
Part V

Functions and powers of the Security Council

Contents

	<i>Page</i>
Introductory note	385
I. Article 24	386
Note	386
A. Decisions referring to the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security	386
B. Discussions referring to the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security	390
II. Article 25	392
Note	392
III. Article 26	393
Note	393

Introductory note

Part V covers the functions and powers of the Security Council under Articles 24, 25 and 26 of Chapter V of the Charter of the United Nations, and is accordingly divided into three sections. Under each section, a list of implicit and explicit references to those Articles found in documents of the Council is provided. Each section also includes case studies that examine specific instances where those Articles were discussed or which otherwise illustrate how the Security Council has applied the Articles in its decision-making.

I. Article 24

Article 24

1. *In order to ensure prompt and effective action by the United Nations, its Members confer on the Security Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and agree that in carrying out its duties under this responsibility the Security Council acts on their behalf.*

2. *In discharging these duties the Security Council shall act in accordance with the Purposes and Principles of the United Nations. The specific powers granted to the Security Council for the discharge of these duties are laid down in Chapters VI, VII, VIII and XII.*

3. *The Security Council shall submit annual and, when necessary, special reports to the General Assembly for its consideration.*

Note

This section covers Article 24 of the Charter, which deals with the practice of the Security Council concerning its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.¹ It is divided into three subsections, dealing with decisions, communications and discussions referring to the Council's primary mandate.

During the period under review, none of the decisions adopted by the Security Council contained an explicit reference to Article 24 of the Charter, but explicit references to Article 24 were found in several communications.² Explicit references were also made on several occasions in the proceedings of the

Council.³ For example, at the 5858th meeting on 20 March 2008, in connection with the situation in Somalia, the representative of Uganda stated that, while the Council had authorized the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to take all necessary measures as appropriate for the maintenance of international peace and security, most recently under resolution 1801 (2008), the maintenance of international peace and security was the primary responsibility of the Council under Article 24 of the Charter and as such it was a delegation of its authority which did not amount to abdication.⁴

A. Decisions referring to the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security

The provision by which Members of the United Nations conferred on the Council primary responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security was implicitly referred to in a number of resolutions and presidential statements. In those decisions, most of which related to thematic and crosscutting issues, the Council indicated that it was acting in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter or affirmed that certain matters were closely linked to its primary responsibilities.

¹ Article 24 (3), concerning the annual report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, is dealt with in part IV, sect. 1.E.

² See the following letters addressed to the President of the Council: letter dated 20 March 2008 from the representative of Finland (S/2008/195, p. 6); letter dated 29 August 2008 from the representative of the Philippines (S/2008/589, pp. 3 and 5); letter dated 10 November 2008 from the representative of Costa Rica (S/2008/697, p. 2); and addressed to the Secretary-General: letter dated 31 January 2008 from the representative of Cuba (S/2008/70, p. 1); letter dated 22 December 2008 from the representative of Azerbaijan (S/2008/812, p. 19); letter dated 24 July 2009 from the representative of Egypt (S/2009/514, pp. 33, 34, 36, 38 and 39).

³ In connection with the situation in Somalia, see S/PV.5858, p. 8 (Uganda). In connection with the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, see S/PV.5859, p. 16 (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya). In connection with the item entitled "Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)", see S/PV.5968, p. 7 (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya); p. 13 (Costa Rica); pp. 20-21 (Belgium); pp. 32-33 (Cuba); and p. 34 (Brazil); S/PV.5968 (Resumption 1), p. 8 (Philippines); p. 11 (Islamic Republic of Iran); p. 17 (India); and p. 23 (Pakistan). In connection with the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security", see S/PV.6017, p. 19 (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya); S/PV.6017 (Resumption 1), p. 3 (Ecuador); and p. 18 (Qatar). In connection with the item entitled "United Nations peacekeeping operations", see S/PV.6075, p. 15 (Costa Rica); and p. 33 (India). In connection with the item entitled "Peace and security in Africa", see S/PV.6206, p. 10 (France).

