

# Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council 17th Supplement 2010-2011

Department of Political Affairs - Security Council Affairs Division Security Council Practices and Charter Research Branch

## The situation in Afghanistan

#### Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held 13 meetings in connection with the situation in Afghanistan, adopting four resolutions and one presidential statement. The Council focused on the gradual transition to full Afghan responsibility for providing security, governance and development. It considered the holding of parliamentary elections as well as the work and the mandates of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the United Nations-authorized International Security Assistance Force (ISAF).

The Council extended the mandate of UNAMA twice for periods of one year. <sup>1</sup> It also extended the authorization of ISAF, under Chapter VII of the Charter, including authorization for the Member States participating in ISAF to take all necessary measures to fulfil its mandate, twice for periods of one year. <sup>2</sup>

The Council split the sanctions regime governing the measures imposed against Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities and established a separate Committee to oversee the measures imposed on any individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with the Taliban.<sup>3</sup> The original sanctions committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) would focus on overseeing the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Resolutions <u>1917 (2010)</u> and <u>1974 (2011)</u>. For information on the mandate of UNAMA, see part X, sect. II with regard to political and peacebuilding missions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Resolutions <u>1943 (2010)</u> and <u>2011 (2011)</u>. For information on the mandate of ISAF, see part VII, sect. IV. A, with regard to decisions of the Security Council relating to Article 42 of the Charter.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Resolution <u>1988 (2011)</u>. For information, see part I, sect. 34 with regard to the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".

implementation of measures imposed on any individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida.

The Council also went on a mission to Afghanistan from 21 to 24 June 2010.<sup>4</sup>
A table lists the meetings held in consideration of this item, as well as related information, including invitees, speakers and decisions adopted.

## January 2010 to December 2011: transition and related political developments

Five international conferences relating to Afghanistan were held in London, Kabul, Lisbon, Istanbul, and Bonn between January 2010 and December 2011, by which the international community and Afghanistan jointly decided to gradually transition to Afghan authorities responsibilities for security, governance and development. The Council received ten briefings on the political developments in relation to the transition.

On 6 January 2010, in their joint briefing to the Council, both the Secretary-General and his Special Representative underscored the immense challenges faced by Afghanistan, in view of deteriorating security and a more demanding political environment. The Secretary-General stated that Afghanistan was at a critical juncture, with difficult elections, violence and doubts about current strategies of both the Government and the international community all combining to produce further uncertainty. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General cautioned that "negative trends", namely, the growing impatience of public opinion in the donor and troop contributing countries, increasing frustration among the Afghan public and the difficulties experienced by international and Afghan forces in putting the insurgency on the defensive, would become unmanageable if they were not reversed. <sup>5</sup> Both emphasized the importance of getting the political agenda right, that is, attaching equal importance to both civilian and military aspects of the transition and accelerating the process of

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> For information on Security Council missions, see sect. 36 of the present part, and part VI, sect. II, with regard to investigation of disputes and fact-finding.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> S/PV.6255, pp. 4-5.

"Afghanization". Joined by other speakers, the Special Representative viewed the London and Kabul Conferences to be held in January and July 2010 as critical opportunities to agree on a politically driven strategy in which Afghan ownership and Afghan capacity stood at the centre of all activities.<sup>6</sup>

In his briefing to the Council on 18 March 2010, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations underlined the consensus reached between Afghanistan and its international partners at the London Conference of 28 January 2010 on the need for transition to greater Afghan responsibility and an increasingly supporting role for the international community. In the midst of heightened military operations, the international community was faced with a "crowded political calendar", in particular the Consultative Peace Jirga in April, the Kabul Conference in July, and the National Assembly elections in September. Echoing the Under-Secretary-General's statement, the representative of Afghanistan said that "Afghanization" would be the priority of his Government in 2010, which implied that Afghans would take the lead, with the support of the international community, in areas such as improving security across the country, promoting reconciliation, building capacity, rooting out corruption, encouraging participation, promoting justice and the rule of law, and conducting electoral reform. 8 Speakers expressed their support for Afghan leadership and ownership of the transition process.<sup>9</sup> Stating that the transfer of responsibilities to the Afghan authorities should not be understood as an exit strategy, the representative of Turkey stressed that the civilian presence of the international community should be strengthened. <sup>10</sup> His view was shared by the representative of Italy who underlined civilian efforts in the international strategy for the stabilization and reconstruction of Afghanistan. 11

