdalla Mohamed Salih, internally displaced person camp leader and activist on women's issues
26 June 2015	The situation in the Middle East: indiscriminate use of weapons, including barrel bombs, against civilians in the Syrian Arab Republic	France, Spain	All Council members; Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria (pre-recorded message); Nadim Houry, Deputy Director for Middle East and North Africa, Human Rights Watch; Bassam Alahmad, spokesperson and Head of Research, Violations Documentation Centre in Syria; Raed Saleh, Director of Syria Civil Defence
30 June 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security: climate change	Malaysia, Spain	All Council members; Deputy Secretary-General; Tony de Brum, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Marshall Islands; Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, Association for Indigenous Women and Peoples of Chad; Pelenise Alofa, Kiribati Climate Action Network; Michael Gerrard, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law at Columbia University

Part II. Provisional rules of procedure and related procedural developments

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Organizer(s)</i>	<i>Participants (other than Council members)</i>
20 July 2015	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question: Gaza	Jordan, Malaysia	All Council members; Vance Culbert, Country Director of the Norwegian Refugee Council; Sara Roy, Senior Research Scholar at the Center for Middle Eastern Studies, Harvard University; Ardi Imseis, former Policy Officer (Gaza) and Legal Officer (West Bank), UNRWA; Tania Hary, Deputy Director of Gisha — Legal Center for Freedom of Movement (Israeli non-governmental organization)
24 August 2015	The situation in the Middle East: vulnerable groups in conflict — targeting of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender individuals by ISIL	Chile, United States	All Council members; “Adnan” (Iraq) and Subhi Nahas (Syrian Arab Republic), affected individuals; Jessica Stern, Executive Director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission
21 October 2015	Victims of terrorism and their role in countering violent extremism	Spain, United States	All Council members; Javier Lesaca, visiting fellow at George Washington University; Maria del Mar Blanco, victim of the Basque terrorist organization ETA; Pari Ibrahim, victim of ISIL; Saudatu Mahdi, representative of the “Bring Back Our Girls” campaign
28 October 2015	The situation in the Middle East: Yemen	Jordan	All Council members; Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; Abdullah al-Rabiah, General Supervisor of the King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre
12 November 2015	The situation in the Middle East: briefing by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic	United Kingdom	All Council members; Paulo Pinheiro, Chair, and Karen Koning AbuZayd, commissioner, of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Syrian Arab Republic
30 November 2015	Small arms: impact of the illicit transfer of small arms and light weapons to poaching in Africa	Angola, Lithuania	All Council members; Emmanuel de Merode, Chief Warden of Virunga National Park (Democratic Republic of the Congo); Khristopher Carlson, Senior Researcher, Small Arms Survey; Jorge Rios, Coordinator of the Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
14 December 2015	Protection of civilians in armed conflict: the responsibility to protect and non-State actors	Chile, Spain	All Council members; Jennifer Welsh, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the responsibility to protect; Edward Luck, International Advisory Board member, Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect; Luis Peral, Senior Analyst, global and strategic affairs, Club de Madrid

Abbreviations: ISIL, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant; MINUSMA, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali; MINUSTAH, United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti; UNAMA, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan; UNMISS, United Nations Mission in South Sudan; UNRWA, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East; UNSMIL, United Nations Support Mission in Libya.

Other informal meetings

During the period under review, the Council held other informal meetings of an ad hoc nature. Those meetings were held with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, a practice established since 2007.¹⁸

The format of meetings and of other informal gatherings of members of the Council was discussed during the course of the two debates on the working methods of the Council held during the period under review (see case 1).¹⁹

**Case 1
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)**

At the 7285th meeting, held on 23 October 2014 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, meetings and other informal gatherings of members of the Council were discussed.

Many speakers held the view that the Council should increase the number of open meetings, especially open debates, thus allowing for the participation of the wider membership.²⁰ The representative of Morocco emphasized the importance and usefulness of open debates, but said that, for the Council to take full advantage of those deliberations, it was essential that the discussions be focused on precise themes with a specific scope.²¹ With regard to open debates on working methods, the representative of New Zealand expressed the opinion that more frequent discussion that included the wider membership, accompanied by follow-up and monitoring, was required.²² Some speakers called on the Council to provide a summary of recommendations made at the

open debate, which could serve as a guide for the work of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions.²³ Other Member States were of the opinion that the use of private meetings, informal consultations and closed meetings should be minimized.²⁴ The representative of the United Kingdom, for his part, considered that more interactivity could be developed in informal consultations.²⁵

Several speakers stressed the importance of wrap-up sessions in improving the transparency of the work of the Council and its interaction with non-members, and in helping to review the agenda of the Council and enhance its awareness for preventive diplomacy.²⁶ Many speakers welcomed the holding of wrap-up sessions in public as an important advance.²⁷ The representatives of Egypt and Uruguay welcomed the efforts to hold more interactive dialogues, and the representative of China spoke of the importance the Council attached to improving its exchanges and interaction with the Member States and regional and subregional organizations.²⁸ Many speakers welcomed and highlighted the usefulness of the Arria-formula meetings and format, particularly in dealing with sensitive and pressing issues.²⁹ The representative of Australia stated that Arria-formula meetings had brought “significant human rights information to the Council and enabled civil society voices to be heard”.³⁰

¹⁸ The meetings were held on 6 June 2014 (New York) and on 12 March 2015 (Addis Ababa). For information on the first informal meeting of the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, held in Addis Ababa in June 2007, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2004–2007*, chap. XII, part III.A, under “Security Council mission”.

¹⁹ Meetings held on 23 October 2014 (see [S/PV.7285](#) and [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#)) and on 20 October 2015 (see [S/PV.7539](#) and [S/PV.7539 \(Resumption 1\)](#)).

²⁰ [S/PV.7285](#), p. 26 (Switzerland, on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency group); [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 5 (Brazil); pp. 7–8 (Mexico); p. 9 (Italy); p. 12 (Kazakhstan); p. 15 (Uruguay); p. 20 (Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); p. 21 (Malaysia); p. 24 (Peru); and p. 34 (Algeria).

²¹ [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#), pp. 25–26.

²² *Ibid.*, p. 32.

²³ [S/PV.7285](#), p. 26 (Switzerland, on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency group); and [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 26 (Maldives).

²⁴ [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 14 (Nicaragua); and p. 34 (Algeria).

²⁵ [S/PV.7285](#), p. 22.

²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 26 (Switzerland, on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency group); [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 4 (Guatemala); p. 8 (Mexico); p. 12 (Pakistan); p. 15 (Uruguay); p. 18 (Portugal); p. 22 (Malaysia); p. 25 (Morocco); p. 35 (Poland); and p. 37 (Montenegro).

²⁷ [S/PV.7285](#), p. 8 (Australia); and p. 14 (Rwanda); [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9 (Italy); p. 23 (Spain); p. 24 (Peru); p. 25 (Morocco); p. 34 (Algeria); p. 36 (Ukraine); and p. 37 (Montenegro).

²⁸ [S/PV.7285](#), pp. 9–10 (China); [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 15 (Uruguay); and p. 30 (Egypt).

²⁹ [S/PV.7285](#), p. 17 (Lithuania); [S/PV.7285 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 15 (Uruguay); p. 17 (Estonia); p. 21 (Malaysia); p. 27 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 28 (Ireland); p. 30 (Egypt); p. 32 (Côte d’Ivoire, New Zealand); p. 34 (Algeria); p. 35 (Poland); and p. 37 (Montenegro).

³⁰ [S/PV.7285](#), p. 7.

D. Records

During the period under review, verbatim records were issued following each public meeting of the Council, in accordance with rule 49, and communiqués were issued following private meetings, in accordance with rule 55. No questions were raised at Council meetings regarding the application of rules 49 to 57 in connection with the preparation, access and issuance of verbatim records, communiqués or other documents. At the 7285th meeting, on 23 October 2014, the

representative of Estonia urged that detailed records be published even for private meetings, and the representative of Nicaragua opined that the access to documentation and information remained a “topic of particular concern” and that the trend of holding closed meetings for which there was no record should be reversed.³¹

³¹ S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 14 (Nicaragua); and p. 16 (Estonia).

II. Agenda

Note

Section II deals with the practice of the Security Council concerning the agenda, in relation to rules 6 to 12 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council.

Rule 6

The Secretary-General shall immediately bring to the attention of all representatives on the Security Council all communications from States, organs of the United Nations, or the Secretary-General concerning any matter for the consideration of the Security Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.

Rule 7

The provisional agenda for each meeting of the Security Council shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and approved by the President of the Security Council.

Only items which have been brought to the attention of the representatives on the Security Council in accordance with rule 6, items covered by rule 10, or matters which the Security Council had previously decided to defer, may be included in the provisional agenda.

Rule 8

The provisional agenda for a meeting shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the representatives on the Security Council at least three days before the meeting, but in urgent circumstances it may be communicated simultaneously with the notice of the meeting.

Rule 9

The first item of the provisional agenda for each meeting of the Security Council shall be the adoption of the agenda.

Rule 10

Any item on the agenda of a meeting of the Security Council, consideration of which has not been completed at that meeting, shall, unless the Security Council otherwise decides, automatically be included in the agenda of the next meeting.

Rule 11

The Secretary-General shall communicate each week to the representatives on the Security Council a summary statement of matters of which the Security Council is seized and of the stage reached in their consideration.

Rule 12

The provisional agenda for each periodic meeting shall be circulated to the members of the Security Council at least twenty-one days before the opening of the meeting. Any subsequent change in or addition to the provisional agenda shall be brought to the notice of the members at least five days before the meeting. The Security Council may, however, in urgent circumstances, make additions to the agenda at any time during a periodic meeting.

The provisions of rule 7, paragraph 1, and of rule 9, shall apply also to periodic meetings.

During the period under review, the Secretary-General continued the practice of distributing communications from States, organs of the United Nations, or from himself concerning any matter for the consideration of the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter and pursuant to rule 6. The

Secretary-General also continued to draw up a provisional agenda for each meeting of the Council, and communicated the provisional agenda to the representatives of Council members, in accordance with rules 7 and 8. The practice relating to the circulation of communications or the preparation of the provisional agenda was not discussed or questioned. Furthermore, rule 12 was not applied during the period under review, as no periodic meetings were held. Consequently, this section focuses on the practice and discussion regarding rules 9 to 11, under the following three main headings: A. Adoption of the agenda (rule 9); B. Matters of which the Security Council is seized (rules 10 and 11); C. Discussions concerning the agenda.

A. Adoption of the agenda (rule 9)

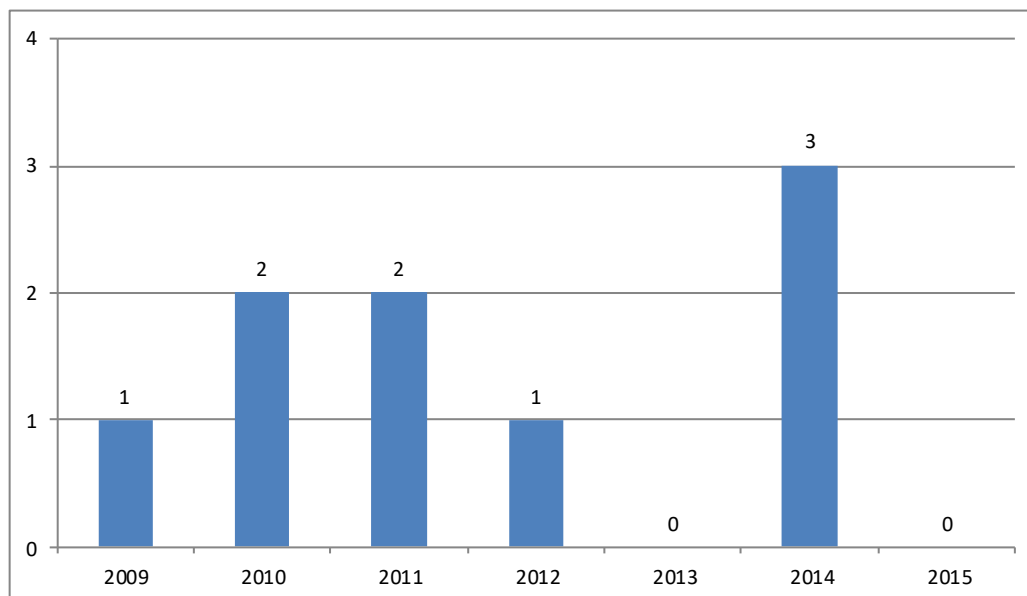
In accordance with rule 9, the first item of the agenda for each meeting of the Council is the adoption of the agenda. During the period under review, objections were raised twice to the inclusion of the item entitled “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” in the agenda of the Council (see case 2). On both occasions, the objections to the agenda led to a procedural vote in the Council.