⁴ S/PV.5858, p. 8.

Decision and date

Provision

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

[S/PRST/2008/19](#)
2 June 2008

The Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter (fifth paragraph)

Same provision in [S/PRST/2008/31](#), fifth paragraph; [S/PRST/2008/32](#), fifth paragraph; [S/PRST/2008/35](#), fifth paragraph; [S/PRST/2009/22](#), fifth paragraph

The situation in Somalia

[S/PRST/2008/41](#)
30 October 2008

The Council reiterates its determination to combat all forms of terrorism, in accordance with its responsibilities under the Charter (seventh paragraph)

Resolution [1863 \(2009\)](#)
16 January 2009

Welcomes the recommendations on strengthening the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) contained in the letter dated 19 December 2008 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council;^a recalls that the Council bears primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and that cooperation with regional and subregional organizations can improve collective security; further recalls that in resolution [1772 \(2007\)](#) it called for planning for possible deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation replacing AMISOM and that in resolution [1744 \(2007\)](#) it noted that AMISOM was intended to contribute to an initial stabilization phase evolving into a possible United Nations operation; welcomes in this regard the proposal of the Secretary-General for immediate in-kind enhancement of AMISOM through the transfer of assets following the liquidation of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE); and requests the Secretary-General, in order for the AMISOM forces to be incorporated into a United Nations peacekeeping operation, to provide a United Nations logistical support package to AMISOM, including equipment and services, as described in paragraphs 7 and 8 of his proposal, but not including transfer of funds to AMISOM, until 1 June 2009 or until the decision referred to in paragraph 4 [of the resolution], whichever is earlier (para. 10)

Children and armed conflict

[S/PRST/2008/6](#)
12 February 2008

The Council, reiterating its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, reaffirms its commitment to address the widespread impact of armed conflict on children, its determination to ensure respect for and the implementation of resolution [1612 \(2005\)](#) and all of its previous resolutions on children and armed conflict, as well as respect for other international norms and standards for the protection of children affected by armed conflict (second paragraph)

Resolution [1882 \(2009\)](#)
4 August 2009

Reiterating its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this connection, its commitment to address the widespread impact of armed conflict on children (ninth preambular paragraph)

Peace and security in Africa

Resolution [1809 \(2008\)](#)
16 April 2008

Recalling its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, and recognizing that cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in matters relating to the maintenance of peace and security and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations can improve collective security (third preambular paragraph)

<i>Decision and date</i>	<i>Provision</i>
S/PRST/2009/3 18 March 2009	The Security Council reiterates its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and recalls that cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in matters relating to the maintenance of peace and security, and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, can improve collective security (first paragraph)
S/PRST/2009/11 5 May 2009	The Council reiterates its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and recalls that cooperation with regional and subregional organizations, consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, can improve collective security (second paragraph)
S/PRST/2009/26 26 October 2009	The Council reiterates its primary responsibility under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security, and recalls that cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security, and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter, can improve collective security (second paragraph)
S/PRST/2009/32 8 December 2009	The Security Council reaffirms its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations (first paragraph)

Peace consolidation in West Africa

S/PRST/2009/20 10 July 2009	The Council reiterates its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and recalls that cooperation with regional and subregional organizations, consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, can improve collective security (third paragraph)
--	--

Maintenance of international peace and security: mediation and settlement of disputes

S/PRST/2008/36 23 September 2008	The Council affirms that, as the organ with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, it has a responsibility to promote and support mediation as an important means for the pacific settlement of disputes (third paragraph)
S/PRST/2009/8 21 April 2009	The Council, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and as the organ with the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, underscores its intention to remain engaged in all stages of the conflict cycle, including in support of mediation, and expresses its readiness to explore further ways and means to reinforce the promotion of mediation as an important means for the pacific settlement of disputes, wherever possible before they evolve into violence (second paragraph)

