

16. Items relating to the situation in Tajikistan

A. The situation in Tajikistan

Decision of 29 April 1993: letter from the President to the Secretary-General

By a letter dated 26 April 1993 addressed to the President of the Security Council,¹ the Secretary-General referred to his letter dated 21 December 1992, in which he had informed the Council of his intention to send to Tajikistan a small integrated United Nations team of political, military and humanitarian officers who would monitor the situation on the ground. That team, referred to as the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT), had become operational on 21 January 1993 and had provided valuable up-to-date information on the conflict situation in Tajikistan. Recent reports from UNMOT had led the Secretary-General to conclude that there could be an escalation of the confrontation, especially in the border areas between Tajikistan and Afghanistan, unless urgent action was taken to establish a ceasefire and start a political dialogue among all concerned. Accordingly, the Secretary-General had decided, after consulting with the Government of Tajikistan and others concerned, to appoint a Special Envoy for Tajikistan, who would report to the Secretary-General on the results achieved after approximately three months.² In those circumstances the Secretary-General believed it was necessary to extend the mandate of UNMOT for an additional three months so that it could continue its monitoring and humanitarian efforts as well as provide support to the Special Envoy.

By a letter dated 29 April 1993,³ the President of the Council (Pakistan) informed the Secretary-General as follows:

¹ S/25697.

² The mandate of the Special Envoy, as laid out in document S/25697, was (a) to obtain agreement on a ceasefire and make recommendations on such international monitoring mechanisms as may be appropriate; (b) to ascertain the positions of all the concerned parties and make good offices available to assist the establishment of a process of negotiations for a political solution; (c) to enlist the help of neighbouring countries and others concerned in achieving the above objectives.

³ S/25698.

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 26 April 1993 concerning Tajikistan has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council. After having held consultations, the members of the Council have asked me to express their appreciation for the work of the small integrated United Nations team sent to Tajikistan. They are concerned at the situation in Tajikistan as reported in your letter and accordingly welcome your decision to appoint Mr. Ismat Kittani as your Special Envoy for Tajikistan. They also welcome your proposal that the small team of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan should remain there for a further three months.

The members of the Council look forward to further reports on developments in Tajikistan, on Mr. Kittani's mission as it develops, and on any future recommendations you wish to make in the context of that mission.

B. The situation in Tajikistan and along the Tajik-Afghan border

Initial proceedings

Decision of 23 August 1993 (3266th meeting): statement by the President

On 16 August 1993, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan,⁴ in which he described the latest developments in the country as well as the efforts of his Special Envoy. The Secretary-General reported that there had been a large-scale attack on 13 July 1993 by fighters who had crossed in from Afghanistan and had occupied a Russian military border post along the Tajik-Afghan border. That incident, which had resulted in 27 deaths and many more injuries, had transformed the situation into an international crisis of multiple dimensions. He also reported that on 6 and 7 July 1993, at the initiative of the President of Afghanistan, an agreement had been reached at a summit meeting of the Economic Cooperation Organization in Istanbul to establish a commission composed of representatives of Afghanistan, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan and the Russian Federation to find a peaceful solution to the problem on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. The Secretary-General also referred to a summit meeting on the situation in Tajikistan which had taken place in Moscow on 7 August 1993 at the initiative of the

⁴ S/26311.

Russian Federation at which the heads of State and Government from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan had emphasized that a political settlement remained the main priority and had called on the international community to support efforts to reach a political settlement. At the same meeting, the Government of Tajikistan had expressed its intention to develop a dialogue with opposition forces. The Secretary-General observed that a solution to the conflict could only come through peaceful reconciliation with the widest possible participation of all political groups and all the regions of the country. Given the escalating crisis on the Tajik-Afghan border, he had dispatched his Special Envoy to Afghanistan and other countries in the region for further discussions. Expressing his deep concern at the situation in Tajikistan, which contained the seeds of a major threat to peace and security for central Asia and beyond, he stressed the need for a concerted effort in order to persuade the Government of Tajikistan and all major groups in the opposition to accept a political solution and to participate in a negotiating process. The Secretary-General stood ready to recommend to the Security Council a positive reaction to any reasonable request by the parties for United Nations assistance in their efforts to implement the various initiatives under consideration. In those circumstances, he proposed to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy until 31 October 1993. Sharing the views of his Special Envoy that Tajikistan needed advice and assistance in developing various parts of its economic and social infrastructure, as well as humanitarian assistance, and noting that the Government had also sought United Nations advisory services in the field of human rights, he said that a multifaceted United Nations presence would be required in Dushanbe. In the interim, he proposed to extend, for a period of three months, the small team of United Nations officials already in Tajikistan.

At its 3266th meeting, on 23 August 1993, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President (United States) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a letter dated 4 August 1993 addressed to the Secretary-General from the representative of

Tajikistan,⁵ in which he stated that, given the ongoing build-up of Tajik armed opposition forces and Afghan mujahidin in Afghanistan along the frontier with Tajikistan, his Government considered that the only alternative was decisive action to put an end to the armed aggression in that area, in full conformity with the right of individual and collective self-defence provided for under Article 51 of the Charter. The President also drew attention to a letter dated 10 August 1993 from the representatives of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Tajikistan,⁶ transmitting several documents adopted at the meeting of the heads of State of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan at Moscow on 7 August 1993. In one of those documents,⁷ the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the five participating countries informed the Secretary-General that, in accordance with the Treaty on Collective Security which they had signed within the framework of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and in implementation of the right of individual and collective self-defence under Article 51 of the Charter, they had decided to provide Tajikistan with emergency supplementary assistance, including military assistance. Taking into account the threat to peace and security in the region, they requested the Security Council to consider immediately the critical situation that had arisen on the Tajik-Afghan frontier and to take measures to ensure its inviolability, including the possible sending of United Nations observers.

The President then stated that, following consultations among Council members, she had been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁸

The Council expresses its deep concern at the continuing violence and armed conflict in Tajikistan, at the escalating crisis along the Tajik-Afghan border, and at the risk of the conflict threatening the peace and stability of Central Asia and beyond.

The Council stresses the urgent need for the cessation of all hostile actions on the Tajik-Afghan border. It urges the Government of Tajikistan and all opposition groups to accept as soon as possible the need for an overall political solution and to participate in a negotiating process for the early establishment of a ceasefire and eventual national reconciliation with the widest possible participation of all political groups and all the regions

⁵ S/26241.

⁶ S/26290.

⁷ *Ibid.*, annex III.

⁸ S/26341.

of the country. The Council looks to the Government of Tajikistan and all opposition groups to observe basic political rights of all groups in Tajikistan, in order to promote a lasting reconciliation and to achieve full compliance with the principles to which Tajikistan is committed as a participating State in the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The Council reaffirms the necessity to respect the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Tajikistan and all other countries of the region and the inviolability of their borders.

The Council welcomes efforts by regional parties aimed at stabilizing the situation. In particular, the Council welcomes the Moscow summit of heads of State and Government from the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Republic of Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan, held on 7 August 1993 at the initiative of the Russian Federation, and the Istanbul summit of the Economic Cooperation Organization, held on 6 and 7 July 1993, and their decisions aimed at peaceful solutions to the problems on the border between Tajikistan and Afghanistan. Furthermore, it welcomes the efforts of the Conference on Cooperation and Security in Europe. The Council recognizes the actions of the Governments of Afghanistan and Tajikistan which created new negotiating bodies aimed at reducing tension along their common border.

The Council draws attention to the critical humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and the Tajik refugee camps in northern Afghanistan and the need for additional humanitarian assistance. Stabilizing the situation along the Tajik-Afghan border should assist the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in performing its mission. The Council calls upon the Government of Tajikistan to continue to assist in the return and reintegration of all Tajiks who fled this civil war and who wish to return to their homes.

The Council expresses appreciation for the report of the Secretary-General of 16 August 1993 and welcomes his proposals to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy until 31 October 1993 and to extend the tenure of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan for a period of three months. In the light of the unstable situation on the Tajik-Afghan border, the Council welcomes the Secretary-General's decision to dispatch his Special Envoy to Afghanistan and other countries in the region. The Council also welcomes the receptivity of the Secretary-General to possible requests from the parties for United Nations assistance in their efforts already under way and requests that he and his Special Envoy maintain close contact with the parties.

The Council looks forward to receiving periodic reports from the Secretary-General on his Special Envoy's mission and the Secretary-General's recommendations for ways the United Nations may assist in resolving the situation and for defining more clearly the possible ambit of United Nations involvement.

The Council will remain seized of the matter.

Decision of 23 November 1993: letter from the President to the Secretary-General

On 14 November 1993, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan.⁹ The Secretary-General stated that the situation in Tajikistan, especially on the Tajik-Afghan border, gave grounds for serious concern. Cross-border infiltration by armed opposition groups from the territory of Afghanistan and fighting between them and government and CIS forces occurred on a daily basis. In addition, the armed confrontation was intensifying inside the country. There remained a danger that that instability could spill into neighbouring countries. The humanitarian situation continued to be a matter of deep concern. There were also alarming reports of violations of human rights in Tajikistan.