Newly introduced agenda items

During the period under review, the Council added three new items to its agenda. At its 7123rd meeting, on 28 February 2014, the Council considered for the first time the item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)”. At the 7154th meeting, on 13 April 2014, a second item concerning Ukraine, entitled “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)”, was included in the agenda of the Council. At the 7353rd meeting, on 22 December 2014, the Council included in its agenda an item entitled “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” in spite of the negative vote of two permanent members of the Council (see case 2).

Figure III illustrates the introduction of new items since 2009. From 1997 to 2007, the Council would add between 8 and 23 new items every year; since 2007 the number of new items per year has decreased significantly.

Figure III
Number of newly introduced items, 2009–2015



Case 2
The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea

Pursuant to the request in a letter dated 5 December 2014 from the representatives of Australia, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, the Republic of Korea, Rwanda, the United Kingdom and the United States,³² the Council held its 7353rd meeting on 22 December 2014. In spite of the objection of certain members of the Council, the item entitled “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea” was included in the agenda. The representative of China stated that the primary role of the Security Council was to maintain international peace and security; it was not a forum designed for involvement in human rights issues, and still less should human rights issues be politicized. He opined that dialogue was the way to resolve issues concerning the situation in the Korean peninsula.³³ The representative of Australia, citing the letter dated 5 December 2014 referred to above, expressed the view that the gravity and systematic nature of human rights violations in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea and the threat to international peace and security made it appropriate for the Council to consider the issue at a formal meeting.³⁴ The President put the provisional agenda to the vote and the agenda was adopted by 11 votes in favour to 2 against, with 2 abstentions.³⁵

At the 7575th meeting, held on 10 December 2015 pursuant to the request in a letter dated 3 December 2015 from the representatives of Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Spain, the United Kingdom and the United States,³⁶ certain members of the Council again objected to the inclusion in the agenda of the item entitled “The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”. Speaking before the vote on the provisional agenda, the representative of China reiterated his country’s opposition to intervention by the Council on issues concerning the human rights situation in any country, and in particular asserted that the human rights situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea did not constitute a threat to international peace and security.³⁷ The President of the Council, making a

statement in her national capacity as the representative of the United States, opined that the Council should continue to meet on this item for as long as the situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea remained unchanged.³⁸ The provisional agenda was put to a vote and was adopted by 9 votes in favour to 4 against, with 2 abstentions.³⁹

Modification of agenda items

On 16 June 2015, at the 7463rd meeting of the Council, the wording of the item “Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council” was revised to read “Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”. The revision not only brought the Security Council into conformity with the practice of the other principal organs, but was also consistent with the Council’s own practice. Since 2013, in the annual note by the President of the Security Council which lists the bureaux of the Council’s subsidiary bodies, the titles “Chair” and “Vice-Chair” had been employed instead of the titles “Chairman” and “Vice-Chairman” used previously.⁴⁰

Consideration of country-specific situations under existing items of a regional nature

During the period under review, the Council continued the practice of considering evolving country-specific situations under existing items of a regional nature. For example, the Council continued to consider the situations in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”.

Addition of new sub-items under existing items

During the period under review, the Council continued its practice of considering evolving general and cross-border threats to peace and security under existing items, at times with the addition of new sub-items. The highest number of new sub-items were added under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”. New sub-items were included also under the items “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” and “United Nations peacekeeping operations”. For details, see table 6, which lists the new sub-items in chronological order of their inclusion.

³² S/2014/872.

³³ S/PV.7353, p. 2.

³⁴ Ibid.

³⁵ Ibid., p. 3.

³⁶ S/2015/931.

³⁷ S/PV.7575, p. 2.

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Ibid.

⁴⁰ See, for example, S/2014/2/Rev.3 and S/2015/2/Rev.4.

Table 6
New sub-items added to existing items, 2014–2015^a

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>New sub-item</i>
S/PV.7105 29 January 2014	Maintenance of international peace and security	War, its lessons, and the search for a permanent peace
S/PV.7155 16 April 2014	Threats to international peace and security	Prevention of and fight against genocide
S/PV.7161 28 April 2014	Maintenance of international peace and security	Security sector reform: challenges and opportunities
S/PV.7169 7 May 2014	Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction	Commemorating the tenth anniversary of resolution 1540 (2004) and looking ahead
S/PV.7196 11 June 2014	United Nations peacekeeping operations	New trends
S/PV.7228 28 July 2014	United Nations peacekeeping operations	The United Nations and regional partnership and its evolution
S/PV.7244 19 August 2014	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	World Humanitarian Day
S/PV.7268 18 September 2014	Peace and security in Africa	Ebola
S/PV.7272 24 September 2014	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	Foreign terrorist fighters
S/PV.7289 28 October 2014	Women and peace and security	Displaced women and girls: leaders and survivors
S/PV.7316 19 November 2014	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	International cooperation on combating terrorism and violent extremism
S/PV.7317 20 November 2014	United Nations peacekeeping operations	The role of policing in peacekeeping and post-conflict peacebuilding
S/PV.7343 16 December 2014	Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security	Peace operations: the United Nations-African Union partnership and its evolution
S/PV.7351 19 December 2014	Threats to international peace and security	Terrorism and cross-border crime
S/PV.7361 19 January 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Inclusive development for the maintenance of international peace and security
S/PV.7389 23 February 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Reflect on history, reaffirm the strong commitment to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations
S/PV.7414 25 March 2015	Children and armed conflict	Child victims of non-State armed groups
S/PV.7419 27 March 2015	The situation in the Middle East	The victims of attacks and abuses on ethnic or religious grounds in the Middle East
S/PV.7432 23 April 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	The role of youth in countering violent extremism and promoting peace

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>New sub-item</i>
S/PV.7442 13 May 2015	Small arms	The human cost of the illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons
S/PV.7450 27 May 2015	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	The protection of journalists in conflict situations
S/PV.7499 30 July 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Peace and security challenges facing small island developing States
S/PV.7502 13 August 2015	Peace and security in Africa	The global response to the 2013 Ebola virus disease outbreak
S/PV.7505 18 August 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Regional organizations and contemporary challenges of global security
S/PV.7508 20 August 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Consolidating Security Council engagement on security sector reform: towards further implementation of resolution 2151 (2014)
S/PV.7527 30 September 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Settlement of conflicts in the Middle East and North Africa and countering the terrorist threat in the region
S/PV.7558 13 November 2015	United Nations peacekeeping operations	The challenges of policing within a protection of civilians mandate
S/PV.7561 17 November 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Security, development and the root causes of conflict
S/PV.7564 20 November 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security	Briefing on the report of the Secretary-General: The future of United Nations peace operations

^a The table does not include routine sub-items relating to briefings by Security Council missions, briefings by the Chairs of Security Council committees, letters addressed to the President of the Security Council, reports of the Secretary-General, and meetings of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B.

B. Matters of which the Security Council is seized (rules 10 and 11)

During the period under review, pursuant to rule 11 of the provisional rules of procedure and in accordance with the note by the President,⁴¹ the Secretary-General continued to communicate each week to the representatives on the Council a summary statement of matters of which the Council was seized and of the stage reached in their consideration. The practice of including an item in the summary statement upon its adoption at a formal meeting of the Council remained unchanged.

In 2014 and 2015, following the deletion of several items, the Council remained seized of a total of 76 items and 68 items, respectively.⁴² During 2014, the Council considered at its meetings 49 items, 26 dealing with country-specific and regional situations and 23 with thematic and other issues; in 2015, the Council considered 46 items, 25 dealing with country-specific and regional situations and 21 with thematic and other issues (see table 7).

⁴² Three items were deleted in 2014 (see [S/2014/10/Add.9](#)) and 10 items in 2015 (see [S/2015/10/Add.9](#)) from the list of matters of which the Security Council was seized.

⁴¹ [S/2010/507](#).

Table 7
 Items considered at formal meetings, 2014–2015

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	
	<i>2014</i>	<i>2015</i>
Country-specific and regional situations		
Africa		
Central African region	•	•
Peace and security in Africa	•	•
Peace consolidation in West Africa	•	•
The situation in Burundi	•	•
The situation in the Central African Republic	•	•
The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	•	•
The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	•	•
The situation in Guinea-Bissau	•	•
The situation in Liberia	•	•
The situation in Libya	•	•
The situation in Mali	•	•
The situation in Sierra Leone	•	
The situation in Somalia	•	•
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	•	•
The situation concerning Western Sahara	•	•
Americas	•	•
The question concerning Haiti	•	•
Asia		
The situation in Afghanistan	•	•
The situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea	•	•
Europe		
The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	•	•
The situation in Cyprus	•	•
Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)	•	•
Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)	•	•
Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) , 1199 (1998) , 1203 (1998) , 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)	•	•
Middle East		
The situation concerning Iraq	•	•
The situation in the Middle East	•	•
The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	•	•
Total, country-specific and regional situations	26 items	25 items
Thematic and other issues		
Briefing by the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	•	•
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice	•	•

Item	Year	
	2014	2015
Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council ^a	•	•
Children and armed conflict	•	•
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security	•	•
General issues relating to sanctions	•	
International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994	•	•
International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	•	•
Maintenance of international peace and security	•	•
Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B	•	•
Non-proliferation	•	•
Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea	•	•
Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction	•	•
Post-conflict peacebuilding	•	•
Protection of civilians in armed conflict	•	•
Security Council mission	•	•
Small arms		•
The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security	•	
Threats to international peace and security	•	
Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	•	•
United Nations peacekeeping operations	•	•
Women and peace and security	•	•
Total, thematic issues	21 items	19 items
Other matters		
Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly	•	•
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)	•	•
Total, other matters	2 items	2 items
Total number of items discussed per year	49 items	46 items

^a As from the 7463rd meeting, held on 16 June 2015, the wording of the item "Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council" was revised to read "Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council".

Deletion and retention of items

In accordance with rule 11 and the note by the President,⁴³ the Council continued the practice of reviewing the summary statement in January to identify for deletion items which had not been

considered in the preceding three years. An item which has not been considered at a Council meeting in the preceding three years is deleted unless a Member State requests its retention before the end of February; in that case, the item will remain on the list for an additional year, and will be subject to the procedure described above the following year.

⁴³ S/2010/507.

In 2014, 3 of the 27 items that had been identified for deletion in January were deleted in March, while the 24 remaining were retained for one additional year at the request of Member States.⁴⁴ In 2015, 10 of the 25

items identified for deletion in January were deleted in March, while the 15 remaining were retained for one additional year at the request of Member States⁴⁵ (see table 8).

⁴⁴ See S/2014/10 and Add.9.

⁴⁵ See S/2015/10 and Add.9.