Maintenance of international peace and security: strengthening collective security through general regulation and reduction of armaments

S/PRST/2008/43 19 November 2008	The Security Council recalls its primary responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security (first paragraph)
--	---

Decision and date

Provision

Maintenance of international peace and security: nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament

Resolution [1887 \(2009\)](#)
24 September 2009

Emphasizes that a situation of non-compliance with non-proliferation obligations shall be brought to the attention of the Security Council, which shall determine if that situation constitutes a threat to international peace and security, and emphasizes the primary responsibility of the Council in addressing such threats (para. 1)

Women and peace and security

Resolution [1888 \(2009\)](#)
30 September 2009

Reiterating its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and, in this connection, its commitment to continue to address the widespread impact of armed conflict on civilians, including with regard to sexual violence (ultimate preambular paragraph)

Resolution [1889 \(2009\)](#)
5 October 2009

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and bearing in mind the primary responsibility of the Security Council under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security (second preambular paragraph)

Post-conflict peacebuilding

[S/PRST/2008/16](#)
20 May 2008

The Security Council recalls its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and emphasizes the critical importance of post-conflict peacebuilding in laying the foundation for sustainable peace and development after the scourge of war (first paragraph)

Non-proliferation

Resolution [1803 \(2008\)](#)
3 March 2008

Concerned by the proliferation risks presented by the Iranian nuclear programme and, in this context, by the Islamic Republic of Iran's continuing failure to meet the requirements of the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency and to comply with the provisions of resolutions [1696 \(2006\)](#), [1737 \(2006\)](#) and [1747 \(2007\)](#), and mindful of its primary responsibility under the Charter of the United Nations for the maintenance of international peace and security (penultimate preambular paragraph)

Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

Resolution [1810 \(2008\)](#)
25 April 2008

Affirming its resolve to take appropriate and effective actions against any threat to international peace and security caused by the proliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons and their means of delivery, in conformity with its primary responsibilities, as provided for in the Charter of the United Nations (fifth preambular paragraph)

^a [S/2008/204](#).

B. Discussions referring to the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security

To illustrate the interpretation and application of Article 24 by the Council, the following three case studies were drawn from deliberations in which the Council considered its responsibilities under the Charter and the appropriateness for the Council to include a situation or thematic issue on its agenda. The case study covering a regional situation precedes the other two case studies, which relate to thematic issues and are arranged chronologically. Case 1, concerning the situation in Zimbabwe, presents the discussion with respect to a draft resolution on the matter. Case 2 examines the Council's deliberation of its working methods in the context of its responsibilities under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security. Case 3 features discussions in the Council regarding its involvement in situations it deems to be under its purview.

Case 1 Peace and security in Africa

At its 5933rd meeting, on 11 July 2008, the Council met to consider the item entitled "Peace and security in Africa". During the debate, the representative of Zimbabwe, referring to a draft resolution before the Council, in which, inter alia, the Council would condemn the Government of Zimbabwe's "campaign of violence" against the political opposition and the civilian population during the period prior to the presidential election held on 27 June,⁵ asserted that his country was at peace with itself and its neighbours, posed absolutely no threat to international peace and security and should therefore not be a focus of the Council. In view of that, he held that the situation in Zimbabwe did not warrant the adoption of a Council resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter.⁶ The representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya noted that the draft resolution before the Council was based on the assumption that the situation in Zimbabwe posed a threat to peace and security in the region. He further asserted that this assumption was undermined by the fact that the dispute was between

⁵ S/2008/447.

⁶ S/PV.5933, p. 2.

