

21. The situation in Cambodia

Decision of 11 July 1997 (3799th meeting): statement by the President

At its 3799th meeting, held on 11 July 1997 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the President (Sweden) made the following statement on behalf of the Council:¹

The Security Council is gravely concerned at recent developments in Cambodia, including violence, which have the effect of jeopardizing continued progress of the Cambodian peace process, and calls for an immediate end to the fighting.

The Council reaffirms the need to respect the principles of national unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Kingdom of Cambodia.

The Council calls upon all parties to respect fully their commitments under the Paris agreements on Cambodia. It urges them to resolve their differences through peaceful means and

political dialogue and in accordance with the spirit of national reconciliation.

The Council calls upon the parties again to ensure the effective and smooth operation of constitutional institutions.

The Council condemns all acts of violence and calls upon all parties to ensure the safety and security of persons and to respect the principles and rules of humanitarian law.

The Council reminds the Cambodian Government of its public undertaking that free and fair legislative elections would be held in May 1998. It stresses the importance of this electoral process.

The Council welcomes and supports all efforts to promote dialogue among the parties, including those undertaken by the countries of the Association of South-East Asian Nations and other signatory States of the Paris agreements on Cambodia.

The Council will remain seized of the matter.

¹ S/PRST/1997/37.

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

Decision of 29 March 1996 (3646th meeting): statement by the President

On 22 March 1996, pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 1030 (1995), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on progress towards a comprehensive settlement of the conflict and on the operations of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan (UNMOT).¹ In his report, the Secretary-General stated that although the beginning of the continuous inter-Tajik negotiations at Ashgabat had raised hopes for substantive progress towards a general peace agreement, in accordance with the provisions of the 17 August 1995 protocol, very little progress had been achieved. Unfortunately, the special session of the Tajik Parliament, which had the potential of becoming a turning-point in the process of national reconciliation, had not been attended by the opposition delegation. The Secretary-General expressed concern with the serious violations of the ceasefire by both

sides and the grave difficulties that had been encountered with the extension of the Tehran ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994.² He appealed to the leadership of the opposition to consider positively the proposal of the Government regarding the extension of the ceasefire agreement for the whole duration of the inter-Tajik negotiations. He also noted that he had been receiving alarming information on a deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan.

At its 3646th meeting, held on 29 March 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Botswana), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

² Agreement on a Temporary Cease-fire and the Cessation of Other Hostile Acts on the Tajik-Afghan Border and within the Country for the Duration of the Talks (Tehran agreement) (S/1994/1102, annex I).

¹ S/1996/212.

At the same meeting, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:³

The Security Council has considered the report of the Secretary-General of 22 March 1996 on the situation in Tajikistan.

The Council regrets that insufficient progress has been achieved during the continual round of the inter-Tajik talks in Ashgabad towards the solution of fundamental political and institutional issues. It calls upon the Tajik parties to accelerate substantially their efforts to reach agreement on the basis of the protocol on the fundamental principles for establishing peace and national accord in Tajikistan of 17 August 1995. It urges them to negotiate constructively and in good faith and to search for solutions on the basis of mutual concessions and compromises.

The Council is deeply concerned about the violations of the Tehran ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994, and in particular about the ongoing fighting in the Tavildara region. It appeals to the Tajik parties to comply strictly with all their obligations undertaken under this agreement. It reminds them that the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan is subject to the proviso that the Tehran ceasefire agreement remains in force and the parties continue to be committed to an effective ceasefire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy. The Council notes with concern that the ongoing military operations and other violations of the ceasefire create doubt regarding the commitment of the parties to an effective ceasefire.

The Council acknowledges the extension of the ceasefire by the parties for a further period of three months until 26 May 1996. It is concerned, however, that the ceasefire has been extended for only this short period. The Council fully supports the appeal by the Secretary-General to the Tajik opposition contained in his report to agree to the extension of the ceasefire agreement for the duration of the inter-Tajik talks.

The Council reiterates the importance of direct political dialogue between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan for the peace process and encourages them to hold the next meeting as soon as possible.

The Council welcomes the position of the Majlis-i Oli (Parliament) of Tajikistan which at its special session on 11 and 12 March 1996 expressed its strong support for the efforts to achieve national reconciliation and for the search for compromise at the inter-Tajik talks held under the auspices of the United Nations. It regrets that the leaders of the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan declined to participate in the special session of the Majlis-i Oli.

The Council expresses its deep concern over the kidnapping on 24 February 1996 of the opposition co-chair of

the Joint Commission and calls upon the Tajik Government to intensify its investigation into this incident. The Council joins the Secretary-General in calling upon the Government to provide the necessary security guarantees to allow the Joint Commission to function safely and effectively.

The Council expresses the hope that the agreement on social accord in Tajikistan signed on 9 March 1996 in Dushanbe by the leaders of Tajikistan and of political parties, social movements and ethnic communities will contribute to national reconciliation.

The Council expresses its serious concern at the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan. It calls upon Member States and others concerned to respond promptly in support of the humanitarian relief efforts of the United Nations and other international organizations.