The Secretary-General reported that the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan had informed him of the decision of their Governments to establish CIS coalition peacekeeping forces on the territory of Tajikistan, with the purpose of stabilizing the situation in that country.¹⁰ There had also been encouraging developments on the bilateral front with the three-day visit to Kabul by the Tajik President, which concluded on 30 August 1993.

The Secretary-General observed that the current developments in Tajikistan and the neighbouring region gave grounds both for hope for a political solution of the conflict and for serious concern at the risk of further deterioration of the situation. Concerted efforts were needed to overcome the remaining difficulties and to persuade the Government of Tajikistan and all major opposition groups to start a serious process of negotiation without further delay. He would be ready to respond positively to any reasonable request by the parties and to recommend to the Council an appropriate international monitoring mechanism to help to implement possible future agreements concluded by them. In those circumstances, he had decided to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy until 31 March 1994. The Government of Tajikistan had requested him to establish a United Nations integrated office in Dushanbe. Pending a decision by the General Assembly on that matter, he proposed that the small team of United Nations officials already in

⁹ S/26743.

¹⁰ See S/26610.

Tajikistan should continue to perform their functions until such an office was established.¹¹

By a letter dated 23 November 1993,¹² the President of the Council (Cape Verde) informed the Secretary-General as follows:

The members of the Council have requested me to thank you for your report of 14 November 1993 on Tajikistan. They are concerned at the situation in Tajikistan as reported therein and accordingly welcome your decision to extend the mandate of your Special Envoy until 31 March 1994. They agree with your proposal contained in paragraph 16 of your report that the small team of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan continue to perform their functions until a decision is taken on the proposal to establish an integrated office.

The members of the Council welcome the continuing efforts of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe in Tajikistan and look forward to the close coordination you will deem appropriate to maintain and develop between the United Nations and the Conference.

The members of the Council look forward to further reports on developments in Tajikistan and on any future recommendations you might wish to make.

Decision of 22 April 1994: letter from the President to the Secretary-General

On 4 April 1994, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan in which he informed it about the outcome of the discussions held by his Special Envoy with the Government of Tajikistan and other parties, including representatives of neighbouring and other countries in January and February 1994.¹³ During the talks, the Tajik parties had agreed to start negotiations as soon as possible. There were, however, differences between them on the issues of venue and the presence of observers at the talks. In order to facilitate the resolution of those differences, the Government of the Russian Federation had, at the request of the Tajik opposition, held consultations with them. Subsequently, in letters dated 23 and 26 March 1994, the President of Tajikistan and the head of the delegation of the Tajik opposition respectively, had informed the Secretary-General of their readiness to start the talks. In view of those developments, the Secretary-General had instructed his Special Envoy to invite the Tajik parties to a first round of talks in

Moscow, in which the Governments of Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan would also participate as observers. He had also decided to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy for another three months until the end of June 1994 and to enlarge his mandate to provide good offices, at the request of the parties concerned, during the political negotiations on national reconciliation. He further believed it necessary to extend for the same period the mandate of the small group of United Nations officials present in Tajikistan. He would also be ready to recommend to the Council a positive response to any reasonable request the parties might make for international monitoring mechanisms as may be appropriate.

By a letter dated 22 April 1994,¹⁴ the President of the Council (New Zealand) informed the Secretary-General as follows:

I have the honour to inform you that the members of the Security Council have considered your report of 4 April 1994 on the outcome of the discussions held in January and February by your Special Envoy for Tajikistan, Mr. Ramiro Píríz-Ballón, with the Government of Tajikistan and other parties, including representatives of neighbouring and other countries.

The members of the Council have asked me to express their appreciation for the work of your Special Envoy. They particularly welcome his efforts, and those of the Russian Federation and of neighbouring States, in securing the agreement of the parties to begin a political dialogue on national reconciliation.

The members of the Council welcome your decision to enlarge the mandate of your Special Envoy and to extend it by a further period of three months to the end of June 1994, as well as your intention to continue the presence of the small group of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan for a similar period.

The members of the Council look forward to further reports on developments in Tajikistan, and briefings on the mission of Mr. Píríz-Ballón, in particular on the progress of the political talks, and any future recommendations you might wish to make.

Decision of 19 May 1994: letter from the President to the Secretary-General

On 5 May 1994, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan,¹⁵ in which he informed the Council about the first round

¹¹ S/26743, para. 16.

¹² S/26794.

¹³ S/1994/379.

¹⁴ S/1994/494.

¹⁵ S/1994/542.

of the inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation, held under United Nations auspices in Moscow from 5 to 19 April 1994. During those talks both parties had been able to work out a comprehensive agenda for the duration of inter-Tajik negotiations, including three clusters of issues related to the achievement of national reconciliation: (a) measures aimed at a political settlement in Tajikistan; (b) a solution of the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons; and (c) fundamental institutional issues and consolidation of the statehood of Tajikistan. The Secretary-General noted that the widest gap between the two sides had emerged during the debate on the third cluster. The delegations had accordingly agreed that they would, in the future, consider all three clusters as a single package and would negotiate compromise solutions based on that approach. Both Tajik parties had also reaffirmed their commitment to political dialogue as the only means of achieving national reconciliation and included this principle in their joint communiqué.¹⁶ At the same time, the situation in Tajikistan and on its borders with Afghanistan remained unstable and the deep economic crisis had a negative impact on the Government's attempt to achieve political stability. The above factors, together with instability and fighting in neighbouring Afghanistan prevented effective and speedy repatriation of the Tajik refugees. The Secretary-General observed that the first round of talks had been encouraging and had met his expectations. The agreement reached on the comprehensive agenda and the signing of a number of outcome documents had constituted the first step towards building confidence between the Tajik parties. He noted that the regional countries as well as other countries attending the talks as observers had provided valuable help in organizing and holding that first round. It would be important to capitalize on the momentum achieved in Moscow and to make political dialogue irreversible. His Special Envoy was involved in the preparatory work for the second round of talks. In that connection, he appealed to the Tajik parties to demonstrate restraint and to refrain from any action that could obstruct the process of negotiations and national reconciliation.

By a letter dated 19 May 1994,¹⁷ the President of the Council (Nigeria) informed the Secretary-General as follows:

¹⁶ *Ibid.*, annex III.

¹⁷ S/1994/597.

The members of the Security Council have considered your report of 5 May 1994 on the situation in Tajikistan and the efforts that you and your Special Envoy, Mr. Ramiro Píriz-Ballón, have been undertaking to promote political dialogue between the Tajik parties, aimed at achieving national reconciliation.

The members of the Council have asked me to convey to you their full support for your efforts and those of your Special Envoy in addressing the three clusters of issues identified by the Tajik parties, which are related to the achievement of national reconciliation: those of a political settlement, the solution of the problem of refugees and internally displaced persons, and fundamental institutional issues. They are encouraged, as you are, by the outcome of the first inter-Tajik talks in Moscow, in which both parties reaffirmed their commitment to political dialogue as the only means of achieving national reconciliation. The members of the Council concur with your observation that it is important to capitalize on the momentum achieved in Moscow in order to make the political dialogue irreversible.

The members of the Council commend the role of the Russian Federation in organizing and holding the first round of negotiations in Moscow. They also note with appreciation the valuable help provided to this end by regional and other countries attending the talks as observers. They are hopeful that the second round of talks that your Special Envoy is preparing to undertake would consolidate the gains made in the first round of talks. In this connection, they appeal to the Tajik parties to cooperate fully with you, your Special Envoy and the mission in Tajikistan of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe to advance the process of negotiations and the reconciliation of the Tajik nation and to refrain from any action that could obstruct this process.

The members of the Council look forward to receiving your next report on the situation in Tajikistan.

**Decision of 22 September 1994 (3427th
meeting): statement by the President**

At its 3427th meeting, on 22 September 1994, the Security Council resumed its consideration of the item. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Spain) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a letter dated 21 September 1994 addressed to the Secretary-General from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran,¹⁸ transmitting the text of the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and Within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, signed between the Tajik Government and the Tajik opposition, in Tehran, on 17 September 1994. Under the Agreement, the parties agreed, *inter alia*, to a provisional ceasefire and the cessation of other

¹⁸ S/1994/1080.

hostilities on the Tajik-Afghan border and within the country. They also agreed to establish a Joint Commission consisting of representatives of the Government of Tajikistan and of the Tajik opposition to ensure the effective implementation of the Agreement and requested that the Security Council assist the work of the Commission by providing political mediation services and dispatching United Nations military observers to the areas of conflict.

