

## Middle East

### 20. The situation in the Middle East

During the period under review, the Council held 39 meetings in relation to the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”. Consistent with prior practice, most meetings held under the item took the form of briefings.<sup>787</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the tables below. Under the item, Council members considered a variety of topics, principally, the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, the conflict in Yemen, the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) and the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). In 2022, the Council also held three private (closed) meetings with countries contributing troops and police to UNDOF and UNIFIL.<sup>788</sup> In addition to the meetings, Council members held informal consultations of the whole to discuss the item.<sup>789</sup>

In 2022, the Council adopted a total of six resolutions in connection with the item. On 13 July, the Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) for one year, until 14 July 2023.<sup>790</sup> On 28 February, the Council renewed the sanctions measures in relation to the situation in Yemen until 28 February 2023 and extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Yemen for 13 months, until 28 March 2023.<sup>791</sup> The Council also renewed twice the mandate of UNDOF for periods of six months each,<sup>792</sup> and extended the mandate of UNIFIL for a period of 12 months, until 31 August 2023.<sup>793</sup>

During the period under review, the meetings in relation to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic continued to be focused on three main aspects: the implementation of the Syrian-led and Syrian-owned political process to end the conflict; the humanitarian situation in the country, including issues related to the protection of civilians, the worsening economic crisis and humanitarian access; and the proliferation and use of chemical weapons. Briefings concerning the political process and the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic were often given during the same meeting, whereas those on the proliferation and use of chemical weapons were given separately, in dedicated meetings.<sup>794</sup>

Regarding the political process, Council members heard regular monthly briefings by the Special Envoy and the Deputy Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria on the efforts to reach a political solution to the conflict.<sup>795</sup> In that connection, in 2022, the briefings and discussions continued to be focused on the progress of the Constitutional Committee in drafting a constitutional text and on the elements necessary for the implementation of resolution 2254 (2015), such as a lasting nationwide ceasefire, the issue of detainees, abductees and missing persons, engagement with civil society representatives and women’s groups, especially the Syrian Women’s Advisory Board, to ensure their meaningful participation in the political process, and step-by-step confidence-building. In March, the Special Envoy, giving a briefing to the Council on the fourth day of the seventh session of the small body of the Syrian Constitutional Committee, noted that there were significant differences between the parties.<sup>796</sup> Furthermore, the Special Envoy continued to call for a nationwide ceasefire and a focus on

<sup>787</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

<sup>788</sup> The private meetings were held on 9 June, 16 August and 7 December in connection with the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B”. For UNDOF, see [S/PV.9060](#) and [S/PV.9212](#); and for UNIFIL, see [S/PV.9111](#). See also [A/77/2](#), part II, chap. 21.

<sup>789</sup> See [A/77/2](#), part II, chap. 2.B.

<sup>790</sup> Resolution 2643 (2022), para. 1.

<sup>791</sup> Resolution 2624 (2022), paras. 4 and 15.

<sup>792</sup> Resolutions 2639 (2022) and 2671 (2022), para. 15.

<sup>793</sup> Resolution 2650 (2022), para. 1.

<sup>794</sup> For more information on the format of meetings in relation to the item, see *Repertoire, Supplements 2018 to 2021*, part II.

<sup>795</sup> See [S/PV.8955](#), [S/PV.8978](#), [S/PV.9003](#), [S/PV.9022](#), [S/PV.9083](#), [S/PV.9117](#), [S/PV.9130](#), [S/PV.9163](#), [S/PV.9204](#) and [S/PV.9230](#).

