

(Footnotes to Meetings: the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question)

- ^a Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Benin, Brazil, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Egypt (on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)), Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC)), Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Malaysia, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^b Australia, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Ecuador, Egypt (on behalf of NAM), Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan (on behalf of OIC), Lebanon, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates (on behalf of the Group of Arab States) and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^c Australia, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Egypt (on behalf of NAM), Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan (on behalf of OIC), Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Sri Lanka, Sudan, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^d Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Ecuador, Egypt (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of, on behalf of NAM), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan (on behalf of OIC), Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.
- ^e Bangladesh, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Cuba, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Djibouti (on behalf of OIC), Egypt, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iraq (on behalf of the Group of Arab States), Iran (Islamic Republic of, on behalf of NAM), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Namibia, Nigeria, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^f Bahrain, Botswana, Brazil, Cuba, Djibouti (on behalf of OIC), Ecuador, Egypt, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of, on behalf of NAM), Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Nicaragua, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^g Bangladesh, Brazil, Costa Rica, Cuba, Djibouti (on behalf of OIC), Ecuador, Egypt, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of, on behalf of NAM), Israel, Japan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Peru, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).
- ^h Bangladesh, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Cuba, Djibouti (on behalf of OIC), Ecuador, Egypt, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of, on behalf of NAM), Israel, Japan, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, Malaysia, Namibia, Nicaragua, Norway, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

23. The situation in the Middle East

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held thirty-nine meetings, including nine private, or closed, meetings,⁷⁷⁶ in connection with the

item entitled "The situation in the Middle East", adopting 11 resolutions and seven presidential statements. During the meetings, the Council considered: (a) the Syrian Arab Republic; (b) Yemen; (c) the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF); (d) the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL); and (e) peace and security in the Middle East.

⁷⁷⁶ See [S/PV.6957](#), in relation to the situation in the Middle East. For private meetings with troop- and police-contributing countries: in relation to UNDOF, see [S/PV.6787](#), [S/PV.6883](#), [S/PV.6978](#) and [S/PV.7079](#); in relation to UNIFIL, see [S/PV.6823](#) and [S/PV.7018](#); and in relation to UNSMIS, see [S/PV.6803](#) and [S/PV.6821](#).

The Council renewed the mandate of UNDOF⁷⁷⁷ four times for a period of six months each time⁷⁷⁸ and renewed the mandate of UNIFIL⁷⁷⁹ twice for a period of one year each time.⁷⁸⁰ In April 2012, the Council also established, for an initial period of 90 days, the United Nations Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic (UNSMIS),⁷⁸¹ and renewed its mandate once for a final period of 30 days.⁷⁸² In addition, on 27 January 2013, the Council conducted a mission to Yemen to reaffirm the continued support of the Council for the ongoing political transition process in the country.⁷⁸³

High-level meeting on peace and security in the Middle East

On 26 September 2012, the Council held a high-level meeting on peace and security in the Middle East. The Secretary-General stated that the peace process between Israelis and Palestinians remained stalemated, as the window for a two-State solution narrowed dangerously. In respect of the Syrian Arab Republic, he indicated that the conflict had become a threat to regional and international peace and security, and appealed to all with influence to persuade the parties that there was no military solution to the crisis. The Secretary-General highlighted the joint role of the United Nations and the League of Arab States in the region, and pointed out areas that merited special attention, including the exchange of information and conflict prevention.⁷⁸⁴

The Secretary-General of the League of Arab States noted that Security Council resolutions on ending Israeli occupation of occupied Arab lands had not been implemented. Regarding the Syrian Arab Republic, he expressed regret that the Council had failed to achieve its objectives to resolve the crisis

because of a disagreement among its permanent members and said that the resolutions had remained “dead letters”. In regard to Yemen, he stated that efforts must be intensified to support the Government in overcoming the consequences of the political crisis in order to move forward towards the reconstruction and rebuilding of the State. He enumerated four proposals for cooperation between the League and the United Nations: (a) an update to the agreement on cooperation signed in 1989; (b) regular meetings between the two bodies; (c) enhancement of the status of cooperation meetings; and (d) attachment of greater importance to cooperation between the two organizations relating to humanitarian assistance.⁷⁸⁵

Council members welcomed the cooperation between the two bodies and the appointment of the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States for Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi. Council members reiterated their concern over the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic and their call for a political solution. Many Council members also highlighted the need to work towards tangible results in the Middle East peace process.

In the presidential statement adopted at the meeting, the Council, *inter alia*, recognized and further encouraged efforts by the League of Arab States to contribute to collective endeavours to settle conflicts in the Middle East peacefully as well as to promote international responses to the transformations experienced in the region, while reaffirming its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of countries in the region and to the purposes and principles of the Charter. In the same statement, the Council expressed its determination to take effective steps to further enhance cooperation between the United Nations and the League, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter.⁷⁸⁶

Renewal of the mandate of UNDOF

From June 2012 to December 2013, the Council adopted four resolutions by which it renewed the mandate of UNDOF, for a period of six months each time.⁷⁸⁷ The Council, in resolution 2084 (2012) of 19 December 2012, called upon all parties to cooperate

⁷⁷⁷ For more information on UNDOF, see part X, sect. I, “Peacekeeping operations”.

⁷⁷⁸ Resolutions 2052 (2012), 2084 (2012), 2108 (2013) and 2131 (2013).

⁷⁷⁹ For more information on UNIFIL, see part X, sect. I, “Peacekeeping operations”.

⁷⁸⁰ Resolutions 2064 (2012) and 2115 (2013).

⁷⁸¹ For more information on UNSMIS, see part X, sect. I, “Peacekeeping operations”.

⁷⁸² Resolution 2059 (2012).

⁷⁸³ For more information on the Security Council mission to Yemen, see part I, sect. 34, “Security Council mission”, and part VI, sect. II.A, “Security Council missions”.

⁷⁸⁴ S/PV.6841, pp. 3-4.

⁷⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-6.

⁷⁸⁶ S/PRST/2012/20.