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> <u>S/PV.6255</u>, p. 5 (Special Representative); p. 9 (Afghanistan); pp. 18-19 (United Kingdom); p. 22 (France), p. 23 (Japan); pp. 24-25 (Nigeria); p. 26 (Mexico); p. 30 (Australia); p. 34 (Norway); and p. 35 (European Union).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> <u>S/PV.6287</u>, p. 2

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Ibid., pp. 5-6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Ibid., p. 7 (Turkey); p. 13 (United States); p. 16 (United Kingdom); p. 22 (Gabon); and p. 29 (Norway). <sup>10</sup> Ibid., p. 7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Ibid., p. 32.

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On 30 June 2010, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General reported to the Council that UNAMA was focusing on a three-plus-one initiative, which covered elections, internal and regional dialogue, constructive regional engagement as well as aid coherence. 12 As one way to promote reintegration and reconciliation, speakers welcomed the holding of the Consultative Peace Jirga in early June. 13 The representative of Afghanistan added that many of the recommendations contained in the Peace and Reintegration Programme, the outcome document of the Peace Jirga, were being implemented by his Government and a high-level council was being created to oversee the implementation. <sup>14</sup> Noting the call by the Peace Jirga for the removal of the names of the Afghan opposition from the list established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999), the representative of Austria and the Russian Federation underlined the principles governing the de-listing: individuals should convincingly renounce violence, lay down arms, break ties with Al-Qaida and fully respect the Afghan constitution. 15

On 29 September 2010, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General conveyed to the Council the need for the international community to support the rollout of national priority programmes and public finance management identified as the priorities of future work at the Kabul conference of 2 July 2010. 16 The representative of Afghanistan added that the "Kabul process" adopted in the conference focused on increased Afghan leadership across the board. He stated that Afghanistan's 23 national priority programmes were also presented during the meeting, including its national security policy and its national reconciliation initiative, all of which were endorsed by the international community. In the area of security, he stated that his country would be taking the lead in combat operations in volatile provinces by 2011 and would meet its security obligations by 2014. Turning to the socio-economic agenda, he welcomed the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> S/PV.6351, p. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Ibid., p. 9 (Afghanistan); p. 9 (China); p. 12 (Japan); p. 17 (Austria); p. 21 (Uganda); p. 23 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 25 (Mexico); p. 26 (Canada); p. 28 (Italy); p. 29 (Germany); p. 29 (European Union); and p. 33 (Pakistan).

14 Ibid., p. 9 (Afghanistan).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> Ibid., p. 18 (Austria); and p. 22 (Russian Federation).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> S/PV.6394, p. 5.

international community's decision to channel 50 per cent of donor assistance through Afghanistan's national budget by January 2012. Noting the complementary role of President Karzai's reintegration and reconciliation initiative to military efforts, he informed the Council that the High Peace Council had been established in September 2010 by his Government to oversee the implementation of reintegration and reconciliation.<sup>17</sup>

Speakers expressed their support for the establishment of the High Peace Council as well as the Afghan peace and reintegration programme formulated by the Afghan government. <sup>18</sup> The representative of Japan welcomed the launching of the peace and reintegration trust fund. <sup>19</sup> Speakers also underscored the importance of reviewing and updating the Consolidated List created pursuant to <u>resolution 1267 (1999)</u> in promoting reintegration and bolstering peace and security in Afghanistan. <sup>20</sup>