Zimbabwean parties, and that neighbouring countries had affirmed that the situation was in no way a threat to regional peace and security, therefore the situation in Zimbabwe did not fall within the purview of the Council's mandate.⁷ The representative of Viet Nam said that, while sharing the concerns about the current situation in Zimbabwe, his delegation was of the view that the situation prevailing there did not constitute a threat to regional or international peace and security. He further noted that this view was shared not only by regional countries, especially the neighbours of Zimbabwe, but also by a great majority of Member States. Therefore, in his view, the situation in Zimbabwe was not currently within the mandated purview of the Council.⁸ Following a vote on the draft resolution, which was not adopted, the representative of the Russian Federation observed that, in the positions of a number of Council members, there had been some attempts to take the Council beyond its Charter prerogatives of maintaining international peace and security. Such illegitimate and dangerous practices could lead to a realignment of the entire United Nations system.⁹

At its 6233rd meeting, on 8 December 2009, the Council met to consider the same item with a focus on the sub-item "Drug trafficking as a threat to international security: letter dated 30 November 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Burkina Faso to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2009/615)". The representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, noting that he had been invited to an open Council debate on drug trafficking in Africa as a threat to international security, opined that, under the Charter, drug trafficking was not within the purview of the Council. He further asserted that the meeting should not set a precedent or legitimize any action the Council might contemplate on the issue.¹⁰

Case 2 Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)

At the 5968th meeting, on 27 August 2008, the representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya said that there was no doubt that more transparency would enhance the legitimacy of the Council's resolutions and

⁷ Ibid., p. 5.

⁸ Ibid., p. 7.

⁹ Ibid., p. 9.

¹⁰ S/PV.6233 (Resumption 1), pp. 20-21.

promote their wider acceptance. He stated that such acceptance would be achieved when the background and the different points of view in the Council's debates were known by all and the Council's commitment to the principles of the United Nations and Article 24 of the Charter could be verified by all.¹¹ The representative of Viet Nam asserted that more open debates should be convened in order to give the general United Nations membership greater opportunities to express views on related issues, and also emphasized that this should be coupled with efforts to avoid Council involvement in issues not falling within the purview of its mandate.¹² The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran stated that the Security Council's increasing encroachment on the prerogatives of other main organs of the United Nations — particularly those of the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council and their subsidiary bodies, as well as such technical bodies as the International Atomic Energy Agency — was also of particular concern to Member States.¹³

Case 3 Maintenance of international peace and security

At its 6017th meeting, on 19 November 2008, the Council held a high-level debate under the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security" with a focus on the sub-item "Strengthening collective security through general regulation and reduction of armaments".¹⁴ During the debate, the

representative of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya expressed the view that achieving collective security for all States continued to be the ultimate purpose for which the Council was established, and Article 24 of the Charter conferred upon the Council the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and mandated it to act on behalf of all Member States.¹⁵ The representative of Ecuador noted that, in the light of various areas of insecurity and violence around the world, there had been criticism by public opinion against what had been observed as the inability of the United Nations to prevent conflicts, to restore peace and to prevent the loss of innocent civilian lives. However, since the United Nations was what its Members made of it and not a super-State with coercive prerogatives over its Members, he underlined the crucial responsibility that the Council had, in accordance with Article 24 of the Charter.¹⁶

At its 6108th meeting, on 21 April 2009, the Council met to consider the same item with a focus on the sub-item "Mediation and settlement of disputes: report of the Secretary-General on enhancing mediation and its support activities (S/2009/189)". While recognizing the Council as the highest organ of the United Nations entrusted with the primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security, including by means of mediation, the representative of Viet Nam stated that the Council should avoid unjustified and counterproductive involvement in the work that fell under the purview of the mandates of other United Nations organs, as defined in the Charter.¹⁷

¹¹ S/PV.5968, p. 7.

¹² Ibid., pp. 11-12.

¹³ S/PV.5968 (Resumption 1), p. 12.

¹⁴ See letter dated 10 November 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/697).

¹⁵ S/PV.6017, p. 19.

¹⁶ S/PV.6017 (Resumption 1), p. 3. See also case 6 under Article 26 below.

