

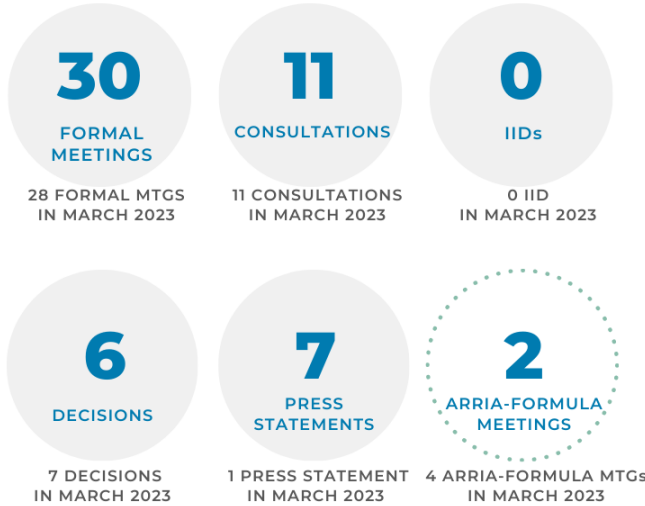
UN Security Council in Review

March 2024



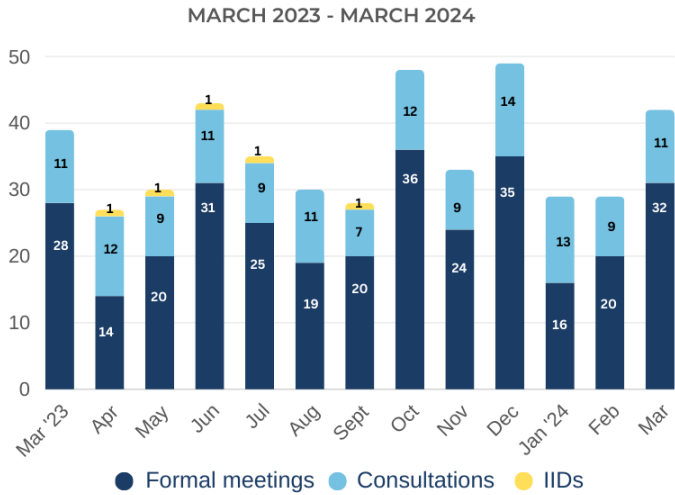
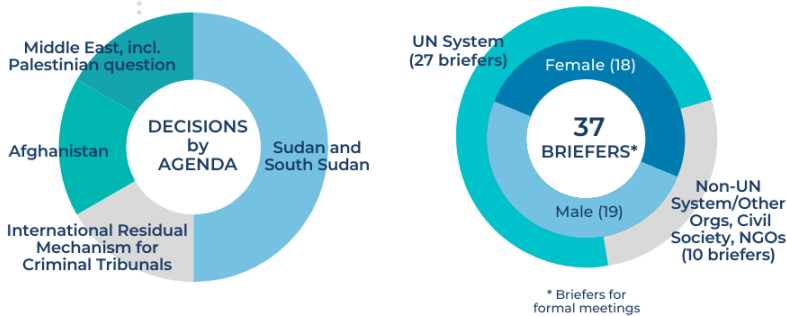
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March 2024 at a Glance



Most frequently discussed topics (open & closed)

- Sudan and South Sudan
- Middle East
- Middle East, including the Palestinian question



Under the **Presidency of Japan**, the Security Council held two signature events:

- A high-level open debate on **Peacebuilding and sustaining peace** (13 and 19 March), focused on promoting conflict prevention – empowering all actors including women and youth (S/2024/210).
- A high-level briefing on **Maintenance of international peace and security** (18 March), focused on nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation. The meeting was presided by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan.

Key Topics

The **Middle East, including the Palestinian question** (7, 11, 18, 21, 22, 25, and 26 March) and **Sudan and South Sudan** (5, 7, twice on 8, 14 and 19 March), including a private meeting with troop-contributing countries to **UNMISS** (4 March), were the most frequently considered country- or region- specific items in open and closed discussions, followed by the **Middle East** (4, 14, 19, 21 and 27 March), **Ukraine** (8, 15 and 22 March), **Afghanistan** (6 and 15 March), **Non-proliferation/DPRK** (6 and 28 March) and the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** (27 March). The Council also held two private meetings on **Haiti** (6 and 18 March) and discussed the **25th anniversary of the NATO intervention in Yugoslavia, Nord Stream** and **working methods** under other matters (AOB).