<sup>796</sup> See [S/PV.9003](#).

supporting the political process.<sup>797</sup> In August, he expressed concerns about troubling signs of a military escalation and mounting challenges in implementing resolution 2254 (2015).<sup>798</sup> He also reported on developments in and the status of the issue of detainees, abductees and missing persons.<sup>799</sup> In that regard, on 25 October, the Special Envoy stated that his team had continued to receive reports of arbitrary arrests throughout the country and that there had been nothing new to report six months after the presidential amnesty decree, despite the continued engagement of his team.<sup>800</sup> He urged all stakeholders to engage in step-by-step confidence-building measures to help to advance the implementation of resolution 2254 (2015), and reported that he was seeking to work with the parties and the Co-Chairs of the Constitutional Committee to unblock obstacles to reconvening the Committee and to ensure that there would be the political will to engage in a spirit of compromise and at a faster pace, with better working methods and more substance. At the end of 2022, the Special Envoy cautioned against an increase in mutual strikes and violence across northern Syrian Arab Republic and reiterated the call by the Secretary-General for all parties to exercise maximum restraint and avoid escalation. He called for all actors to engage in serious efforts to move towards a nationwide ceasefire and expressed concern regarding the fact that the Constitutional Committee had not met for six months, underlining the need for all parties to resume and make more substantive the meetings of the Committee in Geneva.<sup>801</sup> Noting that 2022 had seen no tangible progress in the political process, the Special Envoy appealed to all members to get behind the agenda, as the Syrian Arab Republic needed sustained international attention, starting with unity in the Council.<sup>802</sup>

In relation to the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, Council members heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, and the Director of the Operations and Advocacy Division of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.<sup>803</sup> The briefings were focused on the findings of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of relevant resolutions, including resolutions 2585 (2021) and 2642 (2022), by which the Council extended the authorization for cross-border humanitarian operations.<sup>804</sup> The briefers provided regular updates on the humanitarian conditions in different parts of the country, in particular Idlib in north-western Syrian Arab Republic and the Rukban and Hawl refugee camps. During the year, the briefers also reported on the effects of the continued economic crisis on access to basic services such as water, sanitation, health and education, and highlighted the need for funding for early recovery and resilience programmes. In addition, they reported to the Council on the status of the cross-border and cross-line humanitarian deliveries in northwestern Syrian Arab Republic and highlighted that cross-border assistance remained the central part of the humanitarian response.

Ahead of the expiration of the humanitarian aid delivery mechanism on 10 July,<sup>805</sup> at a meeting held on 20 June,<sup>806</sup> the Secretary-General noted that the United Nations cross-border operation in Syria was one of the most heavily scrutinized and monitored aid operations in the world, and emphasized the importance of maintaining and expanding access to aid, including through cross-line and cross-border operations, in order to save lives.

With respect to the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, Council members heard regular briefings by the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on progress in the implementation of resolution 2118 (2013) on the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme. Except during

<sup>797</sup> See S/PV.9083, S/PV.9117 and S/PV.9130.

<sup>798</sup> See S/PV.9117.

<sup>799</sup> See S/PV.9130.

<sup>800</sup> See S/PV.9163.

<sup>801</sup> See S/PV.9204 and S/PV.9230.

<sup>802</sup> See S/PV.9230.

<sup>803</sup> See S/PV.8957, S/PV.8978, S/PV.9003, S/PV.9022, S/PV.9038, S/PV.9068, S/PV.9117, S/PV.9130, S/PV.9163, S/PV.9204 and S/PV.9230.

<sup>804</sup> Resolutions 2585 (2021) and 2642 (2022), para. 2.

<sup>805</sup> See resolution 2585 (2021), para. 2.

<sup>806</sup> See S/PV.9068.

the months of May, June and August, the Council heard monthly briefings by the High Representative.<sup>807</sup> In her briefings, the High Representative reported on the activities of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and informed the Council about the work carried out by the Declaration Assessment Team, the fact-finding mission and the Investigation and Identification Team. The OPCW Technical Secretariat had been unable to conduct a planned deployment of the Declaration Assessment Team to the Syrian Arab Republic and maintained its assessment that the declaration submitted by the Syrian Arab Republic could not be considered accurate or complete.<sup>808</sup> In that regard, the High Representative reiterated the importance of resolving the remaining outstanding issues regarding the initial declaration of the Syrian Arab Republic. On 29 April, the High Representative noted that, while significant progress towards the elimination of chemical weapons had been achieved through the implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction over the past 25 years, those accomplishments had been challenged by the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, despite that country's accession to the Convention.<sup>809</sup> In that context, the High Representative noted that efforts to clarify the outstanding issues regarding the initial and subsequent declarations by the Syrian Arab Republic had not progressed, and that the Syrian Arab Republic continued to place conditions on the work of OPCW, violating its obligations under the Convention.<sup>810</sup> In the light of the continued gaps and inconsistencies and the failure of the Syrian Arab Republic to provide sufficient technical information, the High Representative called upon the Syrian Arab Republic to respond with urgency to the Technical Secretariat's requests.<sup>811</sup>