The President then stated that, following consultations among Council members, he had been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:¹⁹

The Security Council welcomes the agreement on a temporary ceasefire signed by the representatives of the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition on 17 September 1994 in Tehran, through the good offices of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General and with the assistance of the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Russian Federation and other countries acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks. The parties agreed to the temporary cessation of all hostile actions on the Tajik Afghan border and inside Tajikistan with the assistance of United Nations military observers. The Council expresses the hope that the third round of the inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad will further consolidate the progress towards the political settlement.

The Council reaffirms its full support for the efforts of the Secretary-General and of his Special Envoy to promote political dialogue between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition aimed at achieving national reconciliation.

The Council notes the request of the parties to the Council for United Nations support for the agreement. It invites the Secretary-General to present urgently his views and recommendations regarding this request and other aspects of the implementation of the agreement.

The Council emphasizes the importance of implementation by the parties of the obligations to which they have committed themselves and in this connection stresses the need for strict observance of the ceasefire and cessation of other hostile actions.

Decision of 29 September 1994: letter from the President to the Secretary-General

On 27 September 1994, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan.²⁰ The Secretary-General recalled that, in his report to the Security Council dated 28 July 1994,²¹ he

had informed the members of the Council of his decision to suspend preparations for the third round of inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad due to the lack of progress in the implementation of the necessary confidence-building measures by the Government of Tajikistan. In the following weeks the Government had adopted a number of important measures which he had interpreted to be a demonstration of its commitment to resolve the conflict through political dialogue. Accordingly, he had instructed his Special Envoy to undertake consultations with the Tajik parties with a view to arranging the next round of inter-Tajik talks. As a result, the two sides had agreed to hold high-level consultations in Tehran with a view to discussing the prospects for a third round of inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad. The consultations, held from 12 to 17 September 1994, enabled the parties to sign an Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks. The parties had also agreed to hold the next round of inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad in the middle of October 1994.

The Secretary-General believed that the signing of the Tehran Agreement was an important step towards national reconciliation and the restoration of peace in Tajikistan. In those circumstances, he intended to extend the mandate of his Special Envoy for another four months until the end of January 1995. He further recommended that the mandate of the small group of United Nations officials present in Tajikistan should be extended for a further period of four months and that, as a provisional measure, it be strengthened with up to 15 military observers drawn from existing peacekeeping operations, pending a decision from the Security Council to establish a new United Nations observer mission in Tajikistan. He had decided meanwhile to send a technical mission immediately to Tajikistan to assess the modalities for establishing such an observer mission. At the same time, however, he noted that while positive changes were reported in the atmosphere in Tajikistan following the signing of the Tehran Agreement, there were alarming reports of attempts by each side to bring as much territory as possible under its control before the Agreement came into force. The Secretary-General appealed to the parties to exercise maximum mutual restraint during the short period before the Tehran Agreement entered into force with the arrival of the United Nations observers.

¹⁹ S/PRST/1994/56.

²⁰ S/1994/1102.

²¹ See S/1994/893.

In a letter dated 29 September 1994,²² the President of the Council (Spain) informed the Secretary-General as follows:

The members of the Security Council wish to express their appreciation for your report on the situation in Tajikistan, following the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks. They considered your report at the informal consultations held on 28 September 1994 and heard a briefing by your Special Envoy for Tajikistan, Mr. Ramiro Píríz-Ballón.

The members of the Council took note of the observations and recommendations contained in your report, including the four-month extension of the presence of the small group of United Nations officials currently in Tajikistan. The members paid particular attention to your decision to send up to fifteen observers to strengthen this group, in continuation of the functions set out in your report of 16 June 1994. They understand this arrangement to be a temporary measure pending a decision by the Council on the possible establishment of a United Nations observer mission in Tajikistan on the basis of your further recommendations.

The members of the Council strongly support your call to the parties to exercise maximum restraint in the period before the Agreement enters into force. They also reaffirm the importance of implementation by the parties of the obligations to which they have committed themselves.

The members of the Council wish to take this opportunity to thank you and your Special Envoy for the continuous efforts to contribute to the political settlement in Tajikistan.

**Decision of 8 November 1994 (3452nd meeting):
statement by the President**

At its 3452nd meeting, on 8 November 1994, the Security Council resumed its consideration of the item. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President (United States) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a letter dated 31 October 1994 addressed to the Secretary-General from the representative of the Russian Federation,²³ transmitting a number of documents adopted at a meeting of the Council of CIS Heads of State on 21 October 1994, including a decision to extend the tour of duty of the CIS collective peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan until 30 June 1995. She also drew their attention to a letter dated 3 November 1994 addressed

to the President of the Council from the representative of Pakistan,²⁴ transmitting the texts of the Protocol on the Joint Commission for the implementation of the Tehran Agreement and of a joint communiqué on the results of the third round of inter-Tajik talks on national reconciliation, held in Islamabad from 20 October to 1 November 1994. By their joint communiqué, the parties confirmed their commitment to the spirit of the Tehran Agreement, which they agreed to extend until 6 February 1995. They reaffirmed their commitment to release equal numbers of detainees, prisoners and prisoners of war before midnight on 5 November 1994 and declared that the Agreement would become null and void if either party failed to fulfil those obligations by then. The parties further reaffirmed their commitment to the settlement of the conflict through political means and agreed to hold the next round of talks early in December 1994 in Moscow.

The President then made the following statement on behalf of the Council:²⁵

The Security Council welcomes the agreement by the parties in the course of the third round of inter-Tajik talks held in Islamabad from 20 October to 1 November 1994, on the extension until 6 February 1995 of the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, of 17 September 1994, as well as the signing of the Protocol on the Joint Commission for the implementation of the Agreement. These agreements were arrived at through the good offices of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General and with the assistance of the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan, the Russian Federation and other countries and of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Organization of the Islamic Conference, acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks.

The Council further welcomes the reaffirmed commitment by the parties to resolve the conflict only through political means and their agreement to hold the next round of talks in early December 1994 in Moscow.

The Council emphasizes the importance of full and timely implementation by the parties of the obligations to which they have committed themselves, including those relating to the exchange of prisoners. It especially stresses the need for strict observance of the ceasefire and cessation of all hostile acts.

The Council invites the parties to make all the efforts necessary to achieve further substantial progress during the next round of inter-Tajik talks. It calls upon them to continue to

²² S/1994/1118.

²³ S/1994/1236.

²⁴ S/1994/1253.

²⁵ S/PRST/1994/65.

cooperate with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for this purpose.

The Council reaffirms its support for the efforts by the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy to facilitate the political dialogue between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition aimed at achieving national reconciliation. It welcomes the establishment by the parties of a Joint Commission to monitor the implementation of the Agreement, and requests the Secretary-General to present expeditiously his views and recommendations regarding the role that the United Nations could play in assisting the practical implementation of the agreements achieved, including any implications for the current United Nations mission to Tajikistan.

The Council calls upon the international community and, in particular, the States of the region to render utmost support to the consolidation of the progress towards national reconciliation achieved in the course of the inter-Tajik talks and to abstain from any actions that could complicate the peace process.

Decision of 16 December 1994 (3482nd meeting): resolution 968 (1994)

On 30 November 1994, the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan,²⁶ in which he reported on the third round of inter-Tajik talks and outlined a plan for a possible United Nations peacekeeping operation in the country. The third round of inter-Tajik talks took place at Islamabad from 20 October to 1 November 1994 with the participation of observers from Afghanistan, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kazakhstan, Pakistan, the Russian Federation, Uzbekistan, the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE) and the Organization of the Islamic Conference. At the request of the parties concerned, his Special Envoy had chaired the talks and had made his good offices available during the negotiations. Although fundamental institutional issues and consolidation of the statehood of Tajikistan had previously been identified as the main items on the agenda, the extension of the Tehran Agreement became the main issue negotiated. The two parties overcame serious difficulties and reached agreement on an extension of the ceasefire and the cessation of other hostile acts for another three months until 6 February 1995.²⁷ The exchange of detainees and prisoners of war took place on 12 November in Khorog, through the International Committee of the Red Cross. The Joint Commission, established by the Tehran Agreement, held its first meeting on

14 November 1994. The Secretary-General also informed the Council that a Secretariat team had visited Tajikistan from 4 to 12 October 1994 to assess the modalities for establishing a future observer mission. The mission, which would consist of 40 military officers, would act at the request of the Joint Commission or on its own initiative. It would investigate cases of complaints about cease-fire violations and report its findings to the Joint Commission and to United Nations Headquarters. It would also provide its good offices and maintain close liaison with the CIS forces and the border forces.