Table 8
Items proposed for deletion from the summary statement, 2014–2015

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2014</i>	<i>Status in March 2014</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2015</i>	<i>Status in March 2015</i>
The Palestine question	9 December 1947; 25 November 1966	●	Retained	●	Deleted
The India-Pakistan question	6 January 1948; 5 November 1965	●	Retained	●	Retained
The Hyderabad question	16 September 1948; 24 May 1949	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 20 February 1958 from the Sudan	21 February 1958; 21 February 1958	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 11 July 1960 from Cuba	18 July 1960; 5 January 1961	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 31 December 1960 from Cuba	4 January 1961; 5 January 1961	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent	4 December 1971; 27 December 1971	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 3 December 1971 from Algeria, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen	9 December 1971; 9 December 1971	●	Retained	●	Retained
Complaint by Cuba	17 September 1973; 18 September 1973	●	Retained	●	Retained
Arrangements for the proposed Peace Conference on the Middle East	15 December 1973; 15 December 1973	●	Retained	●	Deleted
The Middle East problem, including the Palestinian question	12 January 1976; 11 October 1985	●	Retained	●	Deleted
The situation in the occupied Arab territories	4 May 1976; 13 July 1998	●	Retained	●	Deleted
The question of the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights	9 June 1976; 30 April 1980	●	Retained	●	Deleted
The situation between Iran and Iraq	26 September 1980; 31 January 1991	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 1 October 1985 from Tunisia	2 October 1985; 4 October 1985	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 4 February 1986 from the Syrian Arab Republic	4 February 1986; 6 February 1986	●	Retained	●	Deleted
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Libyan	15 April 1986;	●	Retained	●	Deleted

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2014</i>	<i>Status in March 2014</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2015</i>	<i>Status in March 2015</i>
Arab Jamahiriya Letter dated 15 April 1986 from Burkina Faso Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Syrian Arab Republic Letter dated 15 April 1986 from Oman	24 April 1986				
Letter dated 19 April 1988 from Tunisia	21 April 1988; 25 April 1988	•	Retained	•	Retained
Letter dated 2 February 1990 from Cuba	9 February 1990; 9 February 1990	•	Retained	•	Retained
The situation in Georgia	8 October 1992; 15 June 2009	•	Retained	•	Retained
General issues relating to sanctions ^a	17 April 2000; 21 December 2006	•	Retained		
Briefing by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	10 November 2000; 8 January 2009	•	Retained	•	Retained
Letter dated 5 October 2003 from the Syrian Arab Republic (S/2003/939) Letter dated 5 October 2003 from Lebanon (S/2003/943)	5 October 2003; 5 October 2003	•	Retained	•	Deleted
The situation in Myanmar	15 September 2006; 13 July 2009	•	Retained	•	Retained
The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion	27 August 2007; 20 December 2010	•	Deleted		
Letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Republic of Korea (S/2010/281) and other relevant letters	9 July 2010; 9 July 2010	•	Deleted		
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Russian Federation (S/2010/646)	19 December 2010; 19 December 2010	•	Deleted		
Letter dated 22 November 2006 from the Secretary-General (S/2006/920)	1 December 2006; 14 January 2011			•	Deleted
Letter dated 6 February 2011 from Cambodia (S/2011/58)	14 February 2011; 14 February 2011			•	Deleted

^a The Security Council considered this item again on 25 November 2014 (see part I, sect. 30).

C. Discussions concerning the agenda

Members of the Council discussed the agenda and the matters of which the Security Council was seized during meetings held under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”,⁴⁶ including the two annual open debates on the working methods of the

Council.⁴⁷ Case 3 highlights in particular the discussion on the appropriateness of addressing the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”. Case 4 concerns a proposal to formulate an agenda item in such a way as to indicate the question under consideration, rather than on the basis of a communication.

⁴⁶ See S/PV.7231, S/PV.7254, S/PV.7294, S/PV.7325, S/PV.7352, S/PV.7373, S/PV.7422, S/PV.7479, S/PV.7516 and S/PV.7547.

⁴⁷ 7285th meeting, held on 23 October 2014 (see S/PV.7285); and 7539th meeting, held on 20 October 2015 (see S/PV.7539).

Case 3
The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

At the 7164th meeting, held on 29 April 2014 under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that some delegations had insisted on delivering elaborate, misleading and provocative statements about the situation in his country, which only contributed to extremism and terrorism there and in the region at large, and distracted from the essence of an item intended to deal with issues relating to the Israeli-Palestinian question. He said also that some members of the Council had attempted to distract attention from the Palestinian question by asking for the convening of two meetings on the Syrian Arab Republic in the General Assembly, coinciding with a meeting of the Security Council on the situation in the Middle East and a meeting of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, respectively. He expressed concern about the negative effect that this would have on the Syrian “question”.⁴⁸ He made similar remarks at the 7222nd meeting, on 22 July 2014, at the 7281st meeting, on 21 October 2014, and at the 7430th meeting, on 21 April 2015, held under the same item,⁴⁹ as well as at the 7271st meeting, held on

⁴⁸ S/PV.7164, pp. 36–37.

⁴⁹ S/PV.7222, p. 54; S/PV.7281, p. 35; and S/PV.7430, p. 35.

19 September 2014 under the item entitled “The situation concerning Iraq”.⁵⁰

Case 4
Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)

At the 7234th meeting, held on 5 August 2014 under the item entitled “Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)”, the representative of Rwanda suggested that the Council hold a monthly meeting under an item entitled “The situation in Ukraine”, which would enable the Council to remain seized of the matter and to consider the Ukrainian crisis in all its aspects.⁵¹ The representative of Rwanda recalled this proposal at the 7239th meeting, on 8 August 2014, and at the 7311th meeting, on 12 November 2014, both held under the item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)”.⁵² An item entitled “The situation in Ukraine” was not included in the agenda of the Council during the period under review.

⁵⁰ S/PV.7271, p. 43.

⁵¹ S/PV.7234, p. 13.

⁵² S/PV.7239, p. 9; and S/PV.7311, p. 9.

III. Representation and credentials

Note

Section III covers the practice of the Security Council concerning representation and the credentials of its members, in relation to rules 13 to 17 of the provisional rules of procedure.

Rule 13

Each member of the Security Council shall be represented at the meetings of the Security Council by an accredited representative. The credentials of a representative on the Security Council shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before he takes his seat on the Security Council. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or of the Government concerned or by its Minister of Foreign Affairs. The

Head of Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs of each member of the Security Council shall be entitled to sit on the Security Council without submitting credentials.

Rule 14

Any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Security Council and any State not a Member of the United Nations, if invited to participate in a meeting or meetings of the Security Council, shall submit credentials for the representative appointed by it for this purpose. The credentials of such a representative shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before the first meeting which he is invited to attend.

Rule 15

The credentials of representatives on the Security Council and of any representative appointed in accordance with rule 14 shall be examined by the Secretary-General who shall submit a report to the Security Council for approval.

Rule 16

Pending the approval of the credentials of a representative on the Security Council in accordance with rule 15, such representative shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives.

Rule 17

Any representative on the Security Council, to whose credentials objection has been made within the Security Council, shall continue to sit with the same rights as other representatives until the Security Council has decided the matter.

During the period under review, the credentials of representatives of members of the Council were communicated to the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 13. The Secretary-General then submitted his report to the Council pursuant to rule 15. Such reports were transmitted to the Council when there were changes in the representation of members of the Council,⁵³ as well as when representatives of the newly elected non-permanent members of the Council were designated prior to the beginning of their term.⁵⁴ No discussion or special cases arose during the period under review regarding the interpretation and application of rules 13 to 17.

⁵³ See for example, [S/2014/112](#), [S/2014/346](#), [S/2014/487](#), [S/2015/301](#), [S/2015/778](#) and [S/2015/811](#).

⁵⁴ For the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the representatives and deputies and alternate representatives of the members of the Security Council elected for the periods 2014 to 2015 and 2015 to 2016, see [S/2013/576](#) and [S/2014/959](#), respectively.

IV. Presidency

Note

Section IV covers the practice of the Security Council concerning the monthly rotation of the presidency, the role of the President, and the temporary cession of the chair by the President during the consideration of a particular question directly connected with the Member State represented by the President, in application of rules 18 to 20 of the provisional rules of procedure. During the period under review, there were no instances of the application of rule 20.

Rule 18

The presidency of the Security Council shall be held in turn by the members of the Security Council in the English alphabetical order of their names. Each President shall hold office for one calendar month.

Rule 19

The President shall preside over the meetings of the Security Council and, under the authority of the Security Council, shall represent it in its capacity as an organ of the United Nations.

Rule 20

Whenever the President of the Security Council deems that for the proper fulfilment of the

responsibilities of the presidency he should not preside over the Council during the consideration of a particular question with which the member he represents is directly connected, he shall indicate his decision to the Council. The presidential chair shall then devolve, for the purpose of the consideration of that question, on the representative of the member next in English alphabetical order, it being understood that the provisions of this rule shall apply to the representatives on the Security Council called upon successively to preside. This rule shall not affect the representative capacity of the President as stated in rule 19, or his duties under rule 7.

Role of the President of the Security Council (rules 18 and 19)

During the period under review, the presidency of the Council was held in turn on a monthly basis by the members of the Council in the English alphabetical order of their names in accordance with rule 18. The President of the Council, in addition to presiding over meetings of the Council, informal consultations of the whole and informal interactive dialogues, continued to perform several functions under the authority of the Council, in accordance with rule 19. These included (a) briefing non-members of the Council and the media on the monthly programme of work of the Council at the beginning of the month; (b) representing and

delivering statements on behalf of the Council, including the presentation of the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly;⁵⁵ and (c) delivering statements or remarks to the press, following informal consultations of the whole or whenever Council members reached an agreement on a text.

Concerning rule 19 specifically, in identical letters dated 30 November 2015 to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council, the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that the Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic had requested the President of the Security Council to meet with its Permanent Representative for consultations but that the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom, in his capacity as President of the Security Council for November 2015, had ignored that request. The delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic protested against “that course of action in the strongest possible terms”. The representative affirmed that it was regrettable that the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom had shown “such disregard for diplomatic standards and the fundamental and binding rules of procedure in force at the United Nations” and opined that he had exploited the presidency of the Council to “serve the political agenda of his own country”.⁵⁶

During the period under review, representatives of members of the Council continued to submit monthly assessments in their national capacities at the end of their respective presidencies, providing information on the main aspects of the work of the Council during that month.⁵⁷

Increasingly, during their respective presidencies, Council members have taken the initiative of bringing to the attention of the Council emerging general and cross-border threats to peace and security, at times adding new sub-items to existing thematic items. In

several such instances, concept papers prepared by the presidency were circulated in advance of the meetings to frame the discussion.⁵⁸ Those meetings were often held at a high level and, in some instances, summaries of the discussion were submitted by the President and circulated as documents of the Council.⁵⁹

Following previous practice and in accordance with the note by the President dated 26 July 2010,⁶⁰ members of the Council that held the presidency during the months of July 2014 and July 2015 prepared the introduction to the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly. To this end, the presidency for the two months continued to convene informal meetings with Member States to exchange views on the draft annual report, a practice initiated in 2008.⁶¹

During the period under review, the Council issued two notes on the roles and responsibilities of the President of the Security Council, concerning (a) the President’s prerogatives such as making his or her national statement last of all Council members; making a single statement comprising introductory remarks and his or her national statement before the other members take the floor; adjusting the list of speakers to include first the delegation(s) responsible for the drafting process or the Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Council or, for reasons of protocol, high-level officials representing members of the Council;⁶² and (b) the President’s role in relation to the annual report.

During the month in which the annual report of the Security Council is presented to the General Assembly, the President would make reference to the verbatim record of the Council’s discussion prior to its adoption of the report, and in accordance with prior practice would not schedule meetings or informal consultations of the Council on the first day of the debate on the report in the General Assembly.⁶³ The

⁵⁵ For example, at the 51st plenary meeting of the seventieth session of the General Assembly, on 12 November 2015, the President of the Council for the month of November (United Kingdom) introduced the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly, covering the period from 1 August 2014 to 31 July 2015 (A/70/2). For other meetings that the President attended, see part IV, sect. I, “Relations with the General Assembly”, and sect. II, “Relations with the Economic and Social Council”.

⁵⁶ S/2015/915.

⁵⁷ A list of the monthly assessments relating to the period under review is provided in part I of the annual reports of the Council to the General Assembly (A/69/2; A/70/2; and A/71/2). During the period under review, no assessments were submitted for the months of September and November 2015.

⁵⁸ See, for example, S/2014/648, prepared for the 7272nd meeting, held on 24 September 2014; and S/2015/678, prepared for the 7527th meeting, held on 30 September 2015 (see also S/PV.7272 and S/PV.7527).

⁵⁹ For example, France submitted a summary of the 7414th meeting, held on 25 March 2015, concerning child victims of non-State armed groups (S/2015/372), and New Zealand submitted a summary of the 7499th meeting, held on 30 July 2015, concerning peace and security challenges facing small island developing States (S/2015/754). Each of the summaries was circulated about two months after the meeting.

⁶⁰ S/2010/507, para. 71 (a).

⁶¹ For information on the consideration of the annual report at formal meetings, see S/PV.7283 and S/PV.7538. See also *Repertoire, Supplement 2008–2009*, part II, sect. IV.

⁶² See S/2014/739 and Corr.1.

⁶³ See S/2015/944.

Council members also discussed the role of the President in relation to the media.⁶⁴

⁶⁴ See S/2014/213.