In 2022, in addition to the briefings by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Council heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, the Assistant Secretary-General of the League of Arab States and seven civil society representatives concerning the political and humanitarian situation in the country, specifically on the topics of detainees, abductees and missing persons, the participation of women in the political process, the growing humanitarian needs in the country, the voices of the Syrian people, including women, and the restoration of sovereignty in the Syrian Arab Republic.<sup>812</sup> On 27 January, the Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism reported on the attack by Da'esh on Sina'ah prison in Hasakah city in north-eastern Syrian Arab Republic and the ongoing fighting, which had affected the civilian population.<sup>813</sup> On 24 March, the Assistant Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, giving a briefing to the Council against the backdrop of the eleventh anniversary of the Syrian crisis, elaborated on the decision adopted by the Council of the League of Arab States on 9 March, which formed the basis for the Arab position on the humanitarian crisis in the country.<sup>814</sup> He highlighted the League's genuine concern about the consequences of the war in Ukraine on the Syrian crisis, and expressed the hope that the humanitarian aid mechanism would continue to function across borders to the Syrian Arab Republic and would be renewed in July, free from any politicization of the issue.

In connection with the conflict in Yemen, the Council continued to focus on three distinct areas, namely, the implementation of the nationwide truce and the need for a political process to find a solution to the conflict; the humanitarian situation in the country; and the sanctions measures in place against individuals and entities designated as engaging in or providing support for acts that threatened peace, security and stability in Yemen.

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<sup>807</sup> See S/PV.8943, S/PV.8982, S/PV.8990, S/PV.9026, S/PV.9097, S/PV.9141, S/PV.9164, S/PV.9184 and S/PV.9207.

<sup>808</sup> See S/PV.8943, S/PV.8982, S/PV.8990, S/PV.9026, S/PV.9097, S/PV.9141, S/PV.9164, S/PV.9184 and S/PV.9207.

<sup>809</sup> See S/PV.9026.

<sup>810</sup> See S/PV.9097 and S/PV.9141.

<sup>811</sup> See S/PV.9164, S/PV.9184 and S/PV.9207.

<sup>812</sup> See S/PV.8955, S/PV.8957, S/PV.8958, S/PV.9003, S/PV.9022, S/PV.9038, S/PV.9068, S/PV.9083 and S/PV.9130.

<sup>813</sup> See S/PV.8958.

<sup>814</sup> See S/PV.9003.

Regarding the political process, the Council heard regular briefings by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen.<sup>815</sup> The briefings were focused on updating the Council on the truce and its extensions, the status of the Agreement on the City of Hudaydah and the Ports of Hudaydah, Salif, and Ra's Isa towards an inclusive political settlement and the implementation of the Riyadh Agreement, including the outcomes of consultations between the parties. In January, the Special Envoy emphasized that the military escalation had accelerated as the parties had doubled down on military options.<sup>816</sup> He added that, seven years down the road of war, the prevailing belief of all warring sides seemed to be that inflicting sufficient harm on the other would force them into submission. He stressed that there was no sustainable long-term solution to be found on the battlefield and that the warring parties should talk, even if they were not ready to put down their arms. During the subsequent briefing, in February, the Special Envoy noted that the attacks on the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia indicated how the conflict in Yemen risked spiralling out of control unless serious efforts were urgently made by the Yemeni parties, the region and the international community to end the conflict.<sup>817</sup> He also reported on his continuous engagement with the parties on possible mutually agreeable compromises and said that he would continue working towards the establishment of a multitrack process that could produce durable solutions to the conflict, while seeking opportunities for de-escalation. In April, the Special Envoy announced that the parties had agreed to a United Nations initiative for a two-month nationwide, renewable truce, which was the first nationwide truce in six years.<sup>818</sup> He discussed obstacles faced in the implementation of the truce and outlined a way forward, including extending, consolidating and expanding the truce to reach a political settlement.<sup>819</sup> He reported a significant decline in civilian casualties, with the first week of August seeing the lowest civilian casualty count since the beginning of the war.<sup>820</sup> The Special Envoy welcomed the parties' restraint following the expiration of the truce on 2 October, noting that only sporadic exchanges of artillery and small arms fire had been witnessed in front-line areas in Ta'izz, Ma'rib, Hudaydah and Dali'.<sup>821</sup> He also emphasized the need for the parties to demonstrate the leadership, compromise and flexibility required to urgently reach an agreement on the renewal and expansion of the truce. In November, he noted that, despite incidents of concern and the expiration of the truce, there had not been a return to full-fledged war.<sup>822</sup> Nonetheless, attacks on civilian infrastructure continued, raising the risk of military and economic escalation and undermining current mediation efforts.