¹⁷ S/PV.6108, pp. 7-8.

II. Article 25

Article 25

The Members of the United Nations agree to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council in accordance with the present Charter.

Note

This section covers Article 25 of the Charter, which deals with the practice of the Security Council concerning the obligation of Members of the United Nations to accept and carry out the decisions of the Council.

During the period under review, the Council adopted one presidential statement that explicitly invoked Article 25 of the Charter. In connection with the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security: strengthening collective security through general regulation and reduction of armaments”, the Council recalled the obligation of all States to accept and carry out its decisions in accordance with Article 25 and affirmed its commitment to continue monitoring and promoting the effective implementation of its decisions, in order to avoid conflict, promote and maintain international peace and security and further confidence in collective security.¹⁸ The Council did not adopt any decisions which referred to Article 25 implicitly.

There were several instances in which Article 25 was explicitly invoked in communications. Those communications questioned the applicability of Article 25 in the context of their respective interpretations of Council decisions.¹⁹

¹⁸ S/PRST/2008/43.

¹⁹ Identical letters dated 29 July 2008 from the representative of the Sudan addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2008/500, p. 5); letter dated 29 August 2008 from the representative of the Philippines addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/589, p. 3); letter dated 22 December 2008 from the representative of Azerbaijan addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2008/812, p. 19); letter dated 31 December 2009 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2009/688, p. 6).

On several occasions, Article 25 was explicitly invoked in the deliberations of the Council.²⁰ For example, in connection with the situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia, the representative of Italy, while reflecting on his tenure in the Council, noted that Article 25 of the Charter was fading from the Council’s radar screen, and urged the Council to adopt a stance of listening and understanding in order to nurture within the membership at large a perception of ownership of the Council’s proceedings, since implementation and compliance with the Council’s decisions were possible only if ownership was preserved.²¹

The following cases are drawn from deliberations of Council members on the interpretation of Article 25 in connection with the items entitled “Non-proliferation” (case 4) and “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan” (case 5).

Case 4 Non-proliferation

At the 5848th meeting, on 3 March 2008, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran asserted that the Council’s decision to coerce his country into suspension of its peaceful nuclear programme was a gross violation of Article 25 of the Charter. He further stated that while Member States had agreed, in accordance with Article 25, to accept and carry out the decisions of the Council in accordance with the Charter, the Security Council could not coerce countries into submitting either to its decisions taken in bad faith or to its demands negating the fundamental purposes and principles of the Charter.²² While deploring the failure of the Islamic Republic of Iran to suspend its enrichment activities as reported by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the representative of the United Kingdom opined that, overall, the country had clearly failed to abide by its legal obligations under successive Security Council

²⁰ In connection with non-proliferation, see S/PV.5848, p. 5 (Islamic Republic of Iran). In connection with reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan, see S/PV.5905, p. 11 (Italy); and S/PV.6230, p. 12 (Costa Rica). In connection with the situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia, see S/PV.5946, p. 2 (Italy).

²¹ S/PV.5946, p. 2.

²² S/PV.5848, p. 5.

resolutions.²³ The representative of Panama asserted that the Islamic Republic of Iran had not complied and continued to be in non-compliance with the mandate of the Council, thereby flouting the obligations that the Charter imposed on each and every Member State.²⁴ The representative of China also called upon the Islamic Republic of Iran to comply with IAEA and Council resolutions.²⁵

At its 6235th meeting, on 10 December 2009, the Council met to consider the same item with a focus on the sub-item “Briefing by the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006)”. The representative of Japan, speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006), briefed the Council on the Committee’s twelfth 90-day report, which covered the period from 10 September to 10 December. He reported, inter alia, that the Committee had dispatched letters to the two States involved in the transfer of arms-related materiel, reminding them of their obligation to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council under Article 25 of the Charter.²⁶