V. Secretariat

Note

Section V covers the practice of the Security Council concerning the functions and powers of the Secretary-General in connection with meetings of the Council, pursuant to rules 21 to 26 of its provisional rules of procedure.

Rule 21

The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Security Council. The Secretary-General may authorize a deputy to act in his place at meetings of the Security Council.

Rule 22

The Secretary-General, or his deputy acting on his behalf, may make either oral or written statements to the Security Council concerning any question under consideration by it.

Rule 23

The Secretary-General may be appointed by the Security Council, in accordance with rule 28, as rapporteur for a specified question.

Rule 24

The Secretary-General shall provide the staff required by the Security Council. This staff shall form a part of the Secretariat.

Rule 25

The Secretary-General shall give to representatives on the Security Council notice of meetings of the Security Council and of its commissions and committees.

Rule 26

The Secretary-General shall be responsible for the preparation of documents required by the Security Council and shall, except in urgent circumstances, distribute them at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered.

Administrative functions of the Secretariat (rules 21 to 26)

During the period under review and in accordance with previous practice, the Secretary-General and senior officials of the Secretariat continued to attend Council meetings and to provide briefings to the Council as requested.

At the 7479th meeting, held on 30 June 2015 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representative of Lithuania said that the briefings by the Secretariat should not duplicate the contents of the reports of the Secretary-General, and that the Council expected briefers to be succinct and to focus on critical issues.⁶⁵

At its 7599th meeting, held on 31 December 2015 under the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, the Council adopted a statement by the President in which it recognized that sustained consultations with the Secretariat and troop- and police-contributing countries (triangular consultations) were essential for a shared understanding of appropriate responses and their implications for the mandate and conduct of an operation, and that those consultations must extend to areas such as safety and security of peacekeepers, strategic force generation, gender, conduct and discipline, implementation of protection of civilian mandates, capability, performance, equipment and national caveats. The Council encouraged the Secretariat to provide information in a timely manner to troop- and police-contributing countries, in particular related to critical security incidents within missions.⁶⁶

In addition to providing briefings to the Council, the Secretariat assisted in the organization of Council meetings and informal consultations, including the preparation and dissemination of documents. Notes by the President of the Council adopted during the reporting period covered various aspects of the administrative functions of the Secretariat. For example, in the note by the President dated 5 June 2014 it was stated that the Secretariat could assist the

⁶⁵ S/PV.7479, p. 5.

⁶⁶ S/PRST/2015/26, fourth, fifth and seventh paragraphs.

outgoing Chairs of subsidiary bodies in preparing background information for the incoming Chairs and maintaining information meetings with the incoming Chairs.⁶⁷ In the note by the President dated 15 October 2014, it was recommended that Council members inform the Secretariat, as soon as possible, if they had agreed to trade slots in the list of speakers.⁶⁸ In the note by the President dated 18 December 2014, members and non-members of the Council were encouraged to provide the texts of the statements made at Council meetings to the Secretariat when delegations were not able or chose not to provide the number of copies required.⁶⁹ In the note by the President dated 10 December 2015, the Council reiterated that the introduction to the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly should be prepared by the President of the Council for the month of July and that the remainder of the report would be prepared by the Secretariat. The Council, further, requested that the Secretariat submit the draft report to Council members no later than 15 March, immediately following the period covered by the report, so that it might be discussed and adopted by the Council in time for consideration by the General Assembly in the spring of that calendar year. The Secretariat should also post the annual report on the United Nations website, together with information relating to Council activities that could have been contained in annexes to the annual report, in a timely manner and in all the official United Nations languages. Finally, the Council encouraged the Secretariat to advise, at least once a year, the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions on the preparation of the draft annual report, including ways to improve its structure in a cost-efficient way and taking into account the publication of relevant information on the website.⁷⁰ The role of the Secretariat was discussed during a briefing by the Chairs of the Council's subsidiary bodies (see case 5). The question of the various aspects of the functions of the Secretariat was also raised during debates concerning the working methods of the Council (see case 6).

⁶⁷ S/2014/393.

⁶⁸ S/2014/739 and Corr.1.

⁶⁹ S/2014/922.

⁷⁰ S/2015/944.

Case 5 **Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council⁷¹**

At the 7331st meeting, held on 9 December 2014 under the item entitled “Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”, the representative of Argentina opined that the Secretariat should provide the troop- and police-contributing countries with copies of the reports of the Secretary-General with enough lead time to ensure that preparations and timely meetings were held with those countries prior to the consultations on the relevant draft resolutions. As Chair of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions, she reported that the Group had agreed to request the Secretariat to implement a new practice “for the issuance of edited and concurred versions of the resolutions and presidential statements adopted by the Council”.⁷² The representative of Luxembourg expressed her agreement with the objective of seeking better coordination within the Secretariat so as to streamline its work and make support to the Security Council committees more effective; in particular, she welcomed the work carried out by the Secretariat to standardize the format of all United Nations sanctions lists and establish a consolidated list of the Council sanctions in all official languages.⁷³

Case 6 **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)**

At the 7285th meeting, held on 23 October 2014 concerning the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representative of Morocco welcomed the efforts made by the Secretariat to make regularly updated information available on the website of the Council, in particular in relation to the monthly programme of work.⁷⁴ The representative of Algeria expressed the opinion that “issues to be covered at any briefing by the Secretariat should be determined in coordination with the concerned State”.⁷⁵ At the 7539th meeting, held on 20 October 2015 under the same item, the representative of China emphasized that communications with troop- and police-contributing

⁷¹ As from the 7463rd meeting, held on 16 June 2015, the wording of the item “Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council” was revised to read “Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”.

⁷² S/PV.7331, p. 6.

⁷³ Ibid., p. 11.

⁷⁴ S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 26.

⁷⁵ Ibid., p. 34.

countries and the Secretariat should be enhanced before deployment in peacekeeping missions or adjustment of their mandates,⁷⁶ and the representative of Brazil stated that the consultations among the Council, the troop- and police-contributing countries and the Secretariat should become more institutionalized.⁷⁷ The representative of Australia opined that the Secretariat should be empowered to bring to the

Council's attention emerging threats, in line with the Human Rights Up Front initiative and Article 99 of the Charter.⁷⁸ The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, expressed the view that briefings by the Special Envoys or Representatives of the Secretary-General and the Secretariat should be open.⁷⁹

⁷⁶ S/PV.7539, p. 13.

⁷⁷ S/PV.7539 (Resumption 1), p. 15.

⁷⁸ Ibid., p. 5.

⁷⁹ Ibid., p. 9.

VI. Conduct of business

Note

Section VI covers the practice of the Security Council with regard to the conduct of business at its meetings, pursuant to rules 27, 29, 30 and 33 of its provisional rules of procedure.

Rule 27

The President shall call upon representatives in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.

Rule 29

The President may accord precedence to any rapporteur appointed by the Security Council.

The Chairman of a commission or committee, or the rapporteur appointed by the commission or committee to present its report, may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the report.

Rule 30

If a representative raises a point of order, the President shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the President shall submit his ruling to the Security Council for immediate decision and it shall stand unless overruled.

Rule 33

The following motions shall have precedence in the order named over all principal motions and draft resolutions relative to the subject before the meeting:

- 1. To suspend the meeting;*
- 2. To adjourn the meeting;*
- 3. To adjourn the meeting to a certain day or hour;*
- 4. To refer any matter to a committee, to the Secretary-General or to a rapporteur;*

5. To postpone discussion of the question to a certain day or indefinitely; or

6. To introduce an amendment.

Any motion for the suspension or for the simple adjournment of the meeting shall be decided without debate.

While there was no special application of the provisional rules of procedure concerning the conduct of business, the Council continued to implement measures aimed at improving the efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of its meetings and work. For example, at the 7547th meeting, held on 30 October 2015 in connection with the item entitled "Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)", the Council adopted a presidential statement in which it recalled its commitment to making more effective use of open meetings, and to that end expressed its commitment to continue to take steps to improve the focus and interactivity of its open debates. It also welcomed joint statements by both Council members and other Member States.⁸⁰ Furthermore, during the period under review, the President routinely requested speakers to limit their statements to four minutes, to deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Council, and to circulate the full text of their statements in the Council Chamber in accordance with the note by the President.⁸¹ At the 7169th meeting, held on 7 May 2014 under the item entitled "Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction", the President reminded all speakers to limit their statements to no more than four minutes and requested delegations with lengthy statements to circulate their texts in writing and to deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Chamber.⁸² At the same meeting, the representative of Poland

⁸⁰ S/PRST/2015/19, third paragraph.

⁸¹ S/2010/507.

⁸² S/PV.7169, pp. 20, 36 and 43.

delivered a statement on behalf of Croatia and his own country, and the representative of Trinidad and Tobago spoke on behalf of the 14 States members of the Caribbean Community.⁸³ At other meetings, speakers delivered a condensed version of their statements without being requested to do so by the President,⁸⁴ or delivered statements also on behalf of other delegations.⁸⁵

During 2014 and 2015, members of the Council implemented some of the agreed practices set out in the note by the President of the Security Council dated 15 October 2014.⁸⁶ Council members agreed that, as a general practice, the speaking order for meetings of the Council would be established by a draw or, in certain cases, by the use of a sign-up sheet. The President of the Council would make his or her national statement last of all Council members or, in certain cases, before the other members took the floor.⁸⁷ During the

reporting period, in compliance with the note, the President of the Council adjusted the list of speakers and inscribed first the delegation responsible for the drafting process in order to allow that delegation to make an introductory or explanatory presentation.⁸⁸ When an unscheduled or emergency meeting was convened, the President also adjusted the list of speakers so that the delegation having requested the meeting could speak before other Council members in order to present the reasons for convening the meeting.⁸⁹ Finally, the President of the Council inscribed first the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the Council when presenting their work⁹⁰ and, for reasons of protocol, high-level officials representing Council members.⁹¹

The report on the eleventh annual workshop for the newly elected members of the Council, held in November 2013, outlined a series of steps taken in recent years that had lowered costs and increased the efficiency of the work of the Council. For example, making decisions under the no-objection or silence procedure had made it easier than before to produce presidential statements and press statements. The use of informal informals, missions and other non-formal gatherings away from Headquarters had reduced costs and encouraged dialogue among the members of the Council. The practice of keeping most Fridays free of meetings of the whole had served both as a cost-cutting measure and as way of regularizing meetings of the subsidiary bodies. Presidents of the Council had been encouraged to try to avoid voting on Mondays in order to reduce staff overtime charges on the weekends. The expanded use of videoconferencing technology had reduced travel costs for briefers, while providing the members with a closer feel for the dynamics on the ground.⁹² At the 7539th meeting, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the Deputy Secretary-General noted that the Secretariat had actively supported proposals to arrange briefings via secure videoconference from United Nations offices around the world, and that the number of such videoconferences had increased from one in 2009 to

⁸³ S/PV.7169, p. 36 (Poland); and p. 64 (Trinidad and Tobago).

⁸⁴ For example, at the 7164th meeting, on 29 April 2014, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the observer of the European Union delivered a shortened version of his statement; the full text was circulated in the Chamber and posted on the European Union website (see S/PV.7164, p. 40); and at the 7472nd meeting, on 25 June 2015, under the item entitled “Post-conflict peacebuilding”, the representative of Spain spoke only briefly; the full text of the statement was made available on the website of the Spanish Mission (see S/PV.7472, p. 6).

⁸⁵ At the 7184th meeting, for example, held on 28 May 2014 under the item entitled “Briefing by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”, the representative of Belgium took the floor on behalf of the Group of Like-Minded States on Targeted Sanctions (see S/PV.7184, p. 28); at the 7262nd meeting, on 11 September 2014, under the item entitled “The question concerning Haiti”, the representative of Uruguay spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Haiti (see S/PV.7262, p. 22); and at the 7539th meeting, on 20 October 2015, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representative of Angola spoke also on behalf of Chile, Jordan, Malaysia, New Zealand and Spain — six Council members representing six different regions of the world (see S/PV.7539, p. 7). At the same meeting, the President of the Council (Spain) stated that, in that open debate, up to 10 minutes were allotted to joint statements by groups, 3 minutes to national statements, and 2 minutes to national statements complementing joint statements (see S/PV.7539, pp. 19–20).

⁸⁶ S/2014/739 and Corr.1.