In addition to the signature events, Council members also held meetings under thematic items on **Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, Cooperation with regional/subregional organizations** (European Union), **Peacebuilding and sustaining peace** and **Protection of civilians in armed conflict** (on food security risks in Sudan).

Procedural notes

On 11 and 14 March, the Council held the annual open debate on its **working methods** (see [S/PV.9571](#) and [S/PV.9571 \(Resumption 1\)](#)) under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President [S/2017/507](#)” ([S/2024/208](#)). The Council was briefed by the Permanent Representative of Japan in his capacity as **Chair of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions**.

On 22 March, a draft resolution submitted by the United States ([S/2024/239](#)) on the situation in the **Middle East, including the Palestinian question**, was not adopted owing to vetoes cast by China and the Russian Federation (see [S/PV.9584](#)). Pursuant to General Assembly resolution [76/262](#), on 26 March, the Council submitted a special report to the Assembly on the use of the veto in this instance ([A/78/832](#)).

On 25 March, an oral amendment proposed by the Russian Federation to a draft resolution ([S/2024/254](#)) on the situation in the **Middle East, including the Palestinian question** (subsequently adopted as resolution [2728 \(2024\)](#)) was not adopted having failed to obtain the required number of votes (see [S/PV.9586](#)).

On 25 and 28 March, the Council failed to adopt the provisional agenda under, respectively, **Threats to international peace and security** and **Maintenance of international peace and security** ([S/2024/664](#)) further to an objection raised by France which led to a procedural vote (see [S/PV.9592](#)). At the request of the Russian Federation, the Council also **held procedural votes and adopted the provisional agenda** at the outset of four other meetings from 26 to 28 March (see [S/PV.9588](#), [S/PV.9589](#), [S/PV.9590](#) and [S/PV.9591](#)).

On 28 March, the Council failed to adopt a draft resolution submitted by the United States ([S/2024/255](#)) on **Non-proliferation/Democratics’s Republic of Korea**, which would have extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts assisting the Committee established by resolution [1718 \(2006\)](#), due to a veto cast by the Russian Federation. Pursuant to General Assembly resolution [76/262](#), on 28 March, the Council submitted a special report to the Assembly on the use of the veto in this instance ([A/78/831](#)).

As of March, the Council completed its annual review of the summary statement by the Secretary-General of matters of which the Council is seized and deleted the item **The situation in Guinea-Bissau** from its agenda ([S/2024/10/Add.9](#)).

Decisions and press statements

On 4 March, the Council adopted a **presidential statement** ([S/PRST/2024/1](#)), requesting the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals to present a report on the progress of its work by 15 April 2024. In March 2024, the Council also adopted **five resolutions**, two of which were unanimous. In the resolution [2724 \(2024\)](#), which was adopted with 14 votes in favour and one abstention (Russian Federation), the Council called for an immediate cessation of hostilities in **Sudan** during the month of Ramadan. Resolution [2725 \(2024\)](#), which was adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter and with 13 votes in favour and two abstentions (China and the Russian Federation), extended the mandate of the **Panel of Experts on Sudan** established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) for one year and expressed its intention to review the **Sudan sanctions measures** no later than 12 September 2024. In resolution [2726 \(2024\)](#), acting under Chapter VII, the Council unanimously extended the mandate of the **United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)** until 30 April 2024. Resolution [2727 \(2024\)](#), extended the mandate of **United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)** for one year, until 17 March 2024. Finally, in resolution [2728 \(2024\)](#), which was adopted with 14 votes in favour and one abstention (United States), the Council demanded an immediate ceasefire for the month of Ramadan and the unconditional release of all hostages in the **Gaza Strip**.

The Council also issued **seven press statements** on: **Gaza** ([SC/15608](#)), **Haiti** ([SC/15620](#) and [SC/15636](#)), **Red Sea and Baab al-Mandab** ([SC/15631](#)) and **terrorist attacks in Afghanistan** ([SC/15639](#)), the **Russian Federation** ([SC/15640](#)) and **Pakistan** ([SC/15647](#)).

Other activities

In March, Council members held **two Arria-formula meetings: Tools for action: leveraging the synergies between the CEDAW and the Women, Peace and Security Framework** (12 March), organized by Switzerland, and on **The impact of unilateral coercive measures on global counter-terrorism efforts** (25 March), organized by the Russian Federation.

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