⁷⁸⁷ Resolutions 2052 (2012), para. 6; 2084 (2012), para. 5; 2108 (2013), para. 7; and 2131 (2013), para. 6.

fully with the operations of UNDOF, to respect its privileges and immunities and to ensure its freedom of movement; stressed the need to enhance the safety and security of UNDOF personnel; and underscored that there should be no military activity of any kind in the area of separation, including military operations by the Syrian Arab Armed Forces. In resolution [2108 \(2013\)](#) of 27 June 2013, the Council strongly condemned the incidents threatening the safety and security of United Nations personnel in recent months, including the detention of UNDOF peacekeepers by armed elements of the Syrian opposition, and of United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) observers by a group of anti-government armed elements between March and May 2013; urged Member States to convey strongly to the Syrian armed opposition groups in the UNDOF area of operation to halt all activities that endangered United Nations peacekeepers on the ground and accord the United Nations personnel on the ground the freedom to carry out their mandate safely and securely; stressed the need to enhance the safety and security of the personnel of UNDOF; and endorsed the recommendation of the Secretary-General to implement additional mitigation measures to enhance the self-defence capabilities of the Force.

Renewal of the mandate of UNIFIL

By resolutions [2064 \(2012\)](#) of 30 August 2012 and [2115 \(2013\)](#) of 29 August 2013, the Council renewed the mandate of UNIFIL for a period of one year each time. In resolution [2064 \(2012\)](#), the Council also condemned in the strongest terms all terrorist attacks against UNIFIL, urged all parties to abide scrupulously by their obligation to respect the safety of the Force and other United Nations personnel, and welcomed the commitment of the Lebanese authorities to bring to justice the perpetrators of the attacks of 27 May, 26 July and 9 December 2011 and to protect the movements of UNIFIL.

In addition, in its presidential statement of 10 July 2013, as the impact of the Syrian crisis on the stability and security of Lebanon became more and more apparent, the Council underscored its growing concern at the marked increase of cross-border fire from the Syrian Arab Republic into Lebanon, which had caused death and injury among the Lebanese population, as well as incursions, abductions and arms trafficking across the Lebanese-Syrian border. The Council further noted with deep concern new

developments with regard to the involvement of Lebanese parties in the fighting in the Syrian Arab Republic. It called upon all Lebanese parties to recommit to Lebanon's policy of disassociation and to step back from any involvement in the Syrian crisis, consistent with their commitment in the Baabda Declaration of 11 June 2012. The Council echoed President Michel Sleiman's call upon the parties in the Syrian Arab Republic to avoid military action near the Lebanese border.⁷⁸⁸

Syrian Arab Republic

On 31 January 2012, the representative of Qatar, speaking in his capacity as the Chairman of the Arab Ministerial Committee on Syria of the Council of Ministers of the League of Arab States, requested that the Council adopt a resolution in support of the latest Arab initiative on an integrated plan for a peaceful settlement of the Syrian crisis,⁷⁸⁹ agreed in Cairo on 22 January 2012, which constituted a road map consistent with the Charter and provided for the formation of a national unity Government, among other measures. He called upon the Council to address the humanitarian tragedy unfolding in the Syrian Arab Republic and to take all measures based on the League's resolutions, specifically economic resolutions and bans on travel to the Syrian Arab Republic, and emphasized that the League was not calling for military intervention since a regime change was a matter the Syrian people should decide.⁷⁹⁰

The Secretary-General of the League of Arab States expressed the view that the first priority for the Security Council was to adopt a resolution demanding all parties to immediately cease firing, protect Syrians and support the Arab plan of action for a peaceful political settlement of the crisis. He cited Article 52 (3) of the Charter and noted that the League had come to the Council in the very context of that Article. He stressed that the League's objective was for the Council to support its initiative, not take its place. He explained the two pillars of the League's approach to the Syrian crisis: immediate action for an immediate cessation of violence against and killing of the Syrian

⁷⁸⁸ [S/PRST/2013/9](#).

⁷⁸⁹ [S/2012/71](#), annex, enclosure 1.

⁷⁹⁰ [S/PV.6710](#), pp. 2-6.

people; and a road map leading to a peaceful political settlement through an inclusive national dialogue.⁷⁹¹

The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that his country rejected any decision outside the agreed Arab plan of action and protocol signed with the League of Arab States and considered the latest resolution adopted by the Council of the League as a violation of its national sovereignty.⁷⁹²

Most members of the Council expressed their support for the efforts of the League of Arab States and for its call for an inclusive, Syrian-led political process. The representative of France added that the Council was the body with the legitimacy conferred on it by the Charter to express authoritatively the will of the international community, and noted that the draft resolution introduced by Morocco supported the League's proposal.⁷⁹³ Several Council members called on the Council to adopt the draft resolution submitted by Morocco in support of the Arab initiative.⁷⁹⁴ The representative of the Russian Federation, however, criticized the League's decision to suspend the membership of the Syrian Arab Republic and to impose sanctions on that country as counterproductive. He, as well as the representative of China, rejected the use of sanctions and any attempts to employ the Council's instruments to fuel conflict or to justify any eventual foreign military interference in Council decisions. He stated that a consensus position among Council members on the Syrian Arab Republic was not only possible but necessary,⁷⁹⁵ and referred to two draft resolutions submitted by Morocco and the Russian Federation, respectively.⁷⁹⁶ The representatives of Pakistan and Azerbaijan stressed that only measures within the framework of Chapter VI of the Charter should be considered.⁷⁹⁷

On 4 February 2012, the Council had before it a draft resolution,⁷⁹⁸ by which it would have demanded, *inter alia*, that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, in accordance with the Action Plan of the

League of Arab States of 2 November 2011, including its decision of 22 January 2012, cease all violence and protect its population and withdraw all Syrian military and armed forces from cities and towns; fully supported the League's 22 January 2012 decision to facilitate a Syrian-led political transition to a democratic, plural political system; and decided to review implementation of the resolution within 21 days and, in the event of non-compliance, to consider further measures. The draft resolution was not adopted owing to the negative votes of two permanent members of the Council.⁷⁹⁹

Most Council members regretted that the Council did not reach consensus on the draft resolution in support of the efforts by the League of Arab States to facilitate a Syrian-led political transition,⁸⁰⁰ with some emphasizing the fact that the draft did not impose targeted sanctions or authorize a military intervention.⁸⁰¹ The representative of the Russian Federation stated, however, that the draft resolution did not adequately reflect the true state of affairs in the Syrian Arab Republic and sent a biased signal to the Syrian sides. He further regretted that the draft resolution had not taken into account the amendments proposed by his delegation, including the requirement that the Syrian opposition distance itself from extremist groups; that, along with the withdrawal of the Syrian armed forces from the cities, armed groups end their attacks on State institutions and neighbourhoods; and that more flexibility should be shown for the intermediary efforts of the League.⁸⁰² The representative of China supported the amendments proposed by the Russian Federation and added that to put the draft through a vote when parties were still seriously divided over the issue did not help in maintaining the unity and authority of the Council nor help to properly resolve the issue.⁸⁰³ The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic, expressing concern over the rush by some parties to invite international intervention, stated that his country had

⁷⁹¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 6-9.