The Secretary-General observed that no time should be lost in advancing further the process of national reconciliation in Tajikistan. He had therefore instructed his Special Envoy to explore ways of achieving further substantial progress during the fourth round of the inter-Tajik talks scheduled to take place in Moscow early in January. Meanwhile, the situation in the country remained tense and was aggravated by the deepening economic crisis, which had adversely affected attempts to achieve political stability. In these circumstances, he believed that the United Nations should respond positively to the request of the Tajik parties to assist them in the implementation of the ceasefire. He accordingly recommended that the Security Council establish a small observer mission of the kind outlined above to perform that task. The Secretary-General did not believe, however, that international assistance to Tajikistan should be in the form of United Nations military observers stationed in the country for an indefinite period. The problems of Tajikistan must be solved through a political process, supported by interested governments and, through the United Nations, by the international community. But the primary responsibility for composing their differences rested with the Tajik parties themselves. The international community should provide the assistance requested of it only if the Tajik parties acknowledged that responsibility and took effective steps to discharge it.

At its 3482nd meeting, on 16 December 1994, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President (Rwanda) drew the attention of the members of the

²⁶ S/1994/1363.

²⁷ See S/1994/1253, annex.

Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.²⁸

The representative of Tajikistan stated that the leadership of Tajikistan was carrying out a consistent policy aimed at achieving national reconciliation. That could be only be achieved, however, with the parties' unswerving compliance with the Tehran Agreement. His delegation was very concerned by the continuing and increased attempts by recalcitrant factions of the opposition to inflame the atmosphere by acts of sabotage, the seizure of hostages and acts of terror, and attached importance to the Council's appeal to parties to comply with the Agreement and to refrain from any steps that could aggravate the existing situation. His delegation attached also importance to the Council's appeal to all States and others concerned to refrain from any actions that could hinder the peace process and hoped that this appeal would also be heeded by those who were sending foreign mercenaries to Afghanistan. The establishment of the CIS collective peacekeeping forces was an organic element of the implementation of the principle of preventive diplomacy contained in the Secretary-General's report entitled "An agenda for peace". His delegation considered such a force to be a regional arrangement concluded in conformity with Chapter VIII of the Charter and with the purposes and principles of the Organization. The neutrality and impartiality of these forces were clearly reflected in their mandate, as reported by the Secretary-General. The speaker hoped that the Council would officially support the activities of the CIS collective peacekeeping forces. He further expressed his Government's support for the establishment a United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and hoped that its size would be increased. His Government was taking the necessary measures to ensure the security of the Mission's personnel and to protect its property.²⁹

Speaking in explanation of vote, before the vote, the representative of Oman stated that, in view of the political support of the United Nations and the neighbouring countries and given the fact that a resolution of the conflict was the full responsibility of the Tajik parties themselves, there was no need for the United Nations to establish a peacekeeping operation in Tajikistan that would put an additional financial

burden on the Organization. His delegation would, however, vote in favour of the draft resolution on the understanding that the Council, through the next report of the Secretary-General, was in a position to monitor the performance, mandate and very existence of the operation.³⁰

The representative of the Russian Federation stated that his delegation viewed the creation of UNMOT as a definite shift in the position of the Security Council in terms of paying greater attention to the settlement of conflicts in the States members of CIS and hoped that that trend would be reinforced and developed further. His delegation was also convinced that UNMOT would act as a stabilizing factor in Tajikistan and would promote the successful implementation of the Agreement reached at the third round of inter-Tajik talks in Islamabad. At the same time, it believed that at a later stage in the settlement, the Council would have to return to the question of the size of the Mission. He further took note that the draft resolution emphasized the important significance of close ties between UNMOT and the CIS collective peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan, support for which was included in the Mission's mandate. He reaffirmed, in that regard, his country's readiness for and interest in a close cooperation between the two entities which had separate mandates but a single goal, namely to promote the stabilization of the situation and the process of national reconciliation in Tajikistan, a process which required interaction.³¹

According to the representative of the Czech Republic, the draft resolution adequately addressed the following elements regarding UNMOT: a realistic and practical mandate; a clarified time framework with a clear link between international assistance and the political process of national reconciliation in Tajikistan; primary responsibility for adhering to the ceasefire with the Tajik parties themselves; regular reviews by the Council of the overall political and military situation in Tajikistan and of the performance of UNMOT; and a call to parties to ensure the safety and freedom of movement of United Nations personnel. The draft resolution also provided a clear framework for the activities of other forces in Tajikistan and for their close liaison with UNMOT. That framework reflected the principle of neutrality

²⁸ S/1994/1415.

²⁹ S/PV.3482, pp. 2-4.

³⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

³¹ *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7.

and impartiality, which was vital for the performance of these other forces that were in the country at the invitation of only one of the parties and which was embodied in their mandate. The speaker expressed the hope that more information on the relationship of the United Nations Mission with these other forces would be available periodically. There was a clear need for transparency in the activities of the CIS collective peacekeeping forces as well as of the non-Tajik border forces in Tajikistan. His Government believed that monitoring their neutrality and impartiality should be a part of UNMOT's job.³²

The draft resolution was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 968 (1994), which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling the statements of its President of 30 October 1992, 23 August 1993, 22 September 1994 and 8 November 1994,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General of 27 September and 30 November 1994,

Welcoming the agreement between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition in the course of the third round of inter-Tajik talks at Islamabad on the extension until 6 February 1995 of the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, signed at Tehran on 17 September 1994,

Welcoming also the signing of the Protocol on the Joint Commission for the implementation of the Agreement,

Commending the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy, as well as of the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks which contributed to the reaching of these agreements,

Emphasizing that the primary responsibility rests with the Tajik parties themselves in resolving their differences, and that the international assistance provided by the present resolution must be linked to the process of national reconciliation, including, inter alia, free and fair elections and further confidence-building measures by the parties,

Welcoming the reaffirmed commitment by the parties to resolve the conflict only through political means,

Stressing the importance of achieving further substantial progress during the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks in Moscow,

Recalling the statements of 24 August and 30 September 1993 by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan,

³² Ibid., pp. 6-7.

Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan addressed to the Secretary-General,

Acknowledging positively the readiness of the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan to work together with United Nations observers to assist in maintaining the ceasefire, as declared in a joint statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation and Uzbekistan on 13 October 1994,

Underlining the importance of close liaison between the United Nations mission of observers on the one hand and the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan and the border forces on the other hand,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 30 November 1994;

2. *Decides* to establish a United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan in accordance with the plan outlined by the Secretary-General in the above-mentioned report with the following mandate:

(a) To assist the Joint Commission to monitor the implementation of the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks;

(b) To investigate reports of ceasefire violations and to report on them to the United Nations and to the Joint Commission;

(c) To provide its good offices as stipulated in the Agreement;

(d) To maintain close contacts with the parties to the conflict, as well as close liaison with the mission in Tajikistan of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and with the collective peacekeeping forces in Tajikistan of the Commonwealth of Independent States and with the border forces;

(e) To provide support for the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General;

(f) To provide political liaison and coordination services, which could facilitate expeditious humanitarian assistance by the international community;

3. *Decides* that the Mission shall be established for a period of up to six months subject to the proviso that it will continue beyond 6 February 1995 only if the Secretary-General reports to the Council by that date that the parties have agreed to extend the Agreement and that they remain committed to an effective ceasefire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in the report provided for in paragraph 3 above an account of the work of the Mission up to that date, and to submit, at two-monthly

intervals thereafter, reports on that work and on progress towards national reconciliation;

5. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue through the good offices of his Special Envoy efforts to speed up the progress towards national reconciliation;

6. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate fully with the Mission, and to ensure the safety and freedom of movement of United Nations personnel;

7. *Calls upon* the Government of Tajikistan to conclude expeditiously with the United Nations an agreement on the status of the Mission, and requests the Secretary-General to inform the Security Council in this regard in his report provided for in paragraph 3 above;

8. *Calls upon* the parties to redouble their efforts to achieve as soon as possible a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict and to cooperate fully with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General in this regard;

9. *Urges* the parties to comply strictly with the obligations they have assumed to implement fully the Agreement and to refrain from any steps that could aggravate the existing situation or hinder the process towards national reconciliation;

10. *Welcomes* the release of detainees and prisoners of war which took place on 12 November 1994 at Khorog, and calls for further such confidence-building measures by the parties and for unhindered access to the International Committee of the Red Cross to all persons detained by all parties in relation to the armed conflict;

11. *Urges* all States and others concerned to facilitate the process of national reconciliation and to refrain from any actions that could complicate the peace process;

12. *Welcomes* the humanitarian assistance already provided, and calls for greater contributions from Member States for the humanitarian relief efforts of the United Nations and other international organizations;

13. *Requests* the Secretary-General to establish a voluntary fund for contributions in support of the implementation of the Agreement, in particular in support of the activities of the Joint Commission, and encourages Member States to contribute thereto;

14. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

After the vote, the representatives of France, the United Kingdom and the United States stressed that primary responsibility for the political settlement of the conflict rested with the Tajik parties themselves and that the future of the Mission was linked to the process of national reconciliation. They attached particular importance to the holding of free and fair elections and the promotion of democracy in Tajikistan. The representative of the United States stated specifically

that the decision taken by the Council represented a major step that should not be judged by the size of the Mission which it had just established. He added that the ceasefire must be extended well beyond 6 February 1995 if the Mission was to remain after that date.³³