⁸⁷ For example, at the 7533rd meeting, on 13 October 2015, under the item entitled “Women and peace and security”, the representative of Spain, as the President of the Council, spoke after the briefers but before all other

Council members (S/PV.7533, pp. 11–13).

⁸⁸ See, for example, S/PV.7403, pp. 6–7 (Spain, as the main sponsor of a draft resolution).

⁸⁹ See, for example, S/PV.7125, pp. 3–4 (Russian Federation, as initiator of the meeting).

⁹⁰ See, for example, S/PV.7412, pp. 2–3 (Spain, as Chair of a Committee).

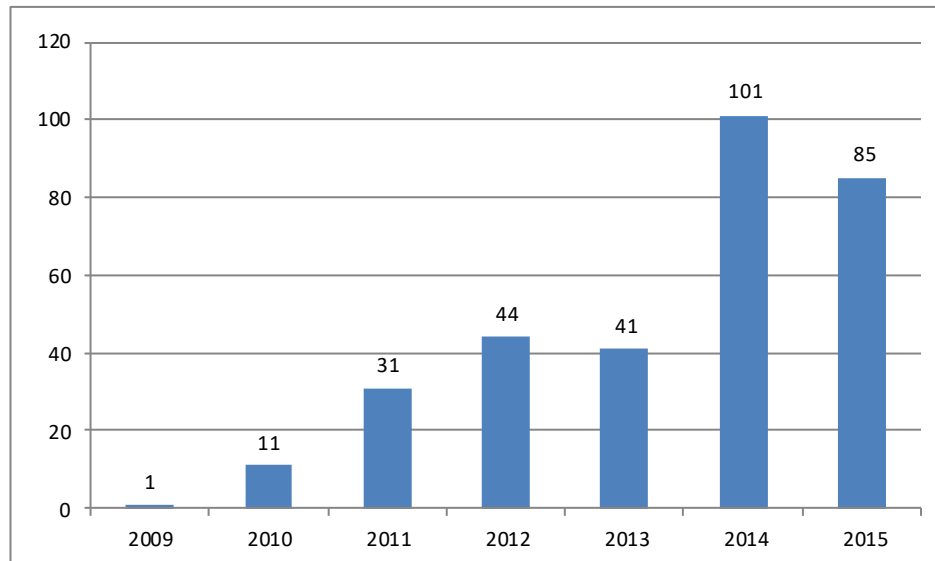
⁹¹ See, for example, S/PV.7466, pp. 11–13 (Spain, represented by its Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs).

⁹² S/2014/213, p. 17.

41 in 2013, and to 101 in 2014.⁹³ The Council continued to make significant use of videoconferencing in 2015, with 85 instances (see figure IV).

⁹³ S/PV.7539, p. 3.

Figure IV
Number of meetings at which videoconferencing was used, 2009–2015



VII. Participation

Note

Section VII covers the practice of the Security Council concerning the extension of invitations to non-members of the Council to participate in meetings of the Council. Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter of the United Nations and rules 37 and 39 of the provisional rules of procedure describe circumstances in which invitations can be extended to non-members of the Council to participate, without vote, when the Council so decides.

Article 31

Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Security Council whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected.

Article 32

Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council or any state which is not a Member of the United Nations, if it is a party to a

dispute under consideration by the Security Council, shall be invited to participate, without vote, in the discussion relating to the dispute. The Security Council shall lay down such conditions as it deems just for the participation of a state which is not a Member of the United Nations.

Rule 37

Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council may be invited, as the result of a decision of the Security Council, to participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Security Council when the Security Council considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected, or when a Member brings a matter to the attention of the Security Council in accordance with Article 35 (1) of the Charter.

Rule 39

The Security Council may invite members of the Secretariat or other persons, whom it considers competent for the purpose, to supply it with information or to give other assistance in examining matters within its competence.

During the period under review, the Council continued to invite non-members to participate in its meetings. The invitations were extended by the President at the beginning of or during a meeting, either under the “relevant provisions” of the Charter without an explicit reference to a specific Article, or under rule 37 or rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council. Specifically, Member States continued to be invited under rule 37, while representatives of the Secretariat, subsidiary organs of the Security Council, other United Nations organs, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, or other invitees, including representatives of non-governmental organizations, were invited under rule 39.

Member States requested invitations in letters addressed to the President of the Council, but in most cases these were not issued as documents of the Council.

This section is divided into four sub-sections, namely, A. Invitations extended under rule 37; B. Invitations extended under rule 39; C. Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39; and D. Discussions relating to participation.

A. Invitations extended under rule 37

In accordance with the relevant Articles and rules, all States, whether Members of the United Nations or not, may be invited to participate in Council meetings when (a) the interests of a Member State are “specially affected” (Article 31 and rule 37); (b) a Member State or a non-member State is a party to a dispute under consideration by the Council (Article 32); and (c) a Member State brings a matter to the attention of the Council in accordance with Article 35 (1) (rule 37).⁹⁴

During the period under review, there were no changes to the procedure for extending invitations to Member States to participate in the proceedings of the Council. As reported in section VI above (Conduct of business), on 30 October 2015 the President of the Council made a statement on behalf of the Council in which the Council welcomed joint statements by both Council members and other Member States.⁹⁵ Member

⁹⁴ For more information, see part VI, sect. I, “Referral of disputes or situations to the Security Council”.

⁹⁵ [S/PRST/2015/19](#), third paragraph.

States invited under rule 37 continued the previous practice of speaking occasionally in other capacities, for example delivering joint statements on behalf of regional or international organizations or groups of States.⁹⁶

Requests for invitations denied or not acted upon

During the period under review there was no instance of a request from a Member State to participate in a Council meeting being put to a vote or denied at a public meeting.

B. Invitations extended under rule 39

In accordance with rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure, members of the Secretariat or other persons may be invited to provide the Council with information or other assistance in examining matters within its competence.

Following previous practice, an invitation under rule 39 was extended to a representative of a Member State, on an exceptional basis, only if the participation was in a role other than that of representative of a State; for example, as Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission or one of its country-specific configurations.⁹⁷

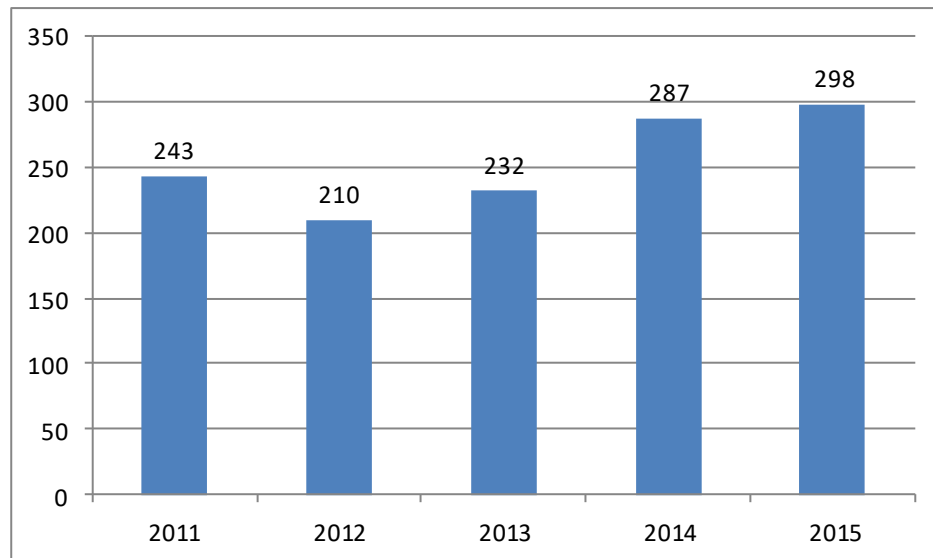
Invitations under rule 39

During the period under review, a total of 585 invitations were extended under rule 39, 287 in 2014 and 298 in 2015 (see figure V).

⁹⁶ For example, at the 7164th meeting, on 29 April 2014, the representative of Guinea, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation ([S/PV.7164](#), p. 64). At the 7228th meeting, on 28 July 2014, the representative of Egypt, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement ([S/PV.7228](#), p. 54). At the 7539th meeting, on 20 October 2015, the representative of Sweden, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Peacebuilding Commission and on behalf of the Nordic countries, and the representative of Switzerland, also invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency group ([S/PV.7539](#), pp. 20–22).

⁹⁷ For example, at the 7143rd meeting, on 19 March 2014, the representative of Brazil and Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission was invited under rule 39 ([S/PV.7143](#), p. 2).

Figure V
Invitations extended under rule 39, 2011–2015



Invitations under rule 39 are extended to persons or entities in the following five categories: (a) the Secretariat and subsidiary bodies of the Council;⁹⁸ (b) other organs of the United Nations, subsidiary bodies or agencies;⁹⁹ (c) regional and other intergovernmental organizations;¹⁰⁰ (d) other persons;¹⁰¹ and (e) persons holding joint appointments by the United Nations and the African Union¹⁰² (see figure VI for a breakdown of invitations under rule 39 in 2014 and 2015).

In 2014, the number of rule 39 invitations extended under category (a) increased significantly, from 125 in 2013 to 190, whereas the number of invitations extended under category (c) declined from 69 in 2013 to 65, and the number extended under category (d) decreased from 16 in 2013 to 12. In 2015, in comparison with the previous year, the number of invitations extended under category (a) declined to 183, but invitations extended under categories (c) and (d) increased to 72 and 25, respectively. During the review period, invitations under rule 39 were most frequently extended to representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and subsidiary bodies of the Security Council.

⁹⁸ For example, at the 7092nd meeting, on 6 January 2014, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs was invited under rule 39; and at the 7094th meeting, on 13 January 2014, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Head of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was invited under rule 39.

⁹⁹ For example, at the 7128th meeting, on 6 March 2014, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees was invited under rule 39; and at the 7129th meeting, on 7 March 2014, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund was invited under rule 39.

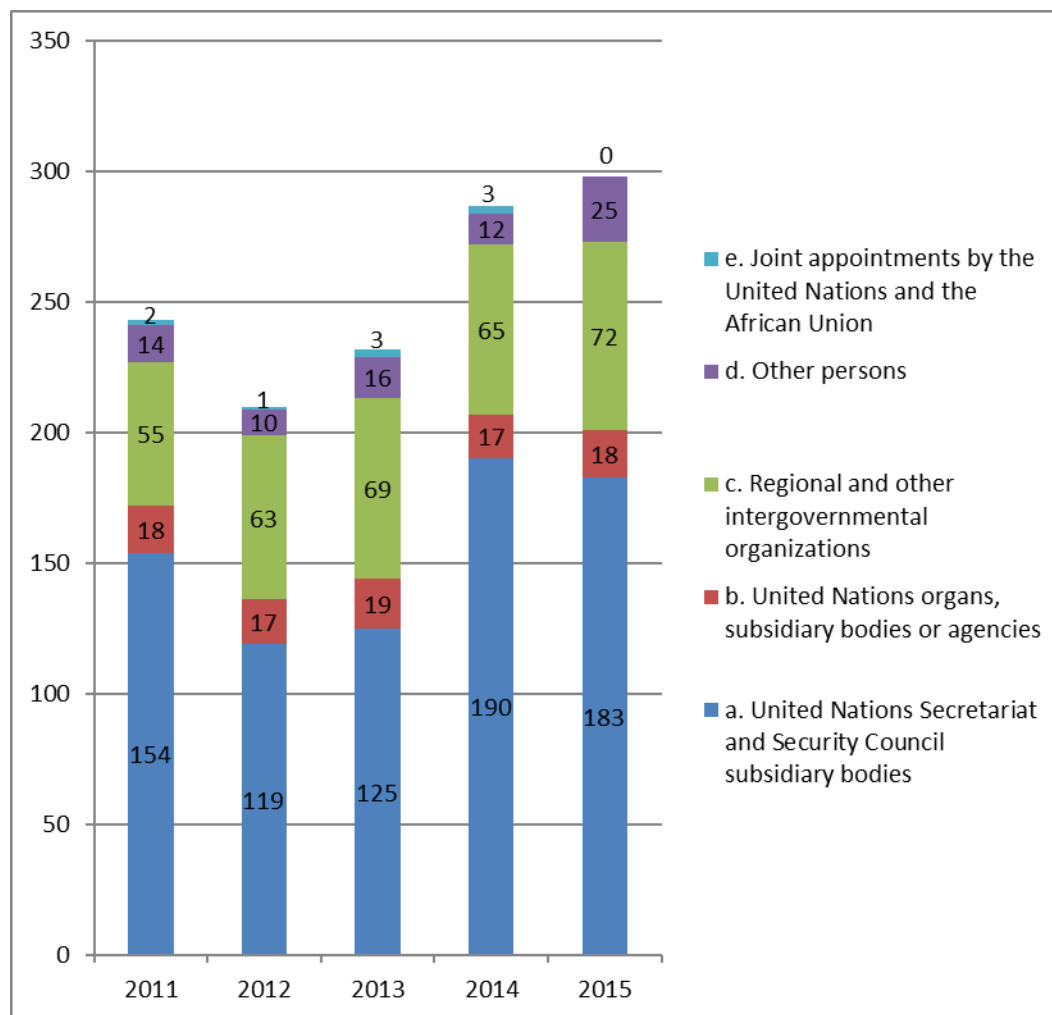
¹⁰⁰ For example, at the 7139th meeting, on 17 March 2014, the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations was invited under rule 39; and at the 7160th meeting, on 25 April 2014, the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations was

invited under rule 39.