Regarding the humanitarian situation in Yemen, the Council heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, by the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, and by the Director or Acting Director of the Operations and Advocacy Division of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, often in conjunction with the Special Envoy.<sup>823</sup> The briefers focused on the devastating consequences of the conflict for civilians and civilian infrastructure, food insecurity and the declining economy, all of which had deepened the humanitarian crisis in the country. They also focused on the impact of the conflict in Ukraine given that one third of the wheat consumed in Yemen originated in the Russian Federation and Ukraine. The briefers emphasized the need to ensure safe and unimpeded humanitarian access and the safety and security of humanitarian workers, and for efforts to find a just, lasting end to the conflict. The representatives of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs reported on the work of the United Nations to find a pragmatic and workable solution to the grave danger posed by the *FSO Safer* tanker.<sup>824</sup>

The Council also heard briefings by two civil society representatives, who spoke about various aspects of the peace talks and the humanitarian situation in the country and made specific proposals to the Council aimed at ensuring the participation of women, young people and civil society and ameliorating the humanitarian crisis.<sup>825</sup>

<sup>815</sup> See S/PV.8946, S/PV.8966, S/PV.8995, S/PV.9017, S/PV.9063, S/PV.9110, S/PV.9152 and S/PV.9199.

<sup>816</sup> See S/PV.8946.

<sup>817</sup> See S/PV.8966.

<sup>818</sup> See S/PV.9017.

<sup>819</sup> See S/PV.9063.

<sup>820</sup> See S/PV.9110.

<sup>821</sup> See S/PV.9152.

<sup>822</sup> See S/PV.9199.

<sup>823</sup> See S/PV.8946, S/PV.8966, S/PV.8995, S/PV.9017, S/PV.9063, S/PV.9088, S/PV.9110, S/PV.9152 and S/PV.9199.

<sup>824</sup> See S/PV.8946 and S/PV.9063.

<sup>825</sup> Ibid.

Council members also heard a briefing by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2140 (2014) in connection with the activities of the Committee and the Panel of Experts.<sup>826</sup>

In its decisions in 2022, the Council also addressed the issues outlined above concerning the conflicts in the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen and the mandates of UNDOF and UNIFIL.

In connection with the Syrian Arab Republic and against the backdrop of the expiration of the authorization for the cross-border operations mechanism, which had been last renewed on 9 July 2021 by resolution 2585 (2021), the Council held a meeting to consider two competing draft resolutions,<sup>827</sup> one submitted by Ireland and Norway and one submitted by the Russian Federation. At the meeting, held on 8 July, the Council failed to adopt either draft resolution.<sup>828</sup> The draft resolution submitted by Ireland and Norway, which was voted on first was not adopted due to the negative vote of a permanent member, the Russian Federation, while the draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation was not adopted owing to the failure to obtain the required number of votes.<sup>829</sup> Four days later, on 12 July, a new draft resolution submitted by Ireland and Norway was adopted as resolution 2642 (2022), with France, the United Kingdom and the United States abstaining from the voting.<sup>830</sup> By that resolution, the Council extended the authorizations of paragraphs 2 and 3 of Council resolution 2165 (2014) for a period of six months, until 10 January 2023, but only for the border crossing at Bab al-Hawa.<sup>831</sup> The Council also provided for an additional extension of six months, until 10 July 2023, subject to a separate resolution confirming the extension, and requested the Secretary-General to provide a special report on humanitarian needs in the Syrian Arab Republic no later than 10 December 2022.<sup>832</sup> By the same resolution, the Council encouraged the convening of an informal interactive dialogue every two months, with the participation of donors, interested regional parties and representatives of the international humanitarian agencies operating in the Syrian Arab Republic, in order to regularly review and follow up on the implementation of the resolution, including progress in early recovery projects.<sup>833</sup>