⁷⁹² *Ibid.*, p. 12.

⁷⁹³ *Ibid.*, p. 15.

⁷⁹⁴ *S/PV.6710*, p. 14 (France); p. 16 (United Kingdom); p. 20 (Portugal); p. 21 (Morocco); p. 22 (Germany); and p. 29 (Colombia).

⁷⁹⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 24-25 (Russian Federation); and p. 25 (China).

⁷⁹⁶ Not circulated as documents of the Security Council.

⁷⁹⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 23 (Pakistan); and p. 26 (Azerbaijan).

⁷⁹⁸ *S/2012/77*.

⁷⁹⁹ Russian Federation and China.

⁸⁰⁰ *S/PV.6711*, pp. 2-3 (Morocco); p. 3 (France); p. 5 (Germany); p. 5 (United States); p. 6 (Portugal); p. 7 (United Kingdom); p. 7 (Colombia); p. 8 (Guatemala); p. 8 (India); p. 11 (South Africa); and p. 11 (Azerbaijan).

⁸⁰¹ *Ibid.*, p. 4 (France); p. 5 (Germany); p. 7 (United Kingdom); and p. 8 (India).

⁸⁰² *Ibid.*, p. 9.

⁸⁰³ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

been targeted for punishment by some Powers because of its commitment to international legal norms, and said that Syria was being sacrificed by parties that did not want the best for Syria and its people, which was evident from their support for armed terrorist groups. He stated that certain Arab Gulf States had dragged the League to the Council with a view to leveraging the Council's power against Syria and to internationalizing a purely Arab issue, contrary to the Charter of the League and affirmed that his Government was in favour of a dialogue, as emphasized in the draft resolution.⁸⁰⁴

At a high-level meeting on 12 March 2012, the Secretary-General informed the Council that the Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and League of Arab States on the Syrian Crisis had put concrete proposals to President Bashar Al-Assad and urged the President take immediate steps to bring an end to violence and abuses, address the humanitarian crisis and embark on a peaceful, inclusive, Syrian-led political process, with facilitation by the Joint Special Envoy. Speaking broadly about the region, he stressed that leaders must choose the path of meaningful reform, or make way for those who would; that the rights of minorities must be protected; that women had a right to sit at the table, with real influence in decision-making; that opportunities for young people must be created; and that there must be regional peace, which could not be complete without a resolution of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.⁸⁰⁵

While discussions ranged from developments in the region over the previous year related to the Arab Spring to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, the debate focused mainly on the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic. Most Council members expressed support for the work of the Joint Special Envoy.

In a presidential statement of 21 March 2012, the Council expressed its gravest concern at the deteriorating situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, fully supported the initial six-point proposal submitted to the Syrian authorities, and called upon the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Syrian opposition to work in good faith with the Joint Special Envoy towards a peaceful settlement of the

Syrian crisis and to implement fully and immediately his initial six-point proposal.⁸⁰⁶

On 5 April 2012, the Council adopted a statement by the President in which it noted that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic had committed on 25 March 2012 to implement the Joint Special Envoy's six-point proposal, called upon the Government to implement urgently and visibly its commitments to: (a) cease troop movements towards population centres; (b) cease all use of heavy weapons in such centres; and (c) begin pullback of military concentrations in and around population centres, and to fulfil these in their entirety by no later than 10 April 2012. In the same statement, the Council called upon all parties, including the opposition, to cease armed violence in all its forms within 48 hours of the implementation in their entirety by the Government of the above-mentioned measures.⁸⁰⁷

On 14 April 2012, the Council adopted resolution 2042 (2012), in which it, inter alia, called upon all parties in the Syrian Arab Republic, including the opposition, to immediately cease armed violence in all its forms, expressed its intention to establish a United Nations supervision mission in the Syrian Arab Republic to monitor a cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties and relevant aspects of the Joint Special Envoy's six-point proposal, and decided to authorize an advance team of up to 30 unarmed military observers to liaise with the parties and to begin to report on the implementation of a full cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties.

Following the adoption of the resolution, several Council members called upon the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to ensure that the advance team could implement its mandate.⁸⁰⁸ Some Council members also stressed the need for the advance team to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic in conducting its work.⁸⁰⁹ The representative of the Russian Federation noted that the initial draft resolution had undergone substantive changes to make it more balanced in terms of

⁸⁰⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 12-14.

⁸⁰⁵ [S/PV.6734](#), pp. 2-3.

⁸⁰⁶ [S/PRST/2012/6](#).

⁸⁰⁷ [S/PRST/2012/10](#).

⁸⁰⁸ [S/PV.6751](#), p. 3 (Germany); p. 6 (France); p. 8 (Portugal); and p. 10 (United States).

⁸⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 4 (China); p. 7 (India); and p. 8 (Azerbaijan).

addressing requirements for both the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and for opposition groups.⁸¹⁰

The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic reiterated the commitment of his country to fulfilling its obligations under the six-point plan and to cooperate with the Joint Special Envoy, in order to bring an end to the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, while expressing the hope that the Joint Special Envoy would deal with the crisis in a comprehensive manner. He also expressed concern over the lack of accountability for the crimes by armed groups against Syrian civilians and military personnel and called on some regional and international parties to freeze and halt the support, funding, arming and training of armed groups.⁸¹¹

On 21 April 2012, the Council adopted resolution [2043 \(2012\)](#), in which it, *inter alia*, established for an initial period of 90 days a United Nations Supervision Mission in the Syrian Arab Republic (UNSMIS), with a mandate to monitor a cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties, and to monitor and support the full implementation of the Joint Special Envoy's six-point proposal.

Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that it established clear parameters of responsibility for all parties to the conflict on the cessation of violence.⁸¹² Some Council members warned that failure to comply with the provisions of the resolution would lead the Council to consider other options, including sanctions.⁸¹³ The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic noted that his Government had implemented the part of the six-point plan relating to its responsibilities and had recently signed the preliminary agreement that governed the work of UNSMIS in the framework of respecting Syrian sovereignty and guaranteeing the commitment of all parties. He stated that his country had a vested interest in the success of the work of UNSMIS, which should carry out its work on the basis of objectivity, impartiality and professionalism, and emphasized that his country rejected interference in its internal affairs.⁸¹⁴

On 19 July 2012, the Council had before it a draft resolution,⁸¹⁵ by which, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, it would have, *inter alia*, endorsed in full the final communiqué of the Action Group for Syria, agreed in Geneva on 30 June 2012 (Geneva communiqué);⁸¹⁶ demanded the urgent, comprehensive and immediate implementation of all elements of the six-point plan; decided to renew the mandate of UNSMIS for 45 days; and decided that, if the Syrian authorities had not fully complied with their commitments as agreed in the preliminary understanding⁸¹⁷ and as stipulated in resolutions [2042 \(2012\)](#) and [2043 \(2012\)](#) within 10 days, the Council should impose immediately measures under Article 41 of the Charter. The draft resolution was not adopted owing to the negative votes of two permanent members of the Council.⁸¹⁸

Many Council members regretted that the draft resolution had not been adopted. Several pointed out that the invocation of Chapter VII would make the commitments of the parties binding, but would not constitute a precursor to military intervention as the draft had restricted coercive action to measures under Article 41 of the Charter.⁸¹⁹ Explaining that his country had chosen to abstain because a constructive spirit of flexibility had not been upheld in the run-up to the voting, the representative of Pakistan said that linking the mandate extension of UNSMIS to Chapter VII and coercive measures had not been the right course of action.⁸²⁰ The representative of South Africa stated that the draft resolution threatened sanctions against the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic without realistically allowing any action to be taken against the opposition.⁸²¹ The representative of the Russian Federation explained that his country could not accept a document under Chapter VII of the Charter, which would open the way for the pressure of sanctions and later for external military involvement in Syrian domestic affairs. He added that the Russian Federation had submitted a draft resolution that other

⁸¹⁰ *Ibid.*, p.3.

⁸¹¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 10-12.

⁸¹² [S/PV.6756](#), p. 2.

⁸¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 3(France); p. 6 (United Kingdom); and p. 10 (United States).

⁸¹⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 11-12.

⁸¹⁵ [S/2012/538](#).

⁸¹⁶ [A/66/865-S/2012/522](#), annex.

⁸¹⁷ [S/2012/250](#).

⁸¹⁸ China and Russian Federation.

⁸¹⁹ [S/PV.6810](#), pp. 2-3 (United Kingdom); p. 5 (Germany); p. 8 (Portugal); p. 9 (Guatemala); p. 10 (United States); and p. 12 (Morocco).

⁸²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

⁸²¹ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

Council members had refused to work on.⁸²² The representative of China expressed the view that the draft resolution just voted upon was seriously flawed and unbalanced, with its content seeking to put pressure on only one party, and had undermined the consensus reached at the Geneva meeting and disrupted the new round of mediation efforts by the Joint Special Envoy.⁸²³ In addition, several Council members supported the proposal to adopt a technical rollover of the UNSMIS mandate.⁸²⁴ The President (Colombia) informed the Council that upon the request of the sponsor, it would not take action on another draft resolution.⁸²⁵

The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that his country had officially welcomed the Geneva communiqué and wondered why the Council could not agree on the extension of the mandate of UNSMIS in keeping with the basic principles agreed to in the Geneva meeting.⁸²⁶

On 20 July 2012, the Council adopted resolution [2059 \(2012\)](#), by which it decided to renew the mandate of UNSMIS for a final period of 30 days, taking into consideration the operational implications of the increasingly dangerous security situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, and expressed its willingness to renew the mandate of UNSMIS thereafter only in the event that the Secretary-General reported on and the Council confirmed the cessation of the use of heavy weapons and a reduction in the level of violence by all sides sufficient to allow UNSMIS to implement its mandate.

On 30 August 2012, the Deputy Secretary-General noted that more than 2.5 million people were in grave need of assistance and protection inside the Syrian Arab Republic and over 220,000 Syrian refugees were now in Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, risking serious destabilizing effects to those countries. He highlighted the need to address two main issues, humanitarian access and funding.⁸²⁷

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees appealed to all parties to the conflict to grant unrestricted humanitarian access inside the Syrian Arab

Republic and to continue to respect and provide protection to Iraqi, Palestinian and other refugees inside the country. He also called for enhanced international support to all victims of the conflict and asked all States in the region and beyond to extend protection to the Syrians fleeing their country.⁸²⁸

The representatives of Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey updated the Council on how their respective countries had been managing the influx of Syrian refugees into their territories and expressed concern over issues of capacity, general security and resources needed to sustain their efforts.⁸²⁹

Council members welcomed the appointment of the Joint Special Representative for the Syrian Arab Republic and the League of Arab States, stressed the need for a political solution to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic and highlighted the need to secure additional funds to face the humanitarian crisis. Some Council members also expressed concern over the existing stockpiles of chemical and biological weapons inside the Syrian Arab Republic. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic said that the six-point plan was stillborn, as Arab and United Nations observers offered no other solution than providing weapons to the opposition.⁸³⁰

On 18 April 2013, in her briefing to the Council, the Under Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator stated that the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic was a humanitarian catastrophe, with 6.8 million people in need, 4.25 million people internally displaced and 1.3 million refugees in neighbouring countries. She explained that bureaucratic obstacles had grown and were inhibiting a humanitarian response.⁸³¹

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees said that the refugee crisis had worsened, and appealed to the international community to provide massive support, especially to Jordan and Lebanon. In the case of Lebanon, the Syrian crisis had become an existential threat, as its population had grown by more than 10 per cent, if only the registered Syrian refugees

⁸²² *Ibid.*, pp. 8-9.