¹⁰¹ For example, at the 7244th meeting, on 19 August 2014, the Director and co-founder of the Liaison Office (a non-governmental organization in Afghanistan) was invited under rule 39; and at the 7259th meeting, on 8 September 2014, a survivor of the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was invited under rule 39.

¹⁰² For example, at the 7233rd meeting, on 5 August 2014, the Joint African Union-United Nations Special Representative for Darfur and Head of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) was invited under rule 39.

Figure VI
Invitees under rule 39, by category, 2014–2015



Videoconferencing

During the period under review, videoconferencing continued to be utilized at meetings of the Council. Generally, videoconferencing was used for briefings by the representatives of the Secretary-General and other personnel located in the field.¹⁰³ As shown in figure IV, the Council was briefed via videoconferencing at

¹⁰³ For example, at the 7094th meeting, on 13 January 2014, on the situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region of Africa briefed the Council from Kinshasa (see [S/PV.7094](#)). At the 7109th meeting, on 12 February 2014, on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Director General of the International Committee of the Red Cross briefed the Council from Geneva (see [S/PV.7109](#)).

meetings and consultations 101 times in 2014 and 85 times in 2015.

C. Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39

During the period under review, the Council extended several invitations not expressly under rule 37 or rule 39 (see table 9).

Invitations to representatives of the Holy See and the State of Palestine to participate in meetings of the Council were routinely extended, without reference to any rule and “in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure and the previous practice in this regard”.

Table 9
Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39, 2014–2015

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Item</i>
State of Palestine	S/PV.7113 , 19 February 2014	The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security
	S/PV.7151 , 31 March 2014	Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)
	S/PV.7164 , 29 April 2014	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	S/PV.7220 , 18 July 2014	
	S/PV.7222 , 22 July 2014	
	S/PV.7232 , 31 July 2014	
	S/PV.7281 , 21 October 2014	
	S/PV.7354 , 30 December 2014	
	S/PV.7360 , 15 January 2015	
	S/PV.7430 , 21 April 2015	
	S/PV.7490 , 23 July 2015	
	S/PV.7536 , 16 October 2015	
	S/PV.7540 , 22 October 2015	
State of Palestine	S/PV.7414 , 25 March 2015	Children and armed conflict
	S/PV.7466 , 18 June 2015	
Holy See	S/PV.7122 , 27 February 2014	Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)
	S/PV.7151 , 31 March 2014	
	S/PV.7189 , 29 May 2014	
	S/PV.7539 , 20 October 2015	
	S/PV.7281 , 21 October 2014	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	S/PV.7430 , 21 April 2015	
	S/PV.7490 , 23 July 2015	
	S/PV.7540 , 22 October 2015	
	S/PV.7374 , 30 January 2015	Protection of civilians in armed conflict
	S/PV.7414 , 25 March 2015	Children and armed conflict
	S/PV.7466 , 18 June 2015	
	S/PV.7428 , 15 April 2015	Women and peace and security
	S/PV.7432 , 23 April 2015	Maintenance of international peace and security
	S/PV.7499 , 30 July 2015	
	S/PV.7527 , 30 September 2015	
S/PV.7561 , 17 November 2015		

D. Discussions relating to participation

During the period under review, when non-members of the Council were invited to participate in a meeting, Council members generally spoke before Member States invited under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure and before those not expressly invited under any rule, except on some occasions when parties

directly involved in the matter under consideration took the floor before Council members.¹⁰⁴

¹⁰⁴ For example, at the 7124th meeting, on 1 March 2014, under the item entitled “Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2014/136](#))”, the representative of Ukraine spoke after the Deputy Secretary-General but before members of the Council ([S/PV.7124](#), p. 3). At the 7347th meeting, on 18 December 2014, on the situation in Afghanistan, the representative of Afghanistan spoke

During the period under review, there were discussions on the participation of invitees under rule 37 and/or rule 39. For instance, at the 7251st meeting, held on 27 August 2014 on the situation in Libya, the representative of Libya, invited in accordance with rule 37, asked why the Libyan delegation was not invited to participate in the entire meeting and was not seated in the Chamber while the resolution was being adopted.¹⁰⁵ At the 7435th meeting, held on 28 April 2015 on the situation concerning Western Sahara, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela expressed regret that the consultations held on the item had not been preceded by an open meeting which would have ensured the participation of the Special Envoy of the African Union for Western Sahara, in view of the fact that the African Union, together with the United Nations, was facilitating the process of negotiation between the parties.¹⁰⁶

The question of the participation of non-members of the Council in Council meetings, in particular that of Member States directly involved or specially affected by situations under consideration by the Council, was discussed during two debates on the working methods of the Council (see case 7).

after the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan and the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime but before members of the Council (S/PV.7347, pp. 6–9). At the 7540th meeting, on 22 October 2015, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine and the representative of Israel spoke after the Deputy Secretary-General but before members of the Council and other Member States invited under rule 37 (S/PV.7540, pp. 4–9).

¹⁰⁵ S/PV.7251, p. 4.

¹⁰⁶ S/PV.7435, p. 5.

Case 7 Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 7285th meeting, held on 23 October 2014 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, some speakers expressed the view that the Council should comply with the provisions of Article 31 of the Charter, which allowed any non-member of the Council to participate in the discussions on any matter that affected it.¹⁰⁷ The representative of China noted that the Council should pay more attention to the views of the general membership, in particular the countries on its agenda.¹⁰⁸ The representative of Estonia stated, further, that the wider membership’s involvement should be a continuous process from the very beginning of the discussion of a decision until its implementation, giving the stakeholders greater input into decision-making.¹⁰⁹ Similarly, the representative of Ukraine restated his delegation’s position that a stronger voice should be given in the decision-making processes of the Council to Member States directly involved in the implementation of its decisions.¹¹⁰

At the 7539th meeting, held on 20 October 2015 under the same item, the representatives of Brazil and the Sudan stated that States with a special interest in a substantive matter under the Council’s consideration, in particular those countries on the Council’s agenda and troop- and police-contributing countries, should be allowed to participate in consultations.¹¹¹

¹⁰⁷ S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 20 (Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); and p. 34 (Algeria).

¹⁰⁸ S/PV.7285, p. 10.

¹⁰⁹ S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 16.

¹¹⁰ Ibid., p. 36.

¹¹¹ S/PV.7539 (Resumption 1), pp. 14–15 (Brazil) and p. 29 (Sudan).

VIII. Decision-making and voting

Note

Section VIII covers the practice of the Security Council concerning decision-making and voting. Article 27 of the Charter, together with rule 40, governs the voting in the Council, and provides that decisions on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of 9 of the 15 Council members. Decisions on “all other matters” are made by an affirmative vote of nine Council members, including the concurring votes of all permanent members.

The section also covers rules 31, 32, 34 to 36 and 38, which govern the conduct of business in the context of voting on draft resolutions, amendments and substantive motions.

Article 27

1. Each member of the Security Council shall have one vote.

2. Decisions of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members.

3. Decisions of the Security Council on all other matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members including the concurring votes of the permanent members; provided that, in decisions under Chapter VI, and under paragraph 3 of Article 52, a party to a dispute shall abstain from voting.

Rule 31

Proposed resolutions, amendments and substantive motions shall normally be placed before the representatives in writing.

Rule 32

Principal motions and draft resolutions shall have precedence in the order of their submission.

Parts of a motion or of a draft resolution shall be voted on separately at the request of any representative, unless the original mover objects.

Rule 34

It shall not be necessary for any motion or draft resolution proposed by a representative on the Security Council to be seconded before being put to a vote.

Rule 35

A motion or draft resolution can at any time be withdrawn so long as no vote has been taken with respect to it.

If the motion or draft resolution has been seconded, the representative on the Security Council who has seconded it may require that it be put to the vote as his motion or draft resolution with the same right of precedence as if the original mover had not withdrawn it.

Rule 36

If two or more amendments to a motion or draft resolution are proposed, the President shall rule on the order in which they are to be voted upon. Ordinarily, the Security Council shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed until all amendments have been put to the

vote, but when an amendment adds to or deletes from the text of a motion or draft resolution, that amendment shall be voted on first.

Rule 38

Any Member of the United Nations invited in accordance with the preceding rule, or in application of Article 32 of the Charter, to participate in the discussions of the Security Council may submit proposals and draft resolutions. These proposals and draft resolutions may be put to a vote only at the request of a representative on the Security Council.

Rule 40

Voting in the Security Council shall be in accordance with the relevant Articles of the Charter and of the Statute of the International Court of Justice.

This section comprises five sub-sections: A. Decisions of the Council; B. Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38; C. Decision-making by voting; D. Decision-making without a vote; and E. Discussions concerning the decision-making process.

During the period under review, rule 31 was routinely applied at the meetings of the Council. There were no instances of motions or amendments requiring voting, submission of competing draft resolutions, withdrawal of draft resolutions, or requests for separate voting on parts of a draft resolution; consequently there were no occasions on which rules 32 and 34 to 36 were invoked.

A. Decisions of the Council

During the period under review, the Council continued to adopt, at its meetings, resolutions and statements by the President, in addition to taking procedural decisions. Decisions of the Council also took the form of notes or letters by the President, which were seldom adopted at meetings and in most cases were issued as documents of the Council.¹¹²

¹¹² For the text of all resolutions, statements and procedural decisions adopted at Council meetings, as well as notes or letters issued by the President during the period under review, see *Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council* (S/INF/69, S/INF/70 and S/INF/71). For a complete list of resolutions adopted during the review period, see www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/ and for a complete list of presidential statements, see www.un.org/en/sc/documents/statements/.

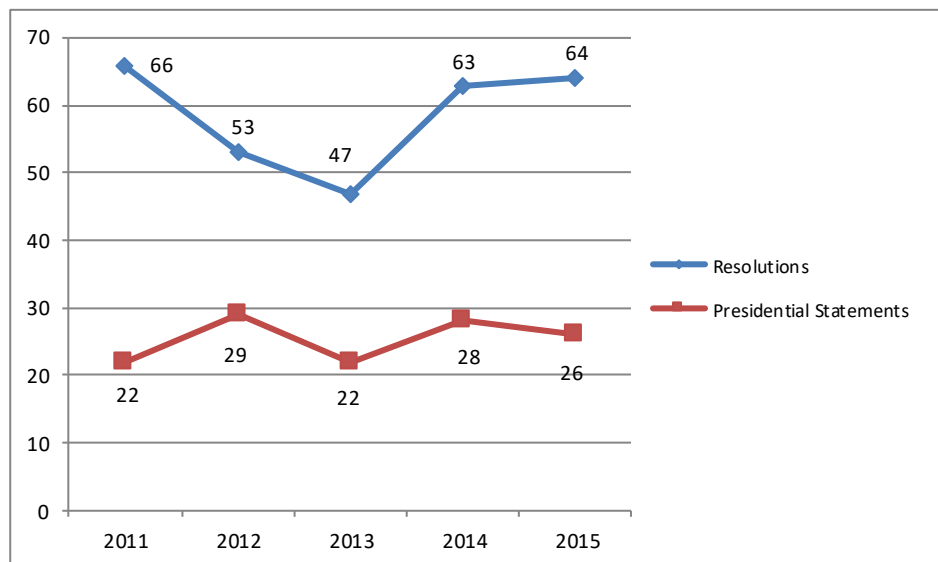
Number of resolutions and statements by the President

During the two-year period under review, the Council adopted a total of 127 resolutions and issued 54 statements by the President. In 2014, the Council adopted 63 resolutions and issued 28 statements by the

President, and in 2015, the Council adopted 64 resolutions and issued 26 statements by the President.