Prior to the adoption of resolution 2642 (2022), the representative of Ireland, speaking also on behalf Norway, its co-penholder, noted that the draft resolution represented a delicate balance between the different positions of the members of the Council and that the primary focus of the Council was to keep the cross-border mechanism open and operating.<sup>834</sup> Speaking on behalf of the 10 elected members of the Council, the representative of Kenya stated that, while those members supported a 12-month renewal, as that would give humanitarian organizations more certainty in their operations, their fundamental interest was for the Council to meet the grave needs of the Syrian people, and they therefore supported the draft resolution. After the adoption of the resolution, most of the Council members took the floor. Having abstained from the voting, the representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States said that the resolution fell short of providing the operational certainty for the provision of humanitarian aid, in particular during the winter, and did not heed the call by the Secretary-General and the humanitarian community to renew the mechanism for 12 months. Nonetheless, they reiterated their commitment to working with partners to ensure that the Council met the needs of the people at the time of the renewal. Having voted in favour of the resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation explained that the informal interactive dialogues offered opportunities to monitor progress in implementing the resolution so as to decide on the ultimate fate of the cross-border mechanism. The representative of India reiterated his country's call for enhanced and effective humanitarian assistance without discrimination, politicization or preconditions and noted that cross-border operations could not exist in perpetuity.

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<sup>826</sup> See S/PV.8966. For more information on the Committee and the Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I.B, and for more information on the sanctions in Yemen, see part VII, sect. III.

<sup>827</sup> S/2022/538 and S/2022/541.

<sup>828</sup> See S/PV.9087.

<sup>829</sup> Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 76/262 of 26 April 2022, the Council submitted a special report to the Assembly on the use of the veto at the meeting (see A/76/905). For more information, see part IV, sect. I.F.

<sup>830</sup> See S/PV.9089.

<sup>831</sup> Resolution 2642 (2022), para. 2.

<sup>832</sup> Ibid.

<sup>833</sup> Ibid., para. 6. In 2022, informal interactive dialogues were held pursuant to the resolution on 26 September, 21 November and 16 December (see A/77/2).

<sup>834</sup> See S/PV.9089.

With regard to the conflict in Yemen, on 13 July, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2643 \(2022\)](#) concerning UNMHA. The Council extended the mandate of the Mission for a period of 12 months, until 14 July 2023.<sup>835</sup> The representative of Ireland stated that, despite having voted in favour of the resolution, his country wished to put on record its view that Council resolutions should remain grounded in evidence-based reporting that was available to all Council members.<sup>836</sup> He said that the language in the resolution “expresses concern at accounts of the military use” of the ports of Hudaydah, Salif and Ra’s Isa was based on assessments to which not all Council members had access and therefore strayed from the usual precedent and practice at the Council. His country would have preferred for the text to remain fully aligned with that of the original Hudaydah Agreement, on which the Mission’s capacity was based and its focus remained.