Case 5 Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan

At its 5905th meeting, on 5 June 2008, the Council heard a briefing by the Prosecutor of the International

Criminal Court pursuant to resolution 1593 (2005). The representative of Panama asserted that one year since the Court had issued arrest warrants against the two Sudanese individuals for their alleged commission of war crimes and crimes against humanity, the Government of the Sudan had refused to arrest and hand over those individuals in compliance with due process. He emphasized that all resolutions of the Council were legally binding for all States Members of the United Nations and called upon the Government of the Sudan to comply with its responsibility to the international community by arresting those individuals.²⁷ The representative of Italy, explicitly citing Article 25, called upon the Government of the Sudan and all other parties to the conflict in Darfur to comply with their obligations under all Council resolutions. He wondered whether a process of modification and erosion of Article 25 by acquiescence was taking place.²⁸

At its 6230th meeting, on 4 December 2009, the Council met to consider the same item. The representative of Costa Rica emphasized that any State that had joined the United Nations was committed to accepting its obligations under the Charter. He stated that when the Republic of the Sudan became a Member of the United Nations it had solemnly committed itself to respect the obligations imposed by the Charter, including its obligation under Article 25 to accept and comply with the Council’s decisions.²⁹

²³ Ibid., p. 13.

²⁴ Ibid., p. 20.

²⁵ Ibid., p. 17.

²⁶ S/PV.6235, p. 2.

²⁷ Ibid., p. 10.

²⁸ S/PV.5905, p. 11.

²⁹ S/PV.6230, p. 12.

III. Article 26

Article 26

In order to promote the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world’s human and economic resources, the Security Council shall be responsible for formulating, with the assistance of the Military Staff Committee referred to in Article 47, plans to be submitted to the Members of the United Nations for the establishment of a system for the regulation of armaments.

Note

This section covers Article 26 of the Charter, which deals with the practice of the Security Council concerning its responsibility for formulating plans for the establishment of a system for a regulation of armaments.

During the period under review, the Security Council did not adopt any decisions that explicitly invoked Article 26 of the Charter. At two meetings, however, Article 26 was explicitly referred to in the deliberations of the Council in connection with the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and

security”.³⁰ In addition, explicit references to Article 26 were made in two communications.³¹

The following case is drawn from the deliberations of Council members on the interpretation of Article 26 under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security” (case 6).

Case 6
Maintenance of international peace and security

At its 6017th meeting, on 19 November 2008, the Council held a high-level open debate under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security” with a focus on the sub-item “Strengthening collective security through general regulation and reduction of armaments”. During the debate, many speakers explicitly referred to Article 26 in the context of possible mechanisms for arms control and

regulation, with some speakers noting its noble objectives and visionary nature, while others expressed support for Costa Rica’s proposals towards implementation of Article 26, such as an enhanced system of regional arrangements, and called for the Council to take a more proactive role in achieving the aims of Article 26.³²

At its 6191st meeting, on 24 September 2009, the Council met to consider the same item under the sub-item “Nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament”. The representative of Costa Rica expressed the view that the United Nations was founded on a promise that was reflected in Article 26 of the Charter, which was that the Council would promote “the establishment and maintenance of international peace and security with the least diversion for armaments of the world’s human and economic resources”.³³

³⁰ S/PV.6017 and S/PV.6017 (Resumption 1); S/PV.6191.

³¹ Letters dated 10 November 2008 and 13 February 2009 from the Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/697, pp. 2-4; and S/2009/96, p. 7).

³² S/PV.6017, p. 2 (Costa Rica); p. 5 (Viet Nam); p. 11 (Indonesia); p. 15 (Belgium); pp. 20-21 (Costa Rica); S/PV.6017 (Resumption 1), p. 3 (Ecuador); p. 5 (Switzerland); p. 11 (Colombia); p. 15 (Morocco); p. 16 (Canada); p. 18 (Qatar); and p. 20 (Benin).

³³ S/PV.6191, p. 4.