On 22 December 2010, reporting to the Council on the attack on the United Nations centre at Herat on 23 October 2010, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General warned of a tense security environment in the next few months. He also informed the Council of the plans of UNAMA to increase activities in assisting in transition in the areas of capacity-building, support for Afghan ownership of Afghan territory and realignment of bilateral and multilateral aid in line with Afghan-set priorities. <sup>21</sup>

Remarking that the Lisbon North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit of 20 November 2010 was a milestone in reassuring an enduring partnership between Afghanistan and NATO, the representative of Afghanistan stated that a framework had been adopted at the summit for the transition to increased Afghanistan leadership over the

<sup>18</sup> Ibid., p. 11 (United Kingdom); p. 15 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 16 (Nigeria); p. 18 (Brazil); p. 19 (Austria); p. 20 (China); p. 22 (Lebanon); p. 25 (Canada); p. 27 (Germany); p. 29 (New Zealand); p. 30 (Pakistan); and p. 35 (Australia).

<sup>19</sup> Ibid., p. 8.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> S/PV.6394, pp. 6-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> Ibid., p. 7 (Afghanistan); p. 12 (France); p. 14 (United States); p. 15 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 19 (Austria); and p. 21 (Mexico).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> <u>S/PV.6464</u>, pp. 2-3.

next four years through a province-by-province approach. He stated that the transition would be launched in 2011 and practical preparations were under way to that end, with the international partners redefining their mission with a view to sustained and expedited recruitment, training and resourcing of the Afghan national army and police. Turning to the three main components of the Kabul process: security, development and governance, he reported that overall security had improved and the zone of security had expanded with Afghan security forces exerting greater presence and control in areas previously held by enemy combatants. In the areas of development and governance, he underscored that 95 per cent of planned activities for creating an efficient and effective government had been completed since the Kabul Conference in July 2010. Speakers welcomed the progress made in the implementation of the Kabul process. <sup>23</sup>

On 17 March 2011, in his briefing to the Council, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNAMA welcomed the transition in security towards Afghan ownership. He stated that UNAMA was contributing to the civilian transition and that the transitioning provinces were to be given incentives and be rewarded instead of being just neglected after the transition had taken place. He called for a surge to protect civilians owing to the spike in civilian casualty rates in 2010, in addition to the ongoing military and civilian surge by an enhanced diplomatic surge. Regarding institution building, he informed the Council that Parliament was inaugurated on 26 January by President Karzai and a minority candidate had been elected as the leader of the Wolesi Jirga, the Lower House of the Parliament, which showed that Afghans could find their own solutions and meet various ethnic, factional and regional needs. Turning to peace, integration and regional issues, he reported that an important meeting of the International Contact Group held at the beginning of March 2011 had endorsed the High Peace

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> <u>Ibid.</u>, pp. 5-7.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> Ibid., p. 19 (Brazil); p. 31 (Canada); and p. 34 (European Union).

Council established in September 2010, which called for a Kabul-based approach to peace and reconciliation initiatives.<sup>24</sup>

On 6 July 2011, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General told the Council that July 2011 would see the start of the phased transition in seven areas, provinces and cities as well as the gradual drawdown of coalition forces announced by President Obama of the United States.<sup>25</sup>

On 29 September 2011, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General reported to the Council the tragic death of Mr. Rabbani, the former President and the chairman of the High Peace Council. In that regard, he underlined the importance of ensuring a proper and rigorous vetting mechanism when implementing the Afghanistan Peace and Reintegration Programme. <sup>26</sup> In the same vein, the representative of Pakistan pointed out that the Committee established pursuant to Security Council resolution 1988 (2011) had delisted from the Consolidated List the person who had allegedly assassinated Mr. Rabbani.<sup>27</sup> Noting the increasing positive progress in the development of both the Afghan National Police and the Afghan National Army, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General reported that the transition was moving forward. He also referred to the two crucial meetings to be held in Istanbul on 2 November and in Bonn on 5 December 2011 as an opportunity to reassure the Afghan Government and people that the international community would be with them in the long run. <sup>28</sup> Emphasizing that the transition should be based on realities on the ground rather than rigid timetables, the representative of India warned that if the international community hurried to withdraw from a combat role in Afghanistan, it would do so only "at its own peril".<sup>29</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> S/ PV.649<u>7</u>, p. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> S/PV.6574, p. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> S/PV.6625, pp. 2-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> Ibid., p. 31.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Ibid., pp. 2-3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Ibid., p. 21.