⁸²³ *Ibid.*, p. 13.

⁸²⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 6 (Pakistan); p. 9 (Russian Federation); p. 12 (South Africa); and p. 14 (China).

⁸²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 15 (Colombia).

⁸²⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 15.

⁸²⁷ [S/PV.6826](#), pp. 2-3.

⁸²⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 5.

⁸²⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7 (Jordan); pp. 7-10 (Turkey); pp. 10-11 (Lebanon); and pp. 11-13 (Iraq).

⁸³⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 33-34.

⁸³¹ [S/PV.6949](#), pp. 2-4.

were counted, and it had not received any direct international support in many months.⁸³²

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict reported on women and girls displaced by the conflict, stating that sexual violence, including rape, was one of the main reasons why they had fled their homes and left the country. She urged the leadership of the Free Syrian Army and other armed groups to halt human rights violations and to issue clear directives to commanders to prevent sexual violence and hold accountable those who committed, commanded or condoned such crimes. At the same time, she urged the President of the Syrian Arab Republic to ensure that all persons in Government custody were treated humanely, and called for the Syrian authorities to investigate all allegations of sexual violence and hold every perpetrator accountable. She also pleaded with Council members and Governments with influence over the parties to the conflict to translate their will into results by protecting the Syrian people, especially women and children.⁸³³

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict reported that her office had been gathering information on the use of children in various capacities by opposition groups, and as human shields by Government forces, and called on all parties to halt any association of children.⁸³⁴

The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic stated that the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic was humanitarian and political in the main and that assisting the Syrian people at the humanitarian level would not be possible unless the main political dimension was dealt with.⁸³⁵ The representatives of Lebanon and Turkey expressed the commitment of their respective countries to provide humanitarian assistance to Syrian refugees, while appealing to the international community to share the burden.⁸³⁶

On 16 July 2013, in her briefing to the Council, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs stated that some 6.8 million Syrians required urgent humanitarian assistance, including 4.2 million internally displaced persons and over 1.7 million refugees in neighbouring countries. She also informed

the Council that since the end of January, the teams on the ground had reached more than 1.4 million people across conflict lines, but noted that some locations remained inaccessible as a result of either active fighting and insecurity or a lack of authorization for the teams to enter. She emphasized that a mix of approaches to address the humanitarian challenges was needed, including designated, empowered interlocutors as well as humanitarian pauses in fighting and additional funding.⁸³⁷

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees expressed the view that in some neighbouring countries the warning signs of destabilization caused by the refugee outflow were troubling. He appealed to all development actors to cooperate with the concerned Governments in formulating and supporting community development programmes to assist those States in coping with the impact of the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic.⁸³⁸

The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights reported that both Government forces and armed opposition groups had committed serious human rights violations and called for the supply of weapons to both sides to stop.⁸³⁹

The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic elaborated on the measures taken by his Government, including establishing a high commission on assistance to ensure the return of displaced families to their homes and increasing the number of non-governmental organizations allowed to provide relief. He stated that the cooperation of his Government with the United Nations was governed by the Charter and called upon the Secretariat and the Member States to show the same level of respect for the Charter, including full respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic. He also noted that 60 per cent of assistance was being channelled to regions where the armed terrorist groups were operating, while only 40 per cent was being sent to other regions.⁸⁴⁰ The representative of Lebanon reiterated that his Government remained fully committed to its policy of dissociation from the Syrian conflict and that Lebanon would not close its borders to Syrians as refugees, but he also stressed the

⁸³² *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

⁸³³ *Ibid.*, pp. 6-8.

⁸³⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 8.

⁸³⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

⁸³⁶ *Ibid.*, pp. 12-14 (Lebanon); and pp. 14-15 (Turkey).

⁸³⁷ [S/PV.7000](#), pp. 2-4.

⁸³⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

⁸³⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6.

⁸⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

implications of the crisis for stability in Lebanon and highlighted the strain it was causing on national resources.⁸⁴¹ The representative of Iraq stated that his country supported a peaceful Syrian-led resolution to the crisis and urged the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic to allow international organizations to provide humanitarian assistance to civilians trapped in conflict areas.⁸⁴² He also expressed concern over reports of the use of chemical weapons, which was echoed by the representative of Turkey.⁸⁴³

On 27 September 2013, the Council adopted resolution 2118 (2013), in which it determined that the use of chemical weapons anywhere constituted a threat to international peace and security, condemned in the strongest terms any use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, decided that the Syrian Arab Republic should comply with all aspects of the decision of 27 September 2013 of the Executive Council of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, endorsed fully the Geneva communiqué of 30 June 2012, and decided, in the event of non-compliance with the resolution, to impose measures under Chapter VII of the Charter.

The Secretary-General welcomed the accession of the Syrian Arab Republic to the Chemical Weapons Convention and the declaration of the country to implement it on a provisional basis. He also noted that resolution 2118 (2013) would ensure the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme and that it called for convening an international conference on the Syrian Arab Republic to implement the Geneva communiqué as soon as possible. He stated that he was working with the Joint Special Representative and Member States, aiming to hold the conference in mid-November.⁸⁴⁴

Council members highlighted the fact that for the first time, the Council had determined that the use of chemical weapons anywhere constituted a threat to international peace and security. Council members also stressed their readiness to take action under Chapter VII of the Charter if the parties failed to comply, and welcomed the intention of convening the international Geneva II conference in November. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation

stressed that the resolution did not fall under Chapter VII of the Charter and did not allow for any automatic use of coercive measures of enforcement.⁸⁴⁵

On 2 October 2013, the Council adopted a presidential statement in which it stated that it was appalled at the unacceptable and escalating level of violence and the death of more than 100,000 people in the Syrian Arab Republic. The Council urged all parties to take all appropriate steps to facilitate the efforts of the United Nations to provide immediate humanitarian assistance to the affected people in the Syrian Arab Republic, and further urged the Syrian authorities to take immediate steps to facilitate the expansion of humanitarian relief operations and lift bureaucratic impediments and other obstacles.⁸⁴⁶