Other speakers welcomed the establishment of UNMOT and underlined the need for the parties to adhere to their commitments and achieve further progress towards national reconciliation. Some emphasized the need for close cooperation in the field between UNMOT and the other forces operating in Tajikistan. Some also believed that it would be necessary for UNMOT and the CSCE mission in Dushanbe to work together, from their different standpoints and in terms of their different mandates.³⁴

Decision of 6 February 1995: letter from the President to the Secretary-General

On 4 February 1995, pursuant to resolution 968 (1994), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan,³⁵ in which he provided an account of the activities of UNMOT and the efforts he had undertaken to make progress towards national reconciliation. The Secretary-General reported that from 12 to 21 December 1994, his Special Envoy had visited Dushanbe, Moscow and Tashkent for consultations. During those consultations, the President of Tajikistan had supported an early fourth round of inter-Tajik negotiations in Moscow. He had also, at the request of the Special Envoy, agreed to postpone the parliamentary elections scheduled for 26 February 1995, provided the opposition would state its readiness to participate in such elections. The Tajik opposition, however, had shown no interest in participating at that stage in the elections and had rejected Moscow as the venue for the talks. By letters dated 25 and 27 January,³⁶ the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the opposition, respectively, had agreed to extend the Tehran Agreement, although the opposition's agreement was only to an extension of one month.

³³ Ibid., pp. 8-9 (France); p. 9 (United Kingdom); and pp. 9-10 (United States).

³⁴ Ibid., pp. 5-6 (Pakistan); p. 10 (Spain); and pp. 10-11 (Argentina).

³⁵ S/1995/105.

³⁶ Ibid., annexes I and II.

The Secretary-General noted that the parties had made it possible for him to comply only partly with the requirements stated in paragraph 3 of resolution 968 (1994). Both had agreed to an extension of the ceasefire beyond 6 February 1995 and had stated their commitment to a continuing political process. The opposition's unwillingness to accept Moscow as a venue for the next round of inter-Tajik talks, however, made it impossible, for him to report to the Council that negotiations were being actively pursued. Meanwhile, the situation in Tajikistan remained tense, particularly on the border with Afghanistan, and the economic crisis had adversely affected efforts to reach political stabilization in the country and to complete the repatriation of refugees. He concluded by stating that the activities of UNMOT connected to the implementation of the Tehran Agreement, imperfect as the latter might be, were an important stabilizing factor in the country, as recognized by both Tajik parties. Although the fourth round of talks remained blocked, both sides maintained that they were determined to continue the political process under the auspices of the United Nations. He accordingly recommended that the presence of UNMOT in Tajikistan be continued for another month, until 6 March 1995, on the understanding that every effort would be made during that period to obtain agreement on the holding of the next round of talks as soon as possible.³⁷

By a letter dated 6 February 1995,³⁸ the President of the Council (Botswana) informed the Secretary-General as follows:

The members of the Security Council have noted your report of 4 February 1995 in response to paragraph 3 of Council resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994.

The members of the Council endorse the recommendation contained in paragraph 32 of the report concerning the continuation of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan for another month, until 6 March 1995. Continuation and effective observance of the ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994 is vital. Reaffirming Council resolution 968 (1994), the members of the Council urge the parties in the interim to reconfirm through concrete steps their commitment to resolve the conflict only through political means, and their commitment to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy.

³⁷ S/1995/105, para. 32.

³⁸ S/1995/109.

Decision of 6 March 1995: letter from the President to the Secretary-General

By a letter dated 3 March 1995,³⁹ the Secretary-General informed the President of the Council that in order to keep the peace process on track, he had asked Under-Secretary-General Aldo Ajello to undertake consultations with the Russian Federation, the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition with a view to resolving the issues of the venue, date and agenda for the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks and to obtaining agreement to the extension of the ceasefire agreement. During those consultations, Mr. Ajello was able to achieve agreement on the extension of the ceasefire agreement until 26 April 1995. The Secretary-General recommended, therefore, that UNMOT's presence in Tajikistan be continued until 26 April 1995, on the basis of the mandate contained in resolution 968 (1994). He would also revert to the Council at the conclusion of Mr. Ajello's mission.

By a letter dated 6 March 1995,⁴⁰ the President of the Council (China) informed the Secretary-General as follows:

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 3 March 1995 concerning the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan has been brought to the attention of the members of the Council.

The members of the Council endorse your recommendation, in view of the agreement of the parties to continue the ceasefire, that the presence of the Mission in Tajikistan be continued until 26 April 1995. Reaffirming Council resolution 968 (1994), the members of the Council urge the parties in the interim to resolve the remaining difficulties in arranging the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks aimed at reaching a political settlement to the conflict.

The members of the Council welcome your intention to revert to the Council at the conclusion of the mission of the Under-Secretary-General Aldo Ajello and will be looking forward to a report at that time.

Decision of 12 April 1995 (3515th meeting): statement by the President

At its 3515th meeting, on 12 April 1995, the Security Council resumed its consideration of the item. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to

³⁹ S/1995/179.

⁴⁰ S/1995/180.

vote. The President (Czech Republic) drew the attention of the members of the Council to two letters dated 27 March and 10 April 1995 addressed to the Secretary-General,⁴¹ respectively from the representative of Tajikistan and from the representative of Kazakhstan. In the letter dated 10 April 1995, the representative of Kazakhstan transmitted the text of a statement issued by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan in which it lodged a protest with the authorities of Afghanistan in connection with an attack launched by detachments of the Tajik opposition from Afghan territory against Kazakh, Russian and Tajik border troops, which resulted in fatalities and injuries.

The President then made the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁴²

The Security Council expresses its deep concern at the escalation of military activities on the Tajik-Afghan border, which resulted in grave loss of life. In this context, the Council reminds the parties of their obligations to ensure the safety of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy and all other United Nations personnel.

The Council strongly believes that armed activities by the Tajik opposition in violation of the ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994 jeopardize the inter-Tajik dialogue and the process of national reconciliation as a whole. Noting also recent violations of the agreement of 17 September 1994 by government forces, the Council calls upon the Tajik opposition and the Government of Tajikistan to comply strictly with the obligations they have assumed under that agreement and calls upon the Tajik opposition in particular to extend it for a substantial period beyond 26 April 1995.

The Council fully supports the appeal of the Secretary-General to the Tajik parties and other countries concerned to exercise restraint, to do their utmost to continue the political dialogue and to hold the next round of talks as soon as possible. It welcomes the agreement by the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition to the proposal of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy to hold an urgent high-level meeting of their representatives in Moscow. It calls upon the countries of the region to discourage any activities that could complicate or hinder the peace process in Tajikistan.

Reaffirming its resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, the Council once again urges the parties to reconfirm through concrete steps their commitment to resolve the conflict only through political means. The Council reiterates its call upon the parties to hold the fourth round of the inter-Tajik talks without delay on the basis agreed upon during the previous rounds of consultations.

⁴¹ S/1995/225 and S/1994/283.

⁴² S/PRST/1995/16.

Decision of 26 April 1995: letter from the President to the Secretary-General

By a letter dated 26 April 1995,⁴³ the Secretary-General informed the President of the Security Council that his Special Envoy was continuing high-level inter-Tajik negotiations on the extension of the ceasefire and the agenda, time and venue of a fourth round of inter-Tajik talks, which had begun in Moscow on 19 April 1995. The outcome of those negotiations remained, however, uncertain at that stage. Meanwhile, he recommended that UNMOT continue to function, in accordance with its mandate, until the Council had had an opportunity to review his report on the situation in Tajikistan, pursuant to resolution 968 (1994), which would be submitted shortly, after the return of his Special Envoy.

By a letter dated 26 April 1995,⁴⁴ the President of the Council informed the Secretary-General as follows:

I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 26 April 1995 has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

The members of the Council are deeply concerned about the insufficient progress at the Moscow talks held under the auspices of your Special Envoy and the continuing military activities on the Tajik-Afghan border. The members of the Council call upon the parties and others concerned to resolve urgently the outstanding questions with regard to extending the ceasefire and arranging a fourth round of talks. They stress once again that the primary responsibility for resolving their differences rests with the Tajik parties themselves. They urge the parties to comply strictly with the obligations they have assumed under the ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994.

In keeping with the provisions of resolution 968 (1994), the members of the Council note that an effective ceasefire was, and continues to be, a necessary condition for the deployment of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan.

The members of the Council agree that, pending a further decision of the Council based on consideration of your forthcoming report, the Mission shall continue its presence in Tajikistan.

Decision of 19 May 1995 (3539th meeting): statement by the President

On 12 May 1995, pursuant to resolution 968 (1994), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan,⁴⁵ in which he

⁴³ S/1995/331.