On 19 December 2011, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations reported to the Council that he had attended the International Conference on Afghanistan in Bonn on 5 December, which had reaffirmed the commitment of the international community to Afghanistan beyond 2014. Highlighting the crucial role of the United Nations in Afghanistan as elaborated in the Declaration of the Conference, he informed the Council about the three future priorities underscored by the Secretary-General on the sidelines of the Conference: to provide security and development assistance, to promote and support an inclusive reconciliation process led by Afghans and to continue to promote human rights. Turning to the transition, he stated that the transition of security responsibilities was proceeding apace with the second tranche of areas to be handed over to Afghan security as approved by President Karzai at the end of November. 30 At the same meeting, a presidential statement was adopted, by which the Council, inter alia, welcomed the declaration in Bonn that the Process of Transition, to be completed by the end of 2014, should be followed by a decade of Transformation (2015-2024), in which Afghanistan would consolidate its sovereignty through strengthening a fully functioning, sustainable State in service of its people.<sup>31</sup>

#### March 2010 to December 2011: renewal of UNAMA mandate

On 18 March 2010, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, in his briefing, told the Council that UNAMA's work as an integrated mission and that of all United Nations agencies, funds and programs must be continued, sustained and strengthened when necessary. Concurring that UNAMA needed to be strengthened, speakers expressed their support for the extension of UNAMA's mandate for another 12 months. In particular, some speakers suggested UNAMA focus on coordinating

<sup>30</sup> S/PV.6690, pp. 2-4.

<sup>31 &</sup>lt;u>S/PRST/2011/22</u>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> S/PV 6287 n 4

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Ibid., p. 6 (Afghanistan); p. 7 (Turkey); p. 10 (China); p. 12 (Austria); p. 20 (Nigeria); p. 22 (Japan); p. 23 (Gabon); p. 24 (European Union); p. 26 (Germany); p. 29 (Norway); p. 31 (Australia); p. 33 (Italy); and p. 34 (New Zealand).

international humanitarian aid, supporting national electoral capacities, and using its good offices to support the implementation of Afghan reconciliation programmes.<sup>34</sup> The representative of Australia underscored that a renewed UNAMA mandate should also address the call for a better coordinated and civilian effort in Afghanistan to improve the impact of international civilian assistance, and the need for a more rigorous alignment of international assistance with clearly identified Afghan priorities, with UNAMA in the primary coordinating role in those activities.<sup>35</sup> The representative of Germany stressed that the emphasis on Afghan ownership and the concept of transition of responsibility should be adequately reflected in the resolution of the Council and the mandate of UNAMA.<sup>36</sup>

On 22 March 2010, the Council adopted <u>resolution 1917 (2010)</u>, which, inter alia, extended the mandate of UNAMA until 23 March 2011 and identified areas where UNAMA would lead the international civilian effort.<sup>37</sup> After its adoption, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that the resolution reflected the concern of the Council regarding the deteriorating security situation in Afghanistan due to the growing terrorist activities of the Taliban and Al-Qaida. In that regard, his delegation noted a growing link between the terrorists in that country and drug traffickers. He noted with concern the information in the media about the intention of the ISAF to abandon opium eradication efforts in Afghanistan. He urged that ISAF and the anti-terrorist coalition continue actively and decisively to address the drug threat emanating from Afghanistan and to cooperate with the Afghan Government on the issue. He warned that any attempt to bring the Taliban onboard would be a grave mistake.<sup>38</sup>

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Ibid., p. 8 (Mexico); p. 9 (Brazil); p. 12 (France); and p. 15 (Bosnia and Herzegovina).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> Ibid., p. 31.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Ibid., p. 26.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> For more information on UNAMA, see part X, sect. II with regard to political and peacebuilding missions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> S/PV.<u>6290</u>, pp. 2-3.