Regarding the sanctions measures imposed in connection with the conflict in Yemen, on 28 February, the Council adopted resolution [2624 \(2022\)](#) under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, with Brazil, Ireland, Mexico and Norway abstaining from the voting. By that resolution, the Council renewed the sanctions measures in place until 28 February 2023 and extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Yemen, for 13 months, until 28 March 2023.<sup>837</sup> In explanation of their votes, the representatives of Albania, China, India and the United Arab Emirates welcomed the renewal of the sanctions and condemned Ansar Allah for its attacks on the United Arab Emirates and Saudi Arabia.<sup>838</sup> Having abstained from the voting, the representatives of Brazil, Ireland, Mexico and Norway stressed that, while they condemned the actions of the Ansar Allah leadership and welcomed the implementation of the arms embargo, impediments to humanitarian aid reaching people in need must be avoided, and expressed the concern that designation might result in unintended negative humanitarian and political consequences. Noting that there were no internationally agreed definitions of the terms “terrorism” and “terrorist group”, they expressed concern about the fact that the use of those terms in a Council resolution concerning sanctions on Yemen might have unintended negative consequences for the Yemeni people living under Ansar Allah control. The representative of Kenya stated that sanctions would be necessary to impede the capacity of Ansar Allah to carry out indiscriminate attacks and to signal that no political legitimacy could be achieved while carrying out such acts. The representative of Mexico expressed concern about the implications of the designation for the United Nations-facilitated political process and for the efforts to resolve the critical situation regarding the *FSO Safer* tanker and noted that Mexico did not consider it appropriate that the mechanism for the designation of terrorist groups should pass through resolutions relating to sanctions regimes. The representatives of Ghana and the Russian Federation stated that the sanctions regime should not have the effect of exacerbating the critical humanitarian situation.

In 2022, the mandate of UNDOF was renewed by resolution [2639 \(2022\)](#) and resolution [2671 \(2022\)](#) for periods of six months each, until 31 December 2022 and 30 June 2023, respectively.<sup>839</sup> Both resolutions were adopted unanimously.

In connection with Lebanon, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2650 \(2022\)](#), by which it extended the mandate of UNIFIL for one year, until 31 August 2023.<sup>840</sup>

For the purposes of facilitating the coverage of this item, information on the meetings is set out in the tables below, under four headings, namely: (a) Syrian Arab Republic; (b) Yemen; (c) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force; and (d) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

<sup>835</sup> Resolution [2643 \(2022\)](#), para. 1. For more information on the mandate of UNMHA, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>836</sup> See [S/PV.9091](#).

<sup>837</sup> Resolution [2624 \(2022\)](#), paras. 4 and 15. For more information on the sanctions measures, see part VII, sect. III, and for more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2140 \(2014\)](#) and the Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I.B.

<sup>838</sup> See [S/PV.8981](#).

<sup>839</sup> Resolutions [2639 \(2022\)](#) and [2671 \(2022\)](#), para. 15. For more information on the mandate of UNDOF, see part X, sect. I.

<sup>840</sup> Resolution [2650 \(2022\)](#), para. 1. For more information on the mandate of UNIFIL, see part X, sect. I.

Table 1  
Meetings: the situation in the Middle East – Syrian Arab Republic, 2022

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8943</a> 5 January	Letter dated 28 December 2021 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2021/1103</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8955</a> 26 January			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Director of the Release Me project in northern Syrian Arab Republic	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8957</a> 27 January			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Secretary-General of the Norwegian Refugee Council	14 Council members, <sup>a</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8958</a> 27 January			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Under-Secretary-General of the Office of Counter-Terrorism	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8978</a> 25 February	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> , <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> , <a href="#">2449 (2018)</a> ,		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	13 Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees	

Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, 2022

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
						2504 (2020), 2533 (2020) and 2585 (2021) (S/2022/135)
S/PV.8982 28 February	Letter dated 31 January 2022 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/76)		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.8990 10 March	Letter dated 4 March 2022 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/181)		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.9003 24 March			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Assistant Secretary-General of the League of Arab States	13 Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.9022 26 April	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018), 2449 (2018), 2504 (2020), 2533 (2020) and 2585 (2021) (S/2022/330)		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa of CARE International	12 Council members, <sup>d</sup> all invitees	