⁴⁴ S/1995/332.

⁴⁵ S/1995/390.

described the efforts of his Special Envoy to clear the way for the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks. High-level consultations had been held in Moscow under United Nations auspices from 19 to 26 April 1995. The consultations had ended with a joint statement under which both parties,⁴⁶ *inter alia*, reconfirmed their commitment to settling the conflict and achieving national reconciliation through exclusively peaceful political means on the basis of mutual concessions and compromise; extended the validity of the Tehran Agreement by one month until 26 May 1995; agreed on measures to strengthen the role of the Joint Commission and appealed to States Members of the United Nations to provide financial support to the Commission through the trust fund established by the United Nations and consent to hold the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks in Almaty beginning 22 May 1995 and to include on their agenda the fundamental institutional issues and consolidation of the statehood of Tajikistan, as set forth during the first round of inter-Tajik talks held in Moscow in April 1994.

The Secretary-General observed that during the past three months, a number of factors combined to create serious difficulties for the political process that the United Nations was trying to promote in Tajikistan. The result of the consultations provided ground, however, for continuing United Nations efforts and maintaining UNMOT. At the same time, progress had yet to be achieved on the substantive issues that divided the parties. In Moscow, his Special Envoy had clearly conveyed the view of the United Nations that the primary responsibility for resolving their differences rested with the Tajik parties themselves and that the continued involvement and presence of the United Nations in Tajikistan depended on the manner in which the parties discharged that responsibility. Expectations in that regard focused on the forthcoming fourth round of talks and the planned meeting between the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan. In the meantime, the situation in Tajikistan remained tense, particularly on the border with Afghanistan. The Secretary-General appealed to the Tajik parties to comply strictly with the obligations they had assumed to implement fully the Tehran Agreement and to refrain from any steps that could aggravate the existing situation or complicate the peace process at that critical juncture. In that connection, he underlined the need to strengthen the

⁴⁶ S/1995/337, annex.

Joint Commission, which had been inactive since April 1995, and to enable it to assume the central role envisaged for it in the Tehran Agreement. He called on the authorities and forces operating in the region to cooperate fully with the Joint Commission and UNMOT in the discharge of their responsibilities.

At its 3539th meeting, on 19 May 1995, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

The President (France) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a letter dated 27 April 1995 addressed to the Secretary-General from the representative of the Russian Federation,⁴⁷ transmitting the text of the joint statement of 26 April 1995 by the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition. He then stated that, following consultations among Council members, he had been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁴⁸

The Security Council has considered the report of the Secretary-General of 12 May 1995 on the situation in Tajikistan.

The Council welcomes the joint statement by the delegation of the Government of Tajikistan and the delegation of the Tajik opposition, signed in Moscow on 26 April 1995 as a result of the high-level consultations through the good offices of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy, with the assistance of the representatives of all countries acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks. The Council expects the full implementation of the agreements reached in Moscow and, in particular, supports the convening of the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks on 22 May 1995 in Almaty and looks to the parties to cooperate fully in those talks.

The Council commends the efforts of the Secretary-General Special Envoy, the Russian Federation as host country and all observer countries, which significantly contributed to the positive outcome of the high-level inter-Tajik consultations held in Moscow from 19 to 26 April 1995.

The Council is concerned over the actions of both sides in the past three months, which posed obstacles to the peace process, as noted in the report of the Secretary-General. The Council stresses the urgent need for the Tajik parties to resolve the conflict and to confirm, by taking concrete steps, their commitment to achieve national reconciliation in the country exclusively through peaceful political means on the basis of mutual concessions and compromises. In this context, it welcomes the agreement by the President of the Republic of

⁴⁷ S/1995/337.

⁴⁸ S/PRST/1995/28.

Tajikistan and the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan to hold a meeting, which took place at Kabul from 17 to 19 May 1995.

The Council notes with concern the recent inactivity of the Joint Commission and is therefore encouraged by the decision of the parties to strengthen the Commission and its mechanism for monitoring the ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994. It welcomes the commitments by some Member States to the voluntary fund for contributions established by the Secretary-General in accordance with its resolution 968 (1994), and reiterates its encouragement to other Member States to contribute.

The Council calls upon the parties to agree on a substantial extension of the ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994 and to achieve substantive progress during the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks, in particular on fundamental institutional issues and consolidation of the statehood of Tajikistan, as defined in the agenda agreed upon during the Moscow round in April 1994. It stresses that strict compliance by the parties with all the obligations they have assumed is a necessary condition for successful political dialogue.

The Council notes the observation of the Secretary-General in his report that grounds exist for continuing United Nations efforts and maintaining the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and recalls its view that extension of the ceasefire is necessary for this.

**Decision of 16 June 1995 (3544th meeting):
resolution 999 (1995)**

On 10 June 1995, pursuant to resolution 968 (1994), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan,⁴⁹ in which he provided an account of the meeting between the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan held at Kabul from 17 to 19 May 1995, and of the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks held at Almaty from 22 May to 1 June 1995. Reporting on the fourth round, he noted that, for the first time, the parties had held an in-depth discussion of fundamental institutional issues and the consolidation of the statehood of Tajikistan, as set forth during the first round of talks in Moscow in April 1994. Although the parties had not been able to reach mutually acceptable decisions on these complex issues, they confirmed their commitment to look for practical solutions in the future. The talks ended with the adoption of a joint statement under which the parties, *inter alia*, welcomed the decision at the Kabul summit to extend the Tehran Agreement until 26 August 1995;

agreed to exchange an equal number of detainees and prisoners of war by July 1995 and to ensure the voluntary, safe and dignified return of all refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes; and requested the Secretary-General's Special Envoy to continue his good offices in the search for a peaceful solution to the conflict.

The Secretary-General observed that the results of the meeting between the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan in Kabul and the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks were a small but positive step towards national reconciliation and the restoration of peace in the country. Nevertheless, little progress had been made in addressing the fundamental political results during the 14 months since the first round of talks in April 1994. The situation in Tajikistan and on its border with Afghanistan remained tense and the deepening economic crisis continued to have a negative impact on the attempts to achieve political stability in the country. Warning that no time should be lost, he appealed to the President of Tajikistan and to the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan to continue their direct dialogue, which would be an essential means of building mutual confidence and advancing a comprehensive political solution. The Secretary-General also noted that UNMOT had been recognized by the Tajik parties as playing an instrumental role in containing the conflict. He believed that the United Nations should respond positively to their request for assistance in the implementation of the ceasefire and recommended that the mandate of UNMOT be extended for another six months until 16 December 1995. He further considered the stationing of an UNMOT team in northern Afghanistan to be important, subject to the agreement of Afghan authorities, and recommended that the Council approve that proposal in principle.

At its 3544th meeting, on 16 June 1995, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

The President (Germany) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a draft resolution

⁴⁹ S/1995/472 and Corr.1. See also S/1995/472/Add.1 of 12 June 1995.

prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁵⁰

Speaking in explanation of vote, before the vote, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that UNMOT activities were an important factor in stabilizing the situation in Tajikistan and on the Tajik-Afghan border, and were facilitating the implementation of the inter-Tajik agreements. There was a need to further reinforce the Mission's capabilities, in particular in terms of the number of UNMOT personnel. The Russian Federation actively supported the Secretary-General's proposal to deploy, with the agreement of the Afghan authorities, a special UNMOT unit in northern Afghanistan. The speaker drew attention to the repeated appeals by the leadership of Tajikistan as well as by the States contributing to the CIS peacekeeping force, for a full-fledged United Nations operation to be deployed in Tajikistan. He noted also that the close cooperation between UNMOT and the CIS peacekeeping force was an important factor for stabilizing the situation in the country. It was clear, however, that only the unswerving and full implementation by the parties of all their obligations could create a climate conducive to dialogue on the fundamental constitutional and political issues.⁵¹

The draft resolution was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 999 (1995), which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994 and the statements by its President of 30 October 1992, 23 August 1993, 22 September and 8 November 1994, and 12 April and 19 May 1995,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 10 June 1995,

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Tajikistan and to the inviolability of its borders,

Welcoming the positive outcome of the meeting between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and of the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan held at Kabul from 17 to 19 May 1995 and of the fourth round of the inter-Tajik talks held at Almaty from 22 May to 1 June 1995,

Welcoming also, in particular, the extension for a period of three months, until 26 August 1995, of the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on

the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, signed at Tehran on 17 September 1994, as well as the agreements on further confidence-building measures,

Noting with appreciation that the parties started in depth discussions on fundamental institutional issues and consolidation of the statehood of Tajikistan and confirmed their readiness to search for practical solutions to the above mentioned problems,

Commending the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy as well as of the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks which contributed to the conclusion of these agreements,

Emphasizing that the primary responsibility for resolving their differences rests with the Tajik parties themselves and that the international assistance provided pursuant to the present resolution must be linked to the process of national reconciliation and the promotion of democracy,

Recalling that the Tajik parties have reaffirmed their commitment to resolving the conflict and to achieving national reconciliation in the country exclusively through peaceful, political means on the basis of mutual concessions and compromises, and urging them to take concrete steps to this end,

Stressing the urgent for the cessation of all hostile acts on the Tajik-Afghan border,

Noting the decision of the Council of the Heads of State of the Commonwealth of Independent States of 26 May 1995 to extend the mandate of the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan until 31 December 1995,

Recalling the joint appeal by the Presidents of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan of 10 February 1995 addressed to the President of the Security Council and the statements of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of these countries of 24 August and 30 September 1993, 13 October 1994, and 26 January and 20 April 1995 addressed to the Secretary-General,

Taking note with appreciation of the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation of 26 April 1995 that the Russian border forces and the Russian military personnel of the collective peacekeeping forces, respecting and recognizing the agreements between the Tajik parties, do not violate them in the performance of their duties,

Expressing its satisfaction at the close contacts of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan with the parties to the conflict, as well as at its close liaison with the collective peacekeeping forces, the border forces and the mission in Tajikistan of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 10 June 1995;

⁵⁰ S/1995/486.