On 25 October 2013, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs stated that United Nations agencies and partners were continuing to work in extremely dangerous and difficult conditions and that the humanitarian response in the Syrian Arab Republic was severely insufficient compared to the growing needs. She reported that despite the call by the Council in its presidential statement of 2 October 2013⁸⁴⁶ urging the Syrian authorities to take immediate steps to facilitate the expansion of humanitarian relief operations and to lift bureaucratic impediments, there had not yet been any major breakthrough. She said that the Council must make every effort to ensure that its recommendations were implemented, and called upon the Council to exert influence and take the necessary action to stop the brutality and violence.⁸⁴⁷

Yemen

On 29 March 2012, the Council adopted a statement by the President in which it welcomed the Yemeni-led peaceful transition process to a just and democratic political system in accordance with the Gulf Cooperation Council initiative and implementation mechanism, expressed concern at the recent deterioration in cooperation among political actors and the risks that posed to the transition, and noted that the second phase of the transition should focus on the holding of a conference for national dialogue, restructuring of the security forces, tackling the unauthorized possession of weapons outside the control

⁸⁴¹ Ibid., pp. 9-10.

⁸⁴² Ibid., p.11.

⁸⁴³ Ibid., p. 11(Iraq); and p. 12 (Turkey).

⁸⁴⁴ S/PV.7038, pp. 2-3.

⁸⁴⁵ Ibid., p. 4.

⁸⁴⁶ S/PRST/2013/15.

⁸⁴⁷ S/PV.7049, pp. 2-4.

of the State, passing legislation on transitional justice to support reconciliation, constitutional reform, electoral reform and the holding of general elections in 2014.⁸⁴⁸

At the meeting, the representative of Yemen highlighted positive developments in the transition process, including the establishment of a Government of national reconciliation and a military and security committee and the holding of the presidential elections on 21 February 2012, and noted the serious challenges that his Government faced.⁸⁴⁹

On 29 May 2012, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen reported on progress in the implementation of the 23 November 2011 transition agreement and of resolution 2014 (2011), stating that the national dialogue must be inclusive, genuinely participatory and transparent. He said that the timeline for the transition was very tight and that there were many challenges, particularly with armed non-State actors competing for power and Al-Qaida continuing to pose a major threat. He stressed the unprecedented scale of the humanitarian crisis in Yemen and said that the Council should play a more active role in bringing the humanitarian crisis in Yemen to the world's attention.⁸⁵⁰

The representative of Yemen stated that his Government had taken measures to create the conditions to begin a national dialogue; however, there were still many challenges, in particular with regard to the humanitarian situation.⁸⁵¹

On 12 June 2012, the Council adopted resolution 2051(2012), in which it, inter alia, emphasized the importance of conducting a fully-inclusive, participatory, transparent and meaningful National Dialogue Conference, demanded the cessation of all actions aimed at undermining the Government of National Unity and the political transition, expressed its readiness to consider further measures, including under Article 41 of the Charter, if such actions continued, and requested the Secretary-General to continue his good offices role.

The representative of Yemen welcomed the adoption of the resolution and listed four challenges being faced by his Government: (a) the deterioration of the humanitarian situation; (b) the complicated security

situation; (c) the threat to national stability posed by the presence of Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula; and (d) the burden added by the 1 million refugees from the Horn of Africa.⁸⁵²

On 4 December 2012, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General noted that 23 November 2012 marked the first anniversary of the signing of the transition agreement in Yemen, in which President Ali Abdullah Saleh had agreed to transfer his powers to his deputy and to make way for early presidential elections set for February 2014, following a Government of National Unity that would execute power during a two-year transition phase. He pointed out that the signing of the agreement had been the result of a period of intensive work by the good offices of the Secretary-General in an effort to help to resolve the deadlock in implementation of the Gulf Cooperation Council initiative, and reported that the agreed handover of power had taken place successfully, with President Abdrabuh Mansour Hadi Mansour being elected in February 2012 by an overwhelming majority. While acknowledging that numerous challenges remained on the road ahead, he commended the leadership of President Mansour and the efforts by the Government of Prime Minister Mohamed Salem Mohamed Basendwah.⁸⁵³

Council members commended the Government and people of Yemen and expressed support for the early launch of a successful and inclusive national dialogue, but voiced concern over the security challenges and the socioeconomic and humanitarian situation. They also stressed the need for continuous international support for Yemen in its efforts to complete the transition process, including maintaining security, overcoming the humanitarian crisis and fostering economic and social development. The representative of Yemen expressed appreciation for the commitment of the Secretaries-General of the United Nations and Gulf Cooperation Council to the implementation of the Gulf Cooperation Council initiative, and reaffirmed that the President was fully committed to drafting a new constitution and holding a referendum and presidential and parliamentary elections on schedule.⁸⁵⁴

On 15 February 2013, the Council adopted a presidential statement in which it welcomed the

⁸⁴⁸ S/PRST/2012/8.

⁸⁴⁹ S/PV.6744, pp. 3-4.

⁸⁵⁰ S/PV.6776, pp. 2-5.

⁸⁵¹ Ibid., pp. 5-7.

⁸⁵² S/PV.6784, pp. 2-3.

⁸⁵³ S/PV.6878, pp. 2-4.

⁸⁵⁴ Ibid., pp. 21-22.

announcement by the President of Yemen of the launch of the all-inclusive National Dialogue Conference on 18 March 2013, urged all parties to adhere to resolving their differences through dialogue and consultation, and expressed concern over reports of interference in the transition by individuals in Yemen representing the former regime, the former opposition and others who did not adhere to the guiding principles of the agreement on the implementation mechanism for the transition process. It also urged the Government of Yemen to pass legislation on transitional justice to support reconciliation without further delay.⁸⁵⁵

On 11 June 2013, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen briefed the Council on the delicate status of the transition in the context of the 9 June 2013 clash between security forces and Ansar Allah demonstrators outside the National Security Bureau in Sana'a. Nonetheless, he reported that progress had been made and that the National Dialogue would be followed by a constitution-drafting process, which would then be confirmed by referendum and followed by general elections for a new Government. The electoral commissions had begun preparations for the electoral process, and steps had been taken to restructure the armed forces. He also pointed to the need to find a consensual settlement to the question of the South and to address the security situation and the humanitarian crisis.⁸⁵⁶