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

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.9026</a> 29 April	Letter dated 30 March 2022 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2022/281</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	12 Council members, <sup>e</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9038</a> 20 May			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, obstetrician gynaecologist from the Syrian American Medical Society	12 Council members, <sup>f</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9068</a> 20 June	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> , <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> , <a href="#">2449 (2018)</a> , <a href="#">2504 (2020)</a> , <a href="#">2533 (2020)</a> and <a href="#">2585 (2021)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2022/492</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Coordinator of North west Syria NGO Forum (Gaziantep, Türkiye)	Secretary-General, 12 Council members, <sup>g</sup> all invitees <sup>h</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.9083</a> 29 June			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, representative of the Syrian Emergency Task Force	13 Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9087</a> 8 July		Draft resolution submitted by Ireland, Norway ( <a href="#">S/2022/538</a> )	Syrian Arab Republic		13 Council members, <sup>i</sup> invitee	<a href="#">S/2022/538</a> not adopted 13-1-1 <sup>j</sup>

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<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
		Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation (S/2022/541)				S/2022/541 not adopted 2-3-10 <sup>k</sup>
S/PV.9089 12 July		Draft resolution submitted by Ireland, Norway (S/2022/546)	Syrian Arab Republic		11 Council members, <sup>l</sup> invitee	Resolution 2642 (2022) 12-0-3 <sup>m</sup>
S/PV.9097 20 July	Letter dated 30 June 2022 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/530)		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.9117 29 August	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018), 2449 (2018), 2504 (2020), 2533 (2020), 2585 (2021) and 2642 (2022) (S/2022/635)		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>n</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.9130 14 September			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Deputy Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Director of the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression	13 Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees <sup>o</sup>	

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<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.9141</a> 29 September	Letter dated 30 August 2022 from the Secretary- General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2022/658</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9163</a> 25 October	Report of the Secretary- General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> , <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> , <a href="#">2449 (2018)</a> , <a href="#">2504 (2020)</a> , <a href="#">2533 (2020)</a> , <a href="#">2585 (2021)</a> and <a href="#">2642 (2022)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2022/775</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Director for Operations and Advocacy of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>n</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9164</a> 25 October	Letter dated 30 September 2022 from the Secretary- General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2022/727</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>n</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9184</a> 7 November	Letter dated 2 November 2022 from the Secretary- General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2022/828</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	

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<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.9204</a> 29 November			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9207</a> 5 December	Letter dated 30 November 2022 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2022/897</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9230</a> 21 December	Report of the Secretary-General on humanitarian needs in the Syrian Arab Republic ( <a href="#">S/2022/933</a> )  Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions <a href="#">2139 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2165 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2191 (2014)</a> , <a href="#">2258 (2015)</a> , <a href="#">2332 (2016)</a> , <a href="#">2393 (2017)</a> , <a href="#">2401 (2018)</a> , <a href="#">2449 (2018)</a> , <a href="#">2504 (2020)</a> , <a href="#">2533 (2020)</a> , <a href="#">2585 (2021)</a> and <a href="#">2642 (2022)</a> ( <a href="#">S/2022/956</a> )		Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>d</sup> all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, France, Gabon, Ghana, India, Kenya, Mexico, Norway (also on behalf of Ireland, its co-penholder on the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic), Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>b</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, France, India, Ireland, Kenya (also on behalf of Gabon and Ghana), Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>c</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, France, Ghana (also on behalf of Gabon and Kenya), India, Ireland, Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>d</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, France, Gabon (also on behalf of Ghana and Kenya), India, Ireland (also on behalf of its co-penholder, Norway), Mexico, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.