The Council welcomes the positive role played by the Mission under difficult circumstances. The Council expresses deep concern over recent incidents in which Mission personnel were harassed and threatened and reiterates its call to the parties to cooperate fully with the Mission and to ensure the safety and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations and other international organizations.

The Council is concerned about delays in the establishment of a liaison post of the Mission at Taloqan (northern Afghanistan) and encourages the relevant Afghan authorities to facilitate its opening.

The Council welcomes the creation of the office of an independent ombudsman for human rights in Tajikistan with the help of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and expresses the hope that his activities will contribute to a lessening of tensions.

The Council commends the tireless efforts of the former Special Envoy of the Secretary-General in Tajikistan, Mr. Píriz-Ballón. It understands that his successor will be appointed promptly and expresses the hope that the new Special Envoy will begin without delay the preparation of the next phase of the continual round of the inter-Tajik talks which should be convened as soon as possible.

**Decision of 21 May 1996 (3665th meeting):
statement by the President**

By a letter dated 16 May 1996 addressed to the President of the Security Council,⁴ the representative of Tajikistan transmitted an appeal dated 14 May 1996 from the President of the Republic of Tajikistan. In his appeal, the President of Tajikistan drew attention to the increasing deterioration in the social and political situation in certain regions of his country as a result of the obvious reluctance of the forces opposing the

³ S/PRST/1996/14.

⁴ S/1996/354.

constitutional authorities to settle outstanding questions by peaceful means, particularly through the mechanism of the inter-Tajik talks which were being held under the auspices of the United Nations.

At its 3665th meeting, held on 21 May 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the letter in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (China), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

At the same meeting, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁵

The Security Council condemns the recent violations of the Tehran ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994, in particular the planned and organized offensive by the armed Tajik opposition in the Tavildara region. It strongly deplores the loss of life of civilians and of members of the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States as a result of acts of violence. It affirms that such acts are totally unacceptable.

The Council expresses its grave concern that all such actions further aggravate the already serious humanitarian situation in Tajikistan. It demands the immediate cessation of the offensive actions and acts of violence.

The Council reaffirms its commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Tajikistan and to the inviolability of its borders.

The Council emphasizes its support for the extension of the ceasefire agreement for the whole duration of the inter-Tajik talks, and notes that the Islamic Revival Movement of Tajikistan has agreed to extend the ceasefire, albeit only for a further period of three months. It calls upon the parties to demonstrate their commitment to peace by strict compliance with the ceasefire and other obligations which they have assumed, as well as with the relevant resolutions of the Council. It also reminds the parties that the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan is subject to the proviso that the ceasefire agreement remains in force and that the parties continue to be committed to an effective ceasefire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy.

The Council commends the personnel of the Mission for their contribution under difficult circumstances. It expresses its concern at the restrictions placed upon the Mission by the parties and calls upon them, in particular the Government of Tajikistan, to ensure the safety and freedom of movement of the

⁵ S/PRST/1996/25.

personnel of the United Nations and other international organizations.

The Council calls upon both parties to resolve their differences over the functioning of the Joint Commission, including the issue of security guarantees for Commission members, and to recommence the operations of the Commission as soon as possible.

The Council is concerned that the worsening humanitarian situation makes it all the more urgent to obtain the required resources and calls upon Member States and others concerned to respond promptly in support of the humanitarian relief efforts of the United Nations and other international organizations.

The Council invites the Secretary-General and his Special Representative to continue their efforts aimed at the earliest possible resumption of the inter-Tajik talks and calls upon the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at those talks to render all possible support to those efforts.

**Decision of 14 June 1996 (3673rd meeting):
resolution 1061 (1996)**

On 7 June 1996, pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 1030 (1995), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the progress towards a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict and on the operations of UNMOT.⁶ In his report, the Secretary-General expressed concern at the serious deterioration of the situation in Tajikistan since the end of the civil war of 1992. He had taken note of the conviction expressed by both parties that the conflict in Tajikistan could not be settled by military means and of their declared willingness to resume the inter-Tajik negotiations as soon as possible. He therefore recommended that the Security Council extend the mandate of UNMOT for a further period of six months. If at the end of the period, prospects had not improved, he would recommend that the Security Council review the United Nations commitment in Tajikistan. He stated that in the present circumstances, the first priority was the restoration of an effective ceasefire. He called upon the Afghan authorities and the United Tajik Opposition (UTO) to finalize arrangements that would permit the establishment of an additional liaison post at Taloqan.