Figure VII shows the total number of resolutions adopted and statements issued by the President during the five-year period from 2011 to 2015.

Figure VII
Resolutions adopted and statements by the President issued, 2011–2015



Multiple decisions at one meeting

During the period under review the normal practice of the Council was to adopt a single decision at a meeting. On four occasions, however, the Council adopted more than one decision at a single meeting. At the 7198th meeting, held on the item entitled “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts”, the Council adopted resolutions [2160 \(2014\)](#) and [2161 \(2014\)](#). At the 7208th meeting, concerning the situation in Afghanistan, the Council issued two presidential statements.¹¹³ At the 7348th meeting, on the item concerning the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, the Council adopted resolutions [2193 \(2014\)](#) and [2194 \(2014\)](#). At the 7420th meeting, on the situation in Libya, the Council adopted resolutions [2213 \(2015\)](#) and [2214 \(2015\)](#).

¹¹³ [S/PRST/2014/11](#) and [S/PRST/2014/12](#).

B. Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38

Under rule 38 of the provisional rules of procedure, a member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Council and is invited in accordance with rule 37, or in application of Article 32 of the Charter, may submit a proposal or a draft resolution, which may be put to a vote only at the request of a representative on the Council. In practice, a member of the Council or any other Member State, whether a Council member or not, that submits a draft resolution is referred to as a sponsor or co-sponsor. When all Council members agree to be co-sponsors a draft resolution is described as a presidential text.

During the period under review, 132 draft resolutions were considered by the Council; 129 of them were sponsored texts and three were presidential texts.¹¹⁴ A total of 25 draft resolutions were co-sponsored by non-members of the Council (see table 10).

¹¹⁴ Resolutions [2150 \(2014\)](#), [2177 \(2014\)](#) and [2231 \(2015\)](#).

Table 10
Draft resolutions co-sponsored by non-members of the Council, 2014–2015

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-member sponsors</i>
S/2014/149	Children and armed conflict	S/PV.7129 7 March 2014	2143 (2014)	12 Council members ^a	35 Member States ^b
S/2014/189	Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)	S/PV.7138 15 March 2014	Not adopted owing to negative vote of Russian Federation	6 Council members: Australia, France, Lithuania, Luxembourg, United Kingdom, United States	36 Member States ^c
S/2014/270	Threats to international peace and security	S/PV.7155 16 April 2014	2150 (2014)	All Council members ^d	33 Member States ^e
S/2014/302	Maintenance of international peace and security	S/PV.7161 (Resumption 1) 28 April 2014	2151 (2014)	13 Council members ^f	28 Member States ^g
S/2014/299	The situation concerning Western Sahara	S/PV.7162 29 April 2014	2152 (2014)	4 Council members: France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Spain
S/2014/348	The situation in the Middle East	S/PV.7180 22 May 2014	Not adopted owing to negative votes of China and Russian Federation	9 Council members: Australia, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States	56 Member States ^h
S/2014/510	Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)	S/PV.7221 21 July 2014	2166 (2014)	13 Council members ⁱ	12 Member States ^j
S/2014/614	The situation in the Middle East	S/PV.7248 26 August 2014	2172 (2014)	7 Council members: France, Jordan, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Italy, Spain
S/2014/629	The situation in Libya	S/PV.7251 27 August 2014	2174 (2014)	7 Council members: Australia, France, Jordan, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom	Germany, Italy
S/2014/673	Peace and security in Africa	S/PV.7268 18 September 2014	2177 (2014)	All Council members ^k	119 Member States ^l

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<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-member sponsors</i>
S/2014/688	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	S/PV.7272 24 September 2014	2178 (2014)	12 Council members ^m	92 Member States ⁿ
S/2014/732	The question concerning Haiti	S/PV.7277 14 October 2014	2180 (2014)	France, United States	Brazil, Canada, Uruguay
S/2014/803	The situation in Somalia	S/PV.7309 12 November 2014	2184 (2014)	8 Council members: Australia, France, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States	6 Member States: Croatia, Cyprus, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands, Spain
S/2015/100	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	S/PV.7379 12 February 2015	2199 (2015)	13 Council members ^o	42 Member States ^p
S/2015/153	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	S/PV.7396 3 March 2015	2206 (2015)	6 Council members: Chile, France, Lithuania, New Zealand, United Kingdom, United States	Australia, Luxembourg, Norway
S/2015/161	The situation in the Middle East	S/PV.7401 6 March 2015	2209 (2015)	5 Council members: France, Lithuania, Spain, United Kingdom, United States	32 Member States ^q
S/2015/333	Small arms	S/PV.7447 22 May 2015	2220 (2015)	6 Council members: France, Lithuania, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom, United States	51 Member States ^r
S/2015/375	Protection of civilians in armed conflict	S/PV.7450 27 May 2015	2222 (2015)	12 Council members ^s	37 Member States ^t
S/2015/445	Children and armed conflict	S/PV.7466 18 June 2015	2225 (2015)	13 Council members ^u	43 Member States ^v
S/2015/562	Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)	S/PV.7498 29 July 2015	Not adopted owing to negative vote of Russian Federation	7 Council members: France, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom, United States	11 Member States ^w
S/2015/652	The situation in the Middle East	S/PV.7509 21 August 2015	2236 (2015)	7 Council members: France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, Spain, United Kingdom, United States	Italy
S/2015/768	Maintenance of international peace and security	S/PV.7531 9 October 2015	2240 (2015)	6 Council members: France, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom	29 Member States ^x

Draft resolution	Item	Meeting record and date	Resolution	Council member sponsors	Non-member sponsors
S/2015/774	Women and peace and security	S/PV.7533 13 October 2015	2242 (2015)	11 Council members ^y	61 Member States ^z
S/2015/775	The question concerning Haiti	S/PV.7534 14 October 2015	2243 (2015)	11 Council members ^{aa}	7 Member States: Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay
S/2015/972	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	S/PV.7587 17 December 2015	2253 (2015)	13 Council members ^{bb}	55 Member States ^{cc}

^a Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States.

^b Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey.

^c Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey, Ukraine.

^d Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, China, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

^e Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, Togo, Turkey.

^f Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

^g Austria, Belgium, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland.

^h Albania, Andorra, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates.

ⁱ Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

^j Belgium, Canada, Germany, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Malaysia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Philippines, Ukraine, Viet Nam.

^k Argentina, Australia, Chad, Chile, China, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

^l Afghanistan, Albania, Andorra, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Canada, Colombia, Congo, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Grenada, Guinea, Guyana, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Nauru, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia.

^m Australia, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, United Kingdom, United States.

ⁿ Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cabo Verde, Canada, Colombia, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Eritrea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guinea, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritania, Micronesia

- (Federated States of), Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Nepal, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Norway, Oman, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tonga, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Yemen.
- ^o Angola, Chad, China, France, Jordan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^p Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cambodia, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Sweden, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey.
- ^q Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden.
- ^r Albania, Australia, Austria, Barbados, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Somalia, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine.
- ^s Angola, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Spain, United Kingdom, United States.
- ^t Albania, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ukraine.
- ^u Angola, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^v Albania, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, Norway, Palau, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey.
- ^w Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Philippines, Romania, Ukraine.
- ^x Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Thailand.
- ^y Angola, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^z Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Norway, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Tunisia, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay.
- ^{aa} Angola, Chad, Chile, France, Jordan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^{bb} Angola, Chile, France, Jordan, Lithuania, Malaysia, New Zealand, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Spain, United Kingdom, United States, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^{cc} Albania, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Montenegro, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tajikistan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey.

C. Decision-making by voting

According to Article 27 (2) and (3) of the Charter, decisions of the Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members; for decisions on all other matters, that is, substantive or non-procedural matters, an affirmative vote of nine members, including the concurring votes of the permanent members, is required. The result of a vote in the Council often does not in itself indicate whether the Council considers the matter voted upon as procedural or substantive. For example, whether a vote is procedural or not cannot be determined when a proposal is (a) adopted by a unanimous vote; (b) adopted by an affirmative vote of all permanent members; or (c) not adopted, having failed to obtain the required nine affirmative votes.

When a proposal is adopted, having obtained nine or more affirmative votes, with one or more permanent members casting a negative vote, that indicates that the

vote is considered procedural. Conversely, if the proposal is not adopted, the matter voted upon is considered to be substantive or non-procedural (falling into the category “all other matters”). On certain occasions, in its early years, the Council found it necessary to decide, by vote, the question whether the matter under consideration was procedural within the meaning of Article 27 (2). This procedure became known as the “preliminary question”, after the language used in the San Francisco Statement on Voting Procedure. In recent years, however, there have been no instances of the Council having to decide on the preliminary question. Furthermore, procedural motions, such as the adoption of the agenda, the extension of invitations, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting, have generally been decided upon by the Council without a vote. When such motions were voted upon, the vote was considered procedural. During the period under review, the Council twice voted on the inclusion of an item in its agenda (see table 11).

Table 11
Cases in which the vote indicated the procedural character of the matter

<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Proposal</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Permanent members casting negative vote^a</i>
The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea	S/PV.7353 22 December 2014	Adoption of the agenda	11-2-2	China, Russian Federation
The situation in the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea	S/PV.7575 10 December 2015	Adoption of the agenda	9-4-2	China, Russian Federation

^a For the context and explanations of vote, see sect. II above, case 2.

Adoption of resolutions

During the period under review, the majority of resolutions (116 of 127) were adopted unanimously. Only 11 resolutions were adopted without a unanimous vote and in none of those cases was any negative vote cast; there were only abstentions (see table 12).

Table 12
Resolutions adopted without a unanimous vote, 2014–2015

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Abstention</i>
2182 (2014)	The situation in Somalia	S/PV.7286 24 October 2014	13-0-2	Jordan, Russian Federation
2183 (2014)	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	S/PV.7307 11 November 2014	14-0-1	Russian Federation

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<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Abstention</i>
2193 (2014)	International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991; International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994	S/PV.7348 18 December 2014	14-0-1	Russian Federation
2209 (2015)	The situation in the Middle East	S/PV.7401 6 March 2015	14-0-1	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
2216 (2015)	The situation in the Middle East	S/PV.7426 14 April 2015	14-0-1	Russian Federation
2220 (2015)	Small arms	S/PV.7447 22 May 2015	9-0-6	Angola, Chad, China, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
2240 (2015)	Maintenance of international peace and security	S/PV.7531 9 October 2015	14-0-1	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
2241 (2015)	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	S/PV.7532 9 October 2015	13-0-2	Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
2244 (2015)	The situation in Somalia	S/PV.7541 23 October 2015	14-0-1	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)
2252 (2015)	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	S/PV.7581 15 December 2015	13-0-2	Russian Federation, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Abstention</i>
2256 (2015)	International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991; International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994	S/PV.7593 22 December 2015	14-0-1	Russian Federation

Draft resolutions not adopted

According to Article 27 (3) of the Charter, a draft resolution on a non-procedural matter is not adopted when it fails to obtain the nine affirmative votes required, or when a negative vote is cast by a permanent member, also known as the veto. During the period under review, there was only one occasion when a draft resolution was not adopted for lack of the necessary number of affirmative votes, and that was in connection with the item entitled “The situation in the

Middle East, including the Palestinian question”.¹¹⁵ During the reporting period there were also four instances of draft resolutions not being adopted because of the negative vote of one or more permanent members (see table 13).

¹¹⁵ At the 7354th meeting, held on 30 December 2014 on the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, two Council members (Australia and United States) voted against and five Council members (Lithuania, Nigeria, Republic of Korea, Rwanda and United Kingdom) abstained in the voting on the draft resolution (S/2014/916).