⁵¹ S/PV.3544, p. 2.

2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Observer Mission in Tajikistan until 15 December 1995, subject to the proviso that the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, remains in force and the parties continue to be committed to an effective ceasefire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy and also decides that the mandate will remain in effect unless the Secretary-General reports that these conditions have not been met;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue, through the good offices of his Special Envoy and with the assistance of the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks, efforts to speed up the progress towards national reconciliation;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council every three months on the progress towards national reconciliation and on the operations of the Mission;

5. *Reiterates its call* upon the parties to cooperate fully with the Mission and to ensure safety and freedom of movement of United Nations personnel;

6. *Stresses* the urgent need for the parties to achieve a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict through the inter-Tajik dialogue and to cooperate fully with the Secretary-General's Special Envoy in this regard;

7. *Calls upon* the parties, in particular, to achieve as soon as possible substantive progress on fundamental institutional and political issues;

8. *Also calls upon* the parties to agree to the early convening of a further round of inter-Tajik talks and to implement without delay all confidence-building measures agreed at the fourth round of these talks, inter alia, on the exchange of detainees and prisoners of war and on intensification of the efforts by the parties to ensure the voluntary return, in dignity and safety, of all refugees and displaced persons to their homes;

9. *Encourages* the continuation of direct political dialogue between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan;

10. *Emphasizes* the absolute necessity for the parties to comply fully with all the obligations they have assumed and urges them in particular to observe strictly the agreement of 17 September 1994 and to agree to its substantial extension;

11. *Stresses* the urgent need for the cessation of all hostile acts on the Tajik-Afghan border, and calls upon all States and others concerned to discourage any activities that could complicate or hinder the peace process in Tajikistan;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council on his discussions with relevant Afghan authorities regarding a possible deployment of a small number of United Nations personnel in northern Afghanistan, and expresses its willingness to consider a relevant recommendation of the

Secretary-General in the context of the implementation of the present resolution;

13. *Underlines* the need to pursue the close cooperation already existing between the United Nations Observer Mission in Tajikistan and the parties to the conflict, as well as its close liaison with the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Russian border forces and the mission in Tajikistan of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

14. *Welcomes* the obligation assumed by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan to assist the return and the reintegration of refugees, as well as the obligations by the parties to cooperate in ensuring the voluntary return, in dignity and safety, of all refugees and displaced persons to their homes, inter alia, by stepping up the activities of the Joint Commission on problems relating to refugees and displaced persons from Tajikistan formed by the parties in accordance with the Protocol signed on 19 April 1994, and, in this context, notes the request by the parties addressed to international organizations and States to provide additional substantial financial and material support to the refugees and internally displaced persons and to the Joint Commission;

15. *Welcomes also* the commitment of some Member States to the voluntary fund for contributions established by the Secretary-General in accordance with its resolution 968 (1994), and reiterates its encouragement to other States to contribute thereto;

16. *Welcomes further* the humanitarian assistance already provided, and calls for greater contributions from States for humanitarian relief efforts of the United Nations and other international organizations;

17. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

After the vote, the representative of the United States said that UNMOT demonstrated the flexibility of United Nations peacekeeping and its continued usefulness in conflicts around the world. She noted that resolution 999 (1995) firmly and unambiguously linked the UNMOT mandate to the existence of an effective ceasefire and other conditions. UNMOT could not function without a ceasefire. She warned that the Council might be forced to withdraw the Mission if the parties did not lay down their arms. The ceasefire was, however, just a beginning; the parties must move towards national reconciliation based on democratic principles.⁵²

Other speakers stressed that responsibility for a peaceful settlement and national reconciliation lay primarily with the Tajik parties themselves. Some called on the Tajik parties to cooperate fully with

⁵² Ibid., pp. 7-8.

UNMOT and stressed the importance of the role of regional organizations in the peace process. Some also supported the Secretary-General's proposal to deploy a United Nations presence in northern Afghanistan.⁵³

**Decision of 25 August 1995 (3570th meeting):
statement by the President**

At its 3570th meeting, on 25 August 1995, the Security Council resumed its consideration of the item. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President (Indonesia) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a letter dated 21 August 1995 addressed to the Secretary-General from the representative of Tajikistan,⁵⁴ transmitting the text of the protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan, signed on 17 August 1995 by the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the Tajik opposition, by which they agreed to conduct, beginning on 18 September 1995, a continual round of negotiations on a general agreement on the establishment of peace and national accord in Tajikistan and to extend the Tehran Agreement until 26 February 1996.

The President then stated that, following consultations among Council members, he had been authorized to make the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁵⁵

The Security Council welcomes the protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan signed by the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the Tajik opposition on 17 August 1995. It commends the efforts of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy and all countries acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks, which have significantly contributed to the conclusion of the above-mentioned agreement between the Tajik parties.

The Council calls upon the parties to implement fully the commitments contained in the protocol. It supports the agreement of the parties to conduct the continual round of talks due to begin on 18 September 1995, with the aim of concluding a general agreement on the establishment of peace and national accord in Tajikistan and urges the parties to agree as soon as possible on the venue of the negotiations. It reiterates that the

primary responsibility rests with the Tajik parties themselves in resolving their differences.

The Council welcomes the agreement reached by the parties to extend the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, signed at Tehran on 17 September 1994 for a period of six months until 26 February 1996, and calls upon the parties to comply strictly with the obligations assumed under the Agreement, including cessation of all hostile acts on the Tajik Afghan border and within Tajikistan. The Council calls upon all States and others concerned to discourage any activities that could complicate or hinder the peace process, respecting fully the sovereignty and the territorial integrity of Tajikistan and the inviolability of the Tajik-Afghan border.

The Council urges the parties to implement as quickly as possible the confidence-building measures agreed upon during the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks held at Almaty.

The Council stresses the need to continue the existing close contacts of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan with the parties to the conflict, as well as its close liaison with the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan, the Russian border forces and the mission in Tajikistan of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The Council welcomes the contributions by some Member States to the voluntary fund for contributions established by the Secretary-General in accordance with its resolution 968 (1994), and reiterates its encouragement to other Member States to contribute thereto.

The Council expresses its readiness to consider in due course the recommendations of the Secretary-General regarding the possible role of the United Nations in the context of the present and future agreements between the Tajik parties.

**Decision of 6 November 1995 (3589th meeting):
statement by the President**

On 16 September 1995, pursuant to resolution 999 (1995), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan in which he reported on the outcome of indirect talks between the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the Tajik opposition from 2 to 17 August 1995.⁵⁶ The talks concluded with the signing of a protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan.⁵⁷ The Tajik parties had also agreed to modify the format of inter-Tajik negotiations and to hold them in a continuous round, beginning on 18 September 1995. The issue of the

⁵³ *Ibid.*, p. 3 (Italy); pp. 3-4 (Indonesia); pp. 4-5 (Honduras); pp. 5-6 (China); p. 6 (Botswana); pp. 6-7 (Oman); and p. 8 (Germany).

⁵⁴ S/1995/720.

⁵⁵ S/PRST/1995/42.

⁵⁶ S/1995/799.