On 17 March 2011, showing respect for the desire of the Afghan authorities for national sovereignty, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNAMA requested the President of the Council to allow the representative of Afghanistan to address the Council before him. The representative of Afghanistan presented three requests from his Government concerning UNAMA's mandate in light of the transition: 1) a comprehensive review of UNAMA's mandate before the Bonn Conference at the end of 2011; 2) greater coherence, coordination and efficiency in the work of the United Nations funds, programmes and agencies operating in Afghanistan towards "one United Nations"; 3) reshaping the mandate of UNAMA around the transition. To that end, his Government proposed adjustments to the mandate of UNAMA regarding the Afghan leadership and the supporting role of UNAMA in the transition process, which ranged from the emphasis on UNAMA's responsibility as the co-chair of the Joint Coordination and Monitoring Board to promote coherence in the international community's support for the Afghan-defined and Afghan-led development strategy to the coordinating role of UNAMA in delivering humanitarian assistance. <sup>39</sup> Echoing the representative of Afghanistan, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General saw the review of UNAMA's mandate as a good opportunity to streamline the activities of UNAMA and the United Nations family in a coherent effort to deliver as one. 40 Stressing that transition did not mean reduced international engagement, the representative of Germany was concerned that the technical capacity for the successful implementation of the Government's national priority programme was not yet in place. In this context, he called on UNAMA and other partners to redouble their efforts in support of the Afghan government, in particular in regions and areas where early transition had been planned. Underlining the responsibility and commitment of the international community to empower Afghan institutions, he admitted that the amount of goodwill of development partners could also contribute to undermining Afghan solutions to Afghan problems. In that context, he supported a review of United Nations assistance in the perspective of the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> <u>S/PV.6497</u>, pp. 2-4. Ibid., p. 5.

next mandate renewal in March 2012, as soon as the Council was in a position to evaluate, on an informed basis, first experiences with transition and reconciliation. 41

On 22 March 2011, the Council adopted resolution 1974 (2011), by which, inter alia, it extended the mandate of UNAMA until 23 March 2012, identified the priority areas where UNAMA should continue to lead international civilian efforts, and requested a comprehensive review of the mandated activities by the end of 2011, in the light of first experiences with the transition.

On 19 December 2011, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations reported to the Council that the process of reviewing UNAMA's mandated activities and United Nations support in Afghanistan was under way. The inter-agency team appointed by the Secretary-General to conduct the review would debrief before compiling their findings and recommendations in order to inform the Council's discussions related to the mandate renewal in March 2012. 42 Recognizing the crucial role that UNAMA would continue to play in the transition process as highlighted in the Istanbul and Bonn Conferences, speakers expressed interest in the upcoming review findings. 43 Hoping that the mandate review would strengthen the central role of the United Nations in coordinating the efforts of the international community to assist Afghanistan, the representative of China emphasized that the United Nations should strengthen coordination with Afghanistan and listen to and respect its views in the review process.<sup>44</sup>

### January 2010 to December 2010: parliamentary elections

On 6 January 2010, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General informed the Council that the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) had announced that the

<sup>41</sup> Ibid., pp. 7-8. <sup>42</sup> <u>S/PV.6690</u>, p. 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Ibid., pp. 13-14 (United States); p. 18 (France); p. 21 (United Kingdom); and p. 32 (European Union). <sup>44</sup> Ibid., p. 20.