Table 13

Draft resolutions not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent member or for lack of the requisite number of votes, 2014–2015

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Permanent member(s) casting a negative vote</i>
S/2014/189	Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)	S/PV.7138 15 March 2014	13-1-1	Russian Federation
S/2014/348	The situation in the Middle East	S/PV.7180 22 May 2014	13-2-0	China, Russian Federation
S/2014/916	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	S/PV.7354 30 December 2014	8-2-5	
S/2015/508	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	S/PV.7481 8 July 2015	10-1-4	Russian Federation

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>	<i>Permanent member(s) casting a negative vote</i>
S/2015/562	Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)	S/PV.7498 29 July 2015	11-1-3	Russian Federation

D. Decision-making without a vote

A procedural motion or a substantive motion may be adopted in the Council without a vote or by consensus. During the period 2014-2015, there was no instance of a resolution being adopted without a vote; all 127 resolutions were adopted by a show of hands.

Statements by the President on behalf of the Council continued to be adopted by consensus. A total of 54 statements by the President were adopted during the period under review.¹¹⁶ It was the previous practice for most of the statements to be read out at meetings; during the period under review, in contrast, half of the statements were adopted without the text being read out, the President announcing only that the statement would be issued as a document of the Security Council. On several occasions, resolutions and statements by the President were adopted during the course of a meeting rather than at the beginning or the end.¹¹⁷

A statement by the President is normally considered and agreed upon by the members of the Council in prior consultations, but there was one instance during the reporting period in which a Council member disassociated itself from the statement by the President. At the 7504th meeting, held on 17 August 2015 under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”, the Council agreed to a statement by the President concerning the Syrian Arab Republic.¹¹⁸ Immediately after the adoption, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela stated that his delegation did not subscribe to the eighth and tenth paragraphs of the statement because it believed that they violated the sovereignty and the right to self-determination of the Syrian people by promoting its political transition, including the establishment of a transitional Government, without its consent, and

thereby contravened the Charter of the United Nations. The delegation did not however block the adoption of the presidential statement and joined in the consensus.¹¹⁹

Similarly, notes and letters by the President of the Council were issued as documents of the Council without a vote. During the reporting period, the Council issued 30 notes and 80 letters by the President.¹²⁰ There were two instances in which the issuance of the notes was announced at a formal meeting: on both occasions, this concerned the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly. At those meetings, the President of the Council announced that the draft report had been adopted without a vote.¹²¹ During the period under review, the Council also adopted six notes on working methods building upon the provisions of the note by the President of 26 July 2010¹²² and covering various aspects of the working methods of the Council, including wider participation of Council members in the drafting of Council products (as “penholders”),¹²³ practical measures for ensuring continuity in the work of the Council’s subsidiary bodies,¹²⁴ improving intra-Council dialogue, communication and exchange of information,¹²⁵ the speaking order for Council meetings,¹²⁶ the official records of the Council,¹²⁷ and the annual report of the Council.¹²⁸ Those notes were not adopted at formal meetings of the Council, but rather during the course of

¹¹⁹ [S/PV.7504](#), pp. 3–4.

¹²⁰ For complete lists of the notes by the President of the Security Council issued in 2014 and 2015, see the reports of the Security Council to the General Assembly ([A/69/2](#) and [A/70/2](#), part I, sect. XIV, and [A/71/2](#), part I, sect. XIII); or www.un.org/en/sc/documents/notes/. For complete lists of the letters from the President of the Council issued in 2014 and 2015, see [A/69/2](#) and [A/70/2](#), appendix IV, and [A/71/2](#), part I, sect. III; or www.un.org/en/sc/documents/letters/.

¹²¹ See [S/PV.7283](#) and [S/PV.7538](#).

¹²² [S/2010/507](#).

¹²³ [S/2014/268](#).

¹²⁴ [S/2014/393](#).

¹²⁵ [S/2014/565](#).

¹²⁶ [S/2014/739](#) and [Corr.1](#).

¹²⁷ [S/2014/922](#).

¹²⁸ [S/2015/944](#).

¹¹⁶ For a complete list of presidential statements adopted during the review period, see www.un.org/en/sc/documents/statements/2014.shtml and www.un.org/en/sc/documents/statements/2015.shtml.

¹¹⁷ See, for example, [S/PV.7109](#); [S/PV.7112](#); [S/PV.7169](#); [S/PV.7208](#); and [S/PV.7289](#).

¹¹⁸ [S/PRST/2015/15](#).

the work of its Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions.

E. Discussions concerning the decision-making process

During the period under review, the question of the decision-making process of the Council was raised in the context of the two annual debates on the working methods of the Council.¹²⁹ One instance is described in case 8.

Case 8 Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 7285th meeting, held on 23 October 2014, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, the representatives of Australia and Ukraine stated that the Council should apply Article 27 of the Charter of the United Nations, which provides that a Council member must refrain from voting if it is a party to a dispute.¹³⁰ The representative of China expressed the view that all Council members should have ample time for studying the draft resolutions and presidential statements presented and, through patient consultations and negotiations, reach broad consensus and preserve the solidarity of the Council, rather than forcing texts through on which there were still major differences.¹³¹ The representative of Peru noted that in the interests of transparency it was important to have open debates as they made it possible for non-members of the Council to express their opinions.¹³²

Several speakers referred to the issue of penholders. The representative of Sweden, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries, and the representative of Egypt stated that it was imperative that all members of the Council, permanent and non-permanent, have a possibility of drafting and presenting products.¹³³ The

representative of Malaysia supported a fairer and more inclusive allocation of penholderships.¹³⁴ The representative of Maldives welcomed the note by the President¹³⁵ in which penholders were encouraged to exchange information and consult with all Council members and relevant stakeholder Member States in the wider membership of the United Nations.¹³⁶ The same presidential note was welcomed by several other speakers, one of whom expressed the hope that the Council would make tangible progress on the issue of penholders on the basis of the note.¹³⁷

Regarding the issue of the veto, many speakers welcomed a proposal made by France that permanent members exercise restraint in the use of the veto in situations of mass atrocities, genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.¹³⁸ The representative of Costa Rica encouraged permanent members of the Council to adopt a declaration of principles on the use of the veto to mark the seventieth anniversary of the United Nations in 2015.¹³⁹ While supporting the French initiative, the representative of Kazakhstan said that, to make it practical, there was a need to bridge fundamental differences in defining perceptions of genocide, crimes against humanity and serious crimes against international humanitarian law.¹⁴⁰ The representatives of Uruguay and Peru expressed the hope that the veto as an institution would be eliminated.¹⁴¹

¹³⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 22.

¹³⁵ S/2014/268.

¹³⁶ S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 26.

¹³⁷ S/PV.7285, p. 14 (Rwanda); see also S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 18 (Portugal); p. 32 (New Zealand); and p. 36 (Ukraine).

¹³⁸ S/PV.7285, p. 8 (Australia); p. 9 (Chile); p. 14 (Rwanda); p. 17 (Lithuania); p. 19 (Luxembourg); p. 26 (Switzerland, on behalf of the Accountability, Coherence and Transparency group); p. 29 (Costa Rica); p. 30 (Liechtenstein); S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 7 (Sweden, on behalf of the Nordic countries); p. 8 (Mexico); p. 9 (Netherlands, also on behalf of Belgium); p. 10 (Italy); p. 11 (Germany); p. 15 (Uruguay); p. 17 (Estonia); p. 19 (Indonesia); p. 22 (Malaysia); p. 24 (Peru); p. 26 (Maldives); p. 27 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 28 (Ireland); p. 32 (Côte d’Ivoire); pp. 33–34 (Botswana); p. 35 (Poland); p. 36 (Ukraine); and p. 37 (Montenegro).

¹³⁹ S/PV.7285, p. 29.

¹⁴⁰ S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 13.

¹⁴¹ *Ibid.*, p. 15 (Uruguay); and p. 24 (Peru).

¹²⁹ 7285th meeting, on 23 October 2014 (see S/PV.7285 and S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1)), and 7539th meeting, on 20 October 2015 (see S/PV.7539 and S/PV.7539 (Resumption 1)).

¹³⁰ S/PV.7285, p. 8 (Australia); and S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 36 (Ukraine).

¹³¹ S/PV.7285, p. 10.

¹³² S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 24.

¹³³ *Ibid.*, p. 7 (Sweden); and pp. 30–31 (Egypt).

IX. Languages

Note

Section IX covers rules 41 to 47 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, relating to the official and working languages of the Council, interpretation and the languages of meeting records and published resolutions and decisions.

Rule 41

Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be both the official and the working languages of the Security Council.

Rule 42

Speeches made in any of the six languages of the Security Council shall be interpreted into the other five languages.

Rule 43

[Deleted]

Rule 44

Any representative may make a speech in a language other than the languages of the Security Council. In this case, he shall himself provide for interpretation into one of those languages. Interpretation into the other languages of the Security Council by the interpreters of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.

Rule 45

Verbatim records of meetings of the Security Council shall be drawn up in the languages of the Council.

Rule 46

All resolutions and other documents shall be published in the languages of the Security Council.

Rule 47

Documents of the Security Council shall, if the Security Council so decides, be published in any language other than the languages of the Council.

During the period under review, rules 41 to 47 were applied consistently. At several meetings speakers delivered their statements in a language other than the six official languages of the Security Council as provided in rule 44.¹⁴²

¹⁴² At the 7108th meeting, on 10 February 2014, the representative of Serbia (Prime Minister) spoke in Serbian and the representative of Albania spoke in Albanian; English texts of both statements were provided by the respective delegations (see [S/PV.7108](#), pp. 4 and 9). At the 7272nd meeting, on 24 September 2014, the representative of Turkey (President) spoke in Turkish and the representative of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (President) spoke in Macedonian; English interpretations of both statements were provided by the respective delegations (see [S/PV.7272](#), pp. 19 and 23). At the 7561st meeting, on 17 November 2015, the representative of Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation) delivered his statement in Portuguese; the English text was provided by the delegation (see [S/PV.7561](#), p. 29).

X. Provisional status of the rules of procedure

Note

Section X covers the deliberations of the Security Council concerning the provisional status of the rules of procedure of the Council, last amended in 1982.¹⁴³

Article 30 of the Charter of the United Nations provides that the Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure. Since their adoption by the Council at its first meeting, held on 17 January 1946, the rules of procedure have remained provisional.

¹⁴³ The provisional rules of procedure of the Council were amended 11 times between 1946 and 1982: five times during the Council's first year, at its 31st, 41st, 42nd, 44th and 48th meetings, on 9 April, 16 and 17 May and 6 and 24 June 1946; twice in its second year, at the 138th and 222nd meetings, on 4 June and 9 December 1947; and at its 468th meeting, on 28 February 1950; 1463rd meeting, on 24 January 1969; 1761st meeting, on

17 January 1974; and 2410th meeting, on 21 December 1982. Previous versions of the provisional rules were issued under the symbols [S/96](#) and Rev.1–6, the current version under the symbol [S/96/Rev.7](#).

Article 30

The Security Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its President.

During the period under review, the question of the status of the provisional rules of procedure, including with reference to Article 30 of the Charter, was raised at the two annual open debates concerning the working methods of the Council.¹⁴⁴

At the 7285th meeting, held on 23 October 2014 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)”, several speakers regretted that the rules of procedure of the Council remained provisional and opined that they should be formalized.¹⁴⁵ The representative of Ukraine

explicitly encouraged members of the Council to further maintain and build on the dynamics in streamlining its modus operandi “in line with Article 30 of the Charter of the United Nations”.¹⁴⁶

At the 7539th meeting, on 20 October 2015, several speakers also stated that the provisional rules of procedure of the Council should be formalized and adopted in order to improve transparency and accountability.¹⁴⁷

¹⁴⁶ S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 36.

¹⁴⁷ S/PV.7539, p. 14 (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela); S/PV.7539 (Resumption 1), p. 8 (Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); p. 10 (Singapore); p. 12 (Sierra Leone); p. 17 (Costa Rica); pp. 20–21 (Pakistan); p. 21 (Cuba); p. 24 (Algeria); pp. 28–29 (Kuwait, on behalf of the Group of Arab States); and p. 32 (Spain).

¹⁴⁴ 7285th meeting, on 23 October 2014 (see S/PV.7285 and S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1)); and 7539th meeting, on 20 October 2015 (see S/PV.7539 and S/PV.7539 (Resumption 1)).

¹⁴⁵ S/PV.7285, pp. 27–28 (Saint Lucia, on behalf of the L.69 group); and p. 29 (Costa Rica); S/PV.7285 (Resumption 1), p. 20 (Islamic Republic of Iran, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); and p. 34 (Algeria).