⁵⁷ S/1995/720, annex.

venue for the negotiations remained, however, undetermined and it was agreed that this should be resolved by both sides through the good offices of his Special Envoy. The Government insisted that the talks be held at Ashgabat, while the opposition wanted Tehran, Vienna or Almaty but not Ashgabat. The Secretary-General also informed the Council that the Afghan authorities had agreed that the UNMOT could open a small liaison post in northern Afghanistan with the exclusive task of dealing with the Tajik problem and proposed that the Council authorize the establishment of the liaison post, once the modalities were agreed upon with the Afghan authorities.⁵⁸ Consequently, he expressed his intention to seek the necessary budgetary authority for a small increase in UNMOT staff.⁵⁹

The Secretary-General observed that the signing of the Protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan and the extension of the ceasefire agreement for another six months were clear proof that the Tajik sides wanted to resolve their problems peacefully. In view of the continued breaches in the implementation of the Tehran Agreement, he called on the parties to comply strictly with their obligations. It was of paramount importance not to lose momentum in the negotiating process and to resume the inter-Tajik talks in the new format as soon as possible. In view of the continued differences between the two sides on the issue of venue, he suggested holding them at United Nations premises at Vienna. The Secretary-General noted with concern the delays in the implementation of the confidence-building measures agreed upon during the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks at Almaty and appealed to the parties to undertake the necessary steps for the early implementation of the confidence-building measures, warning that further inaction could undermine the credibility of the whole negotiating process.

At its 3589th meeting, on 6 November 1995, the Security Council resumed its consideration of the item. Following the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

⁵⁸ S/1995/799, para. 20.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, para. 21.

The President (Oman) then made the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁶⁰

The Security Council welcomes the planned convening of the continual round of Inter-Tajik talks at Ashgabat. It commends the efforts of the President of Turkmenistan in this regard.

The Council calls upon the Tajik parties to begin as a matter of urgency the continual round of talks with the aim of concluding a general agreement in accordance with the provisions of the protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan, signed by the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the Tajik opposition on 17 August 1995.

The Council expresses the hope that the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General will be able to resume promptly his efforts with regard to the preparation of the forthcoming round of talks. The Council reaffirms its full support for the activities of the Special Envoy.

The Council urges the Tajik parties to comply strictly with the obligations assumed under the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks, signed at Teheran on 17 September 1994. The Council expresses the hope that the convening of the talks will contribute to a lessening of tensions along the Tajik-Afghan border and inside Tajikistan.

The Council notes that the relevant Afghan authorities have given their agreement to the establishment of a liaison post of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan in Taloqan (northern Afghanistan). The Council welcomes this development and agrees with the proposal to establish such a post as put forward in paragraph 20 of the report of the Secretary-General of 16 September 1995, with the privileges and immunities necessary for the security of the United Nations personnel concerned and for their ability to carry out the mandate.

The Council also notes the Secretary-General's observations regarding the strengthening of the Mission in paragraph 21 of his report. The Council supports a corresponding increase in the Mission's strength.

**Decision of 14 December 1995 (3606th meeting):
resolution 1030 (1995)**

On 8 December 1995, pursuant to resolution 999 (1995), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan.⁶¹ The Secretary-General reported that, while there continued to be uncertainty about the venue of the talks following their opening at Ashgabat, the parties had nevertheless

⁶⁰ S/PRST/1995/54.

⁶¹ S/1995/1024.

agreed to begin talks on 30 November. At the first working plenary session on 7 December, both parties had confirmed their commitment to the ceasefire and their determination to work to find viable solutions to the problems listed in the Protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan. The Secretary-General noted with concern the slow pace of progress towards a resolution of the conflict and the deteriorating situation on the ground. He was nevertheless encouraged that the parties had resumed negotiations on the basis of the Protocol. He therefore proposed that the Council extend the mandate of UNMOT for another six months. While he noted with satisfaction that the vast majority of internally displaced persons and refugees had been successfully resettled, he regretted that delays continued to occur in the implementation of other important confidence-building measures agreed upon during the fourth round of inter-Tajik talks at Almaty. He also called upon all concerned to cooperate more closely to stem a recent increase in military activities and incidents and a general rise of tension on the ground. In that respect, he welcomed the support of the members of the Security Council for his proposal to strengthen UNMOT and called upon Afghan authorities and the United Tajik Opposition to facilitate the establishment of an additional liaison post in northern Afghanistan. Finally, he called upon the Tajik parties to seize the opportunity of the newly convened talks in Ashgabat as a means of restoring peace and national accord in their country.

At its 3606th meeting, on 14 December 1995, the Security Council included in its agenda the report of the Secretary-General dated 8 December 1995.

Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Russian Federation) drew the attention of the members of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁶²

The draft resolution was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1030 (1995), which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions and the statements by its President, in particular, the statement by its President of 6 November 1995,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 8 December 1995,

Reaffirming its commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Tajikistan and to the inviolability of its borders,

Welcoming the beginning of the continual round of talks between the Government of Tajikistan and the Tajik opposition in Ashgabat,

Commending the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy as well as of the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks,

Emphasizing that the primary responsibility for resolving their differences rests with the Tajik parties themselves and that the international assistance provided pursuant to the present resolution must be linked to the process of national reconciliation and the promotion of democracy,

Recalling the commitments made by the Tajik parties to resolve the conflict and to achieve national reconciliation in the country exclusively through peaceful political means on the basis of mutual concessions and compromises, and stressing the inadmissibility of any hostile acts on the Tajik-Afghan border,

Recalling the joint appeal by the Presidents of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan of 10 February 1995 addressed to the President of the Security Council, the statements of Ministers for Foreign Affairs of these countries of 24 August and 30 September 1993, 13 October 1994, and 26 January and 20 April 1995 addressed to the Secretary-General,

Taking note with appreciation of the statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation of 26 April 1995 that the Russian border forces and the Russian military personnel of the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan, respecting and recognizing the agreements between the Tajik parties, do not violate them in the performance of their duties,

Expressing its satisfaction at the close contacts of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan with the parties to the conflict, as well as at its liaison with the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States, the border forces and the mission in Tajikistan of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 8 December 1995;

2. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan until 15 June 1996, subject to the proviso that the Agreement on a Temporary Ceasefire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks signed at Tehran on 17 September 1994 remains in force and the parties continue to be committed to an effective ceasefire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of

⁶² S/1995/1032.

democracy, and further decides that the mandate will remain in effect unless the Secretary-General reports that these conditions have not been met;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to pursue, through the good offices of his Special Envoy and with the assistance of the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks, efforts to speed up the progress towards the establishment of a durable peace and national accord in Tajikistan;

4. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Council every three months on the progress towards a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict and on the operations of the Mission;

5. *Reiterates its call* upon the parties to cooperate fully with the Mission, and to ensure the safety and freedom of movement of United Nations personnel;

6. *Regrets* the slow rate of progress towards a political solution to the conflict in Tajikistan, and emphasizes the need for the Tajik parties to take the opportunity of the continual round of talks in Ashgabat to reach a general agreement which will restore peace and national accord in their country in accordance with the provisions of the Protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan, signed by the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan on 17 August 1995;

7. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate fully with the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General in order to achieve a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict through the inter-Tajik dialogue;

8. *Also calls upon* the parties to implement without delay all the confidence-building measures to which they committed themselves during the fourth round of the inter-Tajik talks;

9. *Encourages* the continuation of direct political dialogue between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan;

10. *Emphasizes* the absolute necessity for the parties to comply fully with all the obligations they have assumed, and urges them, in particular, to observe strictly the Tehran agreement of 17 September 1994 and to agree to its substantial extension;

11. *Stresses* the urgency of the cessation of all hostile acts on the Tajik-Afghan border, and calls upon all States and others concerned to discourage any activities that could complicate or hinder the peace process in Tajikistan;

12. *Encourages* the relevant Afghan authorities to facilitate the arrangements that will permit the establishment of a liaison post at Taloqan in northern Afghanistan;

13. *Underlines* the need to develop further close cooperation between the Mission and the parties to the conflict, as well as its close liaison with the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in Tajikistan, the Russian border forces and the Mission in Tajikistan of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe;

14. *Welcomes* the successful resettlement of the vast majority of internally displaced persons and refugees and the role played by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in this effort, and commends the activities of other agencies and organizations assisting the civilian population;

15. *Welcomes* the contributions to the voluntary fund established by the Secretary-General in accordance with its resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, reiterates its encouragement to other States to contribute thereto, and also welcomes the voluntary contribution made to the Mission;

16. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.

17. The situation in Afghanistan

Decision of 24 January 1994 (3330th meeting): statement by the President

At its 3330th meeting, on 24 January 1994, the Security Council included the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan" in its agenda. After the adoption of the agenda, the Council invited the representative of Afghanistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

At the same meeting, the President (Czech Republic) stated that, following consultations among members of the Council, he had been authorized to

make the following statement on behalf of the Council:¹

The Security Council deplors the continuing large scale fighting in Afghanistan, which is creating mass suffering among the civilian population and is jeopardizing efforts to provide humanitarian assistance to those in need.

The Council notes with concern that the ongoing conflict in Afghanistan disrupts efforts to establish a political process that would lead to a broad based government, is producing another wave of refugees and displaced persons and detracts from efforts to foster regional stability.

¹ S/PRST/1994/4.