parliamentary elections would take place on 22 May, in accordance with the Constitution. Noting the technical challenges to keeping that timeline, he suggested that the elections could be held later that year without violating the relevant laws. 45 However, the representative of Afghanistan felt that the timeline should be upheld because any suggestion that the elections be postponed ignored the constitutional requirements and would damage the integrity of the process. 46 Several speakers noted that the electoral process should be reformed ahead of the upcoming parliamentary elections. <sup>47</sup> The representative of France stressed that the elections should be held in conditions that ensured a free and democratic choice.<sup>48</sup>

In his briefing to the Council on 18 March 2010, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations stated that the upcoming National Assembly elections could be another milestone in highlighting the primacy of the constitutional imperative in leading Afghanistan's future, as well as an agreed common strategy of transitioning to increased Afghan ownership and leadership. He underlined the need for collective support to the Afghan Government in progressing on the electoral reform agenda as agreed at the London Conference. 49 Expressing their general support for electoral reform, several representatives emphasized that lessons should be drawn from the presidential elections of 2009 in order to ensure the credibility and transparency of the forthcoming parliamentary elections. <sup>50</sup> In that regard, the representative of Mexico urged the appointment of a new Electoral Complaints Commission, the adoption of measures to assert the independence of the Independent Election Commission, the launch of an investigation of alleged fraud in the most recent elections, and the guaranteed

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> <u>S/PV.6255</u>, p. 7.

<sup>46</sup> Ibid., p. 10.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Ibid., p. 11 (Turkey); p. 13 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 14 (Austria); p. 18 (United States); p. 20 (Brazil); p. 22 (France); p. 27 (Canada); p. 30 (Australia); p. 33 (Norway); and p. 34 (European Union). <sup>48</sup> S/PV.6255, p. 22. <sup>49</sup> S/PV.6287, p. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Ibid., p. 8 (Mexico); p. 12 (France); p. 14 (United States); p. 17 (United Kingdom); p. 18 (Lebanon); p. 22 (Japan); p. 25 (European Union); pp. 31-32 (Australia); and p. 33 (Italy).

participation of women and minorities.<sup>51</sup> Stressing the crucial importance of undertaking all reforms in a transparent manner, the representative of Canada noted with concern reports that changes had been recently made to the electoral law that might decrease the independence of the Electoral Complaints Commission.<sup>52</sup>

On 30 June 2010, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General informed the Council that UNAMA proposed, and with the cooperation of the international community in Kabul, received approval for the implementation guidelines for the elections, resolving an institutional stalemate between the two institutions of the presidency and the Loya Jirga, which could have blocked the election process. He stated that the progress had produced three results: firstly, the creation of a new electoral chairmanship and a new electoral aid team; secondly, the presence of international commissioners, whose consensus was needed for the Electoral Complaints Commission to take a decision, and thirdly, a guarantee of sixty-eight seats in the Afghan Parliament for women. While warning that security would be the main challenge to the elections, he affirmed that elections were moving ahead in the right direction with thirty thousand voters registered and 12.5 million people expected to vote. 53 The representative of Afghanistan also confirmed that the Afghan-led parliamentary election process was well under way, with 2,577 candidates, including 406 women, standing for 249 seats.<sup>54</sup>

On 29 September 2010, the Special Representative of the Secretary General reported to the Council that the holding of the elections was an achievement in itself while the outcome of the elections remained to be seen. He noted a significant improvement in the work of the Independent Electoral Commission in the elections compared with the presidential elections of 2009, despite immense security and logistical challenges. He stated that 3,900 complaints had been received thus far and the final

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Ibid., p. 9.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Ibid., p. 24. <sup>53</sup> <u>S/PV.6351</u>, pp. 3-4.

outcome of the elections was likely to be around 30 October. The representative of Afghanistan said that the elections were a major victory for democracy in Afghanistan. <sup>56</sup>