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- <sup>e</sup> Albania, China, France, Ghana (also on behalf of Gabon and Kenya), India, Ireland, Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.
- <sup>f</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, France, Ghana (also on behalf of Gabon and Kenya), India, Mexico, Norway (also on behalf of its co-penholder, Ireland), Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.
- <sup>g</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, France, Ghana (also on behalf of Gabon and Kenya), India, Ireland (also on behalf of its co-penholder, Norway), Mexico, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.
- <sup>h</sup> The Coordinator of the Northwest Syria NGO Forum participated in the meeting by videoconference.
- <sup>i</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, France, Ghana, Ireland, Kenya (on behalf of the 10 elected members of the Council), Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.
- <sup>j</sup> *For*: Albania, Brazil, France, Gabon, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States; *against*: Russian Federation; *abstaining*: China.
- <sup>k</sup> *For*: China, Russian Federation; *against*: France, United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining*: Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, United Arab Emirates.
- <sup>l</sup> Albania, China, France, India, Ireland, Kenya (on behalf of the 10 elected members of the Council), Norway, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.
- <sup>m</sup> *For*: Albania, Brazil, China, Gabon, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates; *against*: none; *abstaining*: France, United Kingdom, United States.
- <sup>n</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, France, Gabon (also on behalf of Ghana and Kenya), India, Ireland, Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.
- <sup>o</sup> The Director of the Syrian Center for Media and Freedom of Expression participated in the meeting by videoconference.

**Table 2**  
**Meetings: the situation in the Middle East – Yemen, 2022**

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.8946 12 January			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen, Acting Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, co-founder and Chief Executive Officer of the Sheba Youth Foundation for Development	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.8966 15 February	Letter dated 25 January 2022 from the Panel of Experts on Yemen addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/50)		Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees	

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<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8981</a> 28 February	Letter dated 25 January 2022 from the Panel of Experts on Yemen addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/50)	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2022/158)			11 Council members <sup>a</sup>	Resolution <a href="#">2624 (2022)</a> 11-0-4 <sup>b</sup> (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8995</a> 15 March			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9017</a> 14 April			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9063</a> 14 June			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Acting Director of the Operations and Advocacy Division of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Protection and Advocacy Officer from Peace Track Initiative	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.9088</a> 11 July			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, all invitees <sup>c</sup>	

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<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.9091 13 July	Letter dated 13 June 2022 from the Secretary- General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/484)	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2022/549)				Resolution 2643 (2022) 15-0-0
S/PV.9110 15 August			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Acting Director of the Operations and Advocacy Division	All Council members, all invitees <sup>c</sup>	
S/PV.9152 13 October			Saudi Arabia, Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Assistant Secretary- General for Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
S/PV.9199 22 November			Saudi Arabia, Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Director of the Operations and Advocacy Division	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> Albania, Brazil, China, Ghana, India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation and United Arab Emirates.

<sup>b</sup> For: Albania, China, France, Gabon, Ghana, India, Kenya, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States; against: none; abstaining: Brazil, Ireland, Mexico, Norway.

<sup>c</sup> The Special Envoy participated in the meeting by videoconference.

<sup>d</sup> The Special Envoy and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs participated in the meeting by videoconference.

Table 3  
Meetings: the situation in the Middle East – United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, 2022

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.9076</a> 27 June	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) ( <a href="#">S/2022/447</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation, United States ( <a href="#">S/2022/512</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2639 (2022)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.9234</a> 22 December	Report of the Secretary-General on UNDOF ( <a href="#">S/2022/887</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation, United States ( <a href="#">S/2022/986</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2671 (2022)</a> 15-0-0

Table 4  
Meeting: the situation in the Middle East – United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, 2022

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.9121</a> 31 August	Letter dated 9 August 2022 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2022/607</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2022/654</a> )			Four Council members (Brazil, India, United Arab Emirates, United States)	Resolution <a href="#">2650 (2022)</a> 15-0-0

## 21. The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

During the period under review, the Council held 13 meetings in connection with the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”. No decisions were adopted by the Council during the period under review. In 2022, during the meetings held under the item, the Council continued its practice of holding monthly briefings and quarterly open debates.<sup>841</sup> In addition to the regular meetings under the item, the Council held a previously unscheduled meeting on 8 August following the ceasefire agreed between Israel and Palestinian Islamic Jihad on 7 August.<sup>842</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants and speakers, is given in the table below. In addition to the meetings, Council members held informal consultations of the whole.<sup>843</sup> Under the item, the Council also considered developments in Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen and the overall situation in the Middle East region.<sup>844</sup>

<sup>841</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

<sup>842</sup> See [S/PV.9107](#).

<sup>843</sup> See [A/77/2](#), part II, chap. 2.A.

<sup>844</sup> See also sect. 20 above.