The representative of Yemen reported that the National Dialogue Conference had achieved great progress in the past few months. He also reported that President Mansour had taken a series of measures to establish trust and an environment conducive to a successful Dialogue. He noted that Yemen was, however, still facing many challenges, including terrorism and other subversive acts with economic implications for the country. At the same time, he appealed to the international community to support the 2013 Yemen Humanitarian Response Plan and to honour the pledges made at the donor conference and meetings of the Group of Friends of Yemen.⁸⁵⁷

At a high-level meeting on 27 September 2013, the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen

informed the Council that the work of the National Dialogue Conference launched on 18 March 2013 was nearly 90 per cent complete, with six of the nine working groups having completed their work. However, he reminded the Council that the Conference was only one step in the transition and stated that he was in the process of facilitating talks on the southern question, a thorny issue on which agreement had proved elusive thus far. As the country was still facing serious political, economic, humanitarian and security challenges, Yemenis were counting on the Council to uphold its unanimous support as the country moved towards the next stage.⁸⁵⁸

The Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council emphasized the importance of the continuous support of the Security Council for a peaceful solution in Yemen, highlighted the availability and preparedness of the Gulf Cooperation Council to assist Yemen, and praised the efforts of the Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council initiative and implementation mechanism.⁸⁵⁹

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Yemen explained that the two working groups with pending work were the State-building group and the group dealing with the southern provinces and added that the success of the former depended on the completion of the work by the latter. He reaffirmed that what Yemenis needed from the Council was not that the Council dictate the solution but that it maintain unity, as well as its support for the Gulf Cooperation Council initiative and implementation mechanism and for resolutions [2014 \(2011\)](#) and [2051 \(2012\)](#).⁸⁶⁰

Council members expressed concern over the delay in the conclusion of the National Dialogue, the humanitarian and economic situations and the security threats, including acts of terrorism. They stressed the need to move the transition process along, including such tasks as drafting the new constitution and conducting general elections. They also stated that Council deliberations should respect the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Yemen.

⁸⁵⁵ [S/PRST/2013/3](#).

⁸⁵⁶ [S/PV.6976](#), pp. 2-5.

⁸⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6.

⁸⁵⁸ [S/PV.7037](#), pp. 2-5.

⁸⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

⁸⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 7-9.

Meetings: the situation in the Middle East

Syrian Arab Republic

<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.6710 31 January 2012	Letter dated 24 January 2012 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2012/71)		Qatar (Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs), ^a Syrian Arab Republic	Secretary-General of the League of Arab States	All Council members, ^b all invitees	
S/PV.6711 4 February 2012		Draft resolution submitted by Bahrain, Colombia, Egypt, France, Germany, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Morocco, Oman, Portugal, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States (S/2012/77)	Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Syrian Arab Republic, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates		All Council members, Syrian Arab Republic	Rejection of draft resolution (S/2012/77) 13-2-0 ^c
S/PV.6734 12 March 2012					Secretary-General, all Council members ^d	
S/PV.6736 21 March 2012						S/PRST/2012/6
S/PV.6746 5 April 2012						S/PRST/2012/10

<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.6751 14 April 2012		Draft resolution submitted by Colombia, France, Germany, Morocco, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States (S/2012/219)	Syrian Arab Republic		All Council members, Syrian Arab Republic	Resolution 2042 (2012) 15-0-0
S/PV.6756 21 April 2012	Letter dated 19 April 2012 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2012/238)	Draft resolution submitted by China, Colombia, France, Germany, Morocco, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation (S/2012/245)	Syrian Arab Republic		All Council members, Syrian Arab Republic	Resolution 2043 (2012) 15-0-0
S/PV.6810 19 July 2012	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2043 (2012) (S/2012/523)	Draft resolution submitted by France, Germany, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States (S/2012/538)	Syrian Arab Republic		All Council members, Syrian Arab Republic	Rejection of draft resolution (S/2012/538) 11-2-2 ^e
S/PV.6812 20 July 2012	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2043 (2012) (S/2012/523)	Draft resolution submitted by France, Germany, Portugal, United Kingdom (S/2012/560)				Resolution 2059 (2012) 15-0-0

<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.6826 30 August 2012			Iraq (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), Jordan (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Lebanon (Minister for Social Affairs), Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey (Minister for Foreign Affairs)	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	Deputy Secretary-General, all Council members, ^f all invitees	
S/PV.6949 18 April 2013			Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict	All invitees	
S/PV.7000 16 July 2013			Iraq, Lebanon, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights	All invitees	
S/PV.7038 27 September 2013		Draft resolution (S/2013/575)			Secretary-General, all Council members ^g	Resolution 2118 (2013) 15-0-0

<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.7039 02 October 2013						S/PRST/2013/15
S/PV.7049 25 October 2013			Turkey	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs	

^a Speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the current session of the Arab League Council at the Ministerial Level.

^b France and Guatemala were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs; Germany by its Minister of State; Morocco by its Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Portugal by its Minister of State and Foreign Relations; United Kingdom by its Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; and United States by its Secretary of State.

^c *For:* Azerbaijan, Colombia, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Morocco, Pakistan, Portugal, South Africa, Togo, United Kingdom, United States;
Against: China, Russian Federation.

^d France, Germany, Guatemala and Russian Federation were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs; Portugal by its Minister for State and Foreign Relations; United Kingdom by its Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; and United States by its Secretary of State.

^e *For:* Azerbaijan, Colombia, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Morocco, Portugal, Togo, United Kingdom, United States of America;
Against: China, Russian Federation;
Abstaining: Pakistan, South Africa.

^f Colombia and France were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs; Morocco and Togo by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; United Kingdom by its Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; and United States by its Permanent Representative and member of the President's Cabinet.

^g Luxembourg was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Argentina by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship; Azerbaijan, China, France, Guatemala, Republic of Korea and Russian Federation by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs; Morocco by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Pakistan by its Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security and Foreign Affairs; Rwanda by its Minister of State in Charge of Cooperation and Permanent Representative to the United Nations; United Kingdom by its Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; and United States by its Secretary of State.