On 22 December 2010, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General informed the Council that with the certification of all results by the independent Electoral Commissions and the Electoral Complaint Commission on 30 November 2010, the electoral process had been "procedurally concluded". He welcomed the decision by President Karzai to inaugurate the new Parliament by the end of January 2011. Fraising the certification of the election results, several speakers commended the work of the two Electoral Commissions. While recognizing that the electoral bodies had been strengthened since the presidential elections in 2009, the representative of Mexico underscored the challenges faced by Afghanistan in the area of institutional capacity-building as demonstrated by the high number of irregularities and complaints submitted to the Electoral Complaints Commission. He believed that both the Independent Electoral Commission and the Complaints Commission should take advantage of the ongoing discussions with the United Nations to further strengthen their capacities. Several speakers opined that the successful holding of the elections should serve as a foundation to press forward a longer-term electoral reform.

#### October 2010 to October 2011: extension of the authorization of ISAF mandate

The Security Council adopted <u>resolution 1943 (2010)</u> on 13 October 2010 and <u>resolution 2011 (2011)</u> on 12 October 2011, by which it decided respectively to extend the authorization of ISAF for periods of one year.

<sup>57</sup> S/PV.6464, pp. 4-5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> S/PV.6394, pp. 3-4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Ibid., p. 6.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>58</sup> Ibid., p. 8 (Turkey); p. 8 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 11 (United Kingdom); p. 12 (Japan); p. 14 (Nigeria); p. 21 (Austria); p. 22 (Gabon); p. 31 (Canada); and p. 33 (European Union).

<sup>59</sup> S/PV.6464, p. 16.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Ibid., p. 9 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 11 (United Kingdom); p. 12 (Japan); p. 14 (Nigeria); p. 21 (Austria); p. 23 (United States); p. 33 (Australia); and p. 33 (European Union).

## Meetings: the situation in Afghanistan

Meeting and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)
6255 6 January 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2009/674)		Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNAMA, Acting Head of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	Secretary- General, all Council members and all invitees	
6287 18 March 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <u>S/2010/127</u> )		11 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Under-Secretary General for Peacekeeping Operations, Chargé d'affaires of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	
6290 22 March 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <u>S/2010/127</u> )	Draft resolution submitted by Turkey ( <u>S/2010/147</u> )	Afghanistan		Turkey and the Russian Federation	Resolution 1917 (2010) 15-0-0
6351 30 June 2010	Report of the Secretary-General pursuant to paragraph 40 of resolution 1917 (2010) (S/2010/318)  Letter dated 14 June 2010 from the President of the Security Council to the Secretary-General (S/2010/325)		Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Italy, Norway, Pakistan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Acting Head of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	
6394 29 September 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <u>S/2010/463</u> )		Afghanistan (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Italy, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Head of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	

Meeting and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)
6395 13 October 2010		Draft resolution submitted by Turkey (S/2010/518)	Afghanistan			Resolution 1943 (2010) 15-0-0
6464 22 December 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2010/630)		Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Pakistan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Deputy Head of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	
6497 17 March 2011	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2011/120)		Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Turkey	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Acting Head of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations		
6500 22 March 2011	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2011/120)	Draft resolution submitted by Germany ( <u>S/2011/147</u> )	Afghanistan		Afghanistan	Resolution 1974 (2011) 15-0-0
		Note verbale dated 4 March 2011 from Afghanistan concerning the new mandate of UNAMA (S/2011/118)				
6574 6 July 2011	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2011/381)		Afghanistan, Canada, Japan, Pakistan, Turkey	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Acting Head of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	

Meeting and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)
6625 29 September 2011	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2011/590)		Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Japan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Turkey	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Acting Head of the delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	
6629 12 October 2011		Draft resolution submitted by Germany ( <u>S/2011/630</u> )	Afghanistan			Resolution 2011 (2011) 15-0-0
6690 19 December 2011	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2011/772)		11 Member States <sup>b</sup>	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Special Representative of the Secretary-General, former Special Representative of the Secretary-General; Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	<u>S/PRST/2011/22</u>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>a</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Italy, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan and Poland.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>b</sup> Afghanistan (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), Australia, Canada, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan and Turkey.