Yemen

<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.6744 29 March 2012			Yemen		Yemen	S/PRST/2012/8
S/PV.6776 29 May 2012			Yemen	Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen	Yemen, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen	
S/PV.6784 12 June 2012		Draft resolution submitted by France, Germany, Morocco, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States (S/2012/417)	Yemen		Yemen	Resolution 2051 (2012) 15-0-0
S/PV.6878 4 December 2012			Yemen	Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen	All Council members, Yemen, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen	
S/PV.6922 15 February 2013			Yemen			S/PRST/2013/3
S/PV.6976 11 June 2013			Yemen	Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen	Yemen, Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen	
S/PV.7037 27 September 2013			Yemen (Minister for Foreign Affairs)	Special Adviser to the Secretary-General for Yemen, Secretary-General of the Gulf Cooperation Council	All Council members, ^a all invitees	

^a Luxembourg was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Australia, Azerbaijan and Guatemala were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs; Argentina by its Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Morocco by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Pakistan by its Minister of State, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs; United Kingdom by its Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office; Republic of Korea by its Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs; and United States by its Permanent Representative and member of the President's Cabinet.

Renewal of the mandate of UNDOF

<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.6791 27 June 2012	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) for the period from 1 January to 30 June 2012 (S/2012/403)	Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation, United States (S/2012/484)				Resolution 2052 (2012) 15-0-0
S/PV.6893 19 December 2012	Report of the Secretary-General on UNDOF for the period from 1 July to 31 December 2012 (S/2012/897)	Draft resolution submitted by France, Russian Federation, United States (S/2012/935)				Resolution 2084 (2012) 15-0-0
S/PV.6991 27 June 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on UNDOF for the period from 1 April to 30 June 2013 (S/2013/345)	Draft resolution submitted by Australia, France, Luxembourg, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States (S/2013/376)				Resolution 2108 (2013) 15-0-0
S/PV.7089 18 December 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on UNDOF for the period from 12 September to 3 December 2013 (S/2013/716)	Draft resolution submitted by Australia, France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States (S/2013/744)				Resolution 2131 (2013) 15-0-0

Renewal of the mandate of UNIFIL

<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.6825 30 August 2012	Letter dated 14 August 2012 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2012/632)	Draft resolution submitted by France, Germany Italy, Spain, United Kingdom, United States (S/2012/673)	Israel, Lebanon			Resolution 2064 (2012) 15-0-0
S/PV.6994 10 July 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) (S/2013/381)		Lebanon			S/PRST/2013/9
S/PV.7025 29 August 2013	Letter dated 31 July 2013 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2013/457)	Draft resolution submitted by France, Spain (S/2013/511)	Israel, Lebanon, Spain			Resolution 2115 (2013) 15-0-0

High-level meeting on peace and security in the Middle East

<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.6841 26 September 2012	High-level meeting of the Security Council on peace and security in the Middle East Letter dated 6 September 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Germany to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2012/686)			Secretary-General of the League of Arab States	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^a Secretary-General of the League of Arab States	S/PRST/2012/20

^a Azerbaijan, China, Colombia, France, Germany, Guatemala and Russian Federation were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs; India by its Minister of State for External Affairs; Morocco and Togo by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Pakistan by its Foreign Secretary; South Africa by its Minister for International Relations and Cooperation; United Kingdom by its Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs; and United States by its Secretary of State.

24. The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held one meeting and adopted one resolution concerning the repatriation or return of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals or their remains as well as the return of Kuwaiti property, in connection with the situation between Iraq and Kuwait.

Termination of Chapter VII obligations of Iraq, including the repatriation and return of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals and their remains and all Kuwaiti property

At its 6990th meeting, on 27 June 2013, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2107 \(2013\)](#), in which it welcomed Iraq's continued demonstration of its commitment to the full implementation of its outstanding obligations under the relevant Chapter VII resolutions. In the same resolution, with consideration to the provisions of Chapter VI of the Charter on the peaceful settlement of disputes, the Council called upon the Government of Iraq to continue cooperation with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and to continue efforts to search for missing Kuwaiti property. The Council decided to terminate the obligations of Iraq under Chapter VII of the Charter concerning the repatriation or return of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals or their remains and the return of Kuwaiti property and cooperation with ICRC, as set out in resolutions 686 (1991) and 687 (1991) of 2 March and 3 April 1991, respectively, and terminated also the mandate of the High-level Coordinator appointed pursuant to paragraph 14 of resolution [1284 \(1999\)](#). The Council requested that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq and

Head of the United Nations Mission in Iraq (UNAMI)⁸⁶¹ promote, support and facilitate efforts regarding the repatriation or return of all Kuwaiti and third-country nationals or their remains, and the return of Kuwaiti property, including the national archives, seized by Iraq.

Following the vote, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq elaborated on the efforts by Iraq over the past few years to regain the international standing it had enjoyed prior to resolution 661 (1990). He stated that the adoption of resolution [2107 \(2013\)](#), a milestone in the history of the relationship between Iraq and the international community, indicated that the resolutions imposed on his country under Chapter VII of the Charter belonged to the past and also represented a significant step in its bilateral relationship with Kuwait. Regarding the issue of the maintenance of border markers, Iraq and Kuwait had put in place the necessary measures, in accordance with resolution 833 (1993). In reference to the issue of compensation, Iraq was committed to paying the percentage decided by the Council under the successor arrangements for the Development Fund for Iraq, pursuant to resolution [1956 \(2010\)](#). He stated that through the adoption of resolution [2107 \(2013\)](#), Iraq had fulfilled all its Chapter VII obligations under Council resolutions, with the last remaining issue of missing Kuwaiti persons and property having been transferred to coverage under the provisions of Chapter VI.⁸⁶²

⁸⁶¹ For more information on UNAMI, see part X, sect. II, "Political and peacebuilding missions".

⁸⁶² [S/PV.6990](#), p. 2-3.

Meeting: the situation between Iraq and Kuwait

16-06865

<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.6990 27 June 2013	Thirty-fifth report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 14 of resolution 1284 (1999) (S/2013/357) Letter dated 12 June 2013 from the Permanent Representatives of Iraq and Kuwait to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2013/358)	Draft resolution submitted by Australia, France, Morocco, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States (S/2013/379)	Iraq (Minister for Foreign Affairs)		Iraq	Resolution 2107 (2013) 15-0-0