At its 3673rd meeting, held on 14 June 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the

⁶ S/1996/412.

adoption of the agenda, the President (Egypt), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁷

The representative of Tajikistan stated his appreciation for the assistance of the international community in resolving the inter-Tajik conflict. He noted with satisfaction the existence of close and useful ties between UNMOT and the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), as well as with the border forces in Tajikistan, which had clearly been an important factor in stabilizing the situation. He maintained that the unresolved conflict and its socio-economic consequences were a heavy burden on the shoulders of the long-suffering people of Tajikistan. In that connection, he reiterated that his Government was fully committed to a solely peaceful political solution to existing problems and firmly favoured the continuation of the inter-Tajik talks under the aegis of the United Nations, despite their relatively meager results so far, for which the government delegation was not to blame. He stressed that his Government was closely cooperating with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and with UNMOT, and was also taking additional steps to establish civil peace and accord in the country. He pointed out that the irreconcilable armed wing of the opposition was inclined to pursue its policy of exerting continuous armed pressure on the Government. Those forces continued to make a wide use of the tactics of terrorism and intimidation and to systematically and flagrantly violate 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 Talks. The Security Council rightly condemned the planned and organized offensive acts of the armed Tajik opposition, which had caused many casualties among the civilian population. He stressed that despite the intensive humanitarian support of the international community, the situation remained critical. Finally, he reaffirmed that the Government of Tajikistan would welcome a decision by the Security Council to extend

⁷ S/1996/430.

the mandate of UNMOT as it promoted stability and the continuation of the peace process as a whole.⁸

The representative of Italy, speaking on behalf of the European Union and the associated and aligned countries,⁹ noted that the Security Council had closely monitored the situation in Tajikistan and had expressed its great concern at the worsening of conditions on the ground. Military activities by the opposition and, more recently, by the Government had shown that the ceasefire was at best frail and subject to large-scale violations. The political stalemate in the inter-Tajik dialogue following the Ashgabat talks had been blamed on the loss of trust between the parties. Some of the elements involved were the attitude of the opposition in the negotiations and in the field; and the lack of adequate written safety guarantees given by the Government to opposition members on the Joint Commission. He stressed that a solution to the conflict could only be achieved through the inter-Tajik dialogue. The parties needed to respect obligations undertaken as the international community could not continue to provide support and commitment without a much greater level of cooperation from the parties themselves. While the European Union supported the Secretary-General's recommendation to extend the mandate of UNMOT, it remained concerned that delays in implementing an effective ceasefire might create a situation in which direct United Nations involvement after the six-month period would not be advisable. Further delays in reaching a significant outcome in the inter-Tajik dialogue might prejudice not only the momentum in the negotiations that the United Nations was trying to maintain, but also the financial support badly needed by a population and a country so much afflicted by the crisis.

The representative of Germany stated that the meeting of the Security Council had provided an important opportunity to take stock of what had been achieved by the efforts of the parties to the conflict, the Council, the Secretary-General and other States and entities involved. The result was that there was still intensive fighting in the Tavildara area, the humanitarian situation was very serious and the

⁸ S/PV.3673, pp. 2-4.

⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5 (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia; and Iceland and Norway).

prospects for progress in the inter-Tajik talks were bleak. The armed Islamist opposition seemed to be about to take control of a large and strategically important part of Tajikistan. The region of Leninabad and other areas were gradually slipping from Government control. There were even some signs of disunity within the Kulyabi-dominated Government. His delegation, therefore, saw a concrete danger of an “Afghanization” of the conflict, with serious consequences for regional stability. He stressed that both parties bore a heavy load of responsibility for that development. Germany, however, saw a major obstacle to a settlement in the Government’s failure to open itself up to the participation of other regional and political groups in Tajikistan. A viable political compromise could not consist only of power-sharing between the parties to the conflict, but had to aim at establishing genuine democratic decision-making processes. While noting that Germany supported the draft resolution, he stressed the importance of the intention to seriously review the future of the United Nations commitment in Tajikistan after the six months, if there was no meaningful progress in the peace process.¹⁰

The representative of the Russian Federation expressed extreme concern at the lack of progress towards a political settlement of the conflict in Tajikistan and by the wide-scale hostilities in the Tavildara region. The Tajik parties needed to reaffirm their declared dedication solely to a peaceful political settlement of the conflict on the basis of mutual concessions and compromises. His delegation was firmly convinced that only full and unswerving implementation by the parties of all the commitments they had undertaken and of Security Council resolutions could create the requisite conditions for successful progress in the negotiating process. He firmly condemned the terrorist acts against the civilian population and the CIS peacekeeping forces. He stated that his country was in favour of making the inter-Tajik dialogue truly continuous and dynamic and called upon the parties to take a responsible attitude towards their participation and to demonstrate the political will to achieve compromise solutions to key problems in the settlement. The delegation of the Russian Federation attached great importance to the extension of the mandate of UNMOT, whose activities were an

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 5.

important factor for restraint and stabilizations and provided indispensable support for constructive political dialogue. The collective peacekeeping forces of CIS and the border forces of the Russian Federation would continue to support the efforts of the Mission in implementing its mandate.¹¹

The representative of China reiterated that the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Tajikistan needed to be respected. The basic approach to settling the question of Tajikistan was for the parties concerned to resolve their differences through peaceful negotiations and to achieve national reconciliation. He endorsed the recommendation of the Secretary-General that UNMOT needed to be maintained in the current circumstances.¹²

Several other speakers expressed concern at the situation, and, while expressing support for the extension of UNMOT, stressed that the extension of the mandate was contingent on an effective ceasefire, progress in the peace talks and the parties respecting the Tehran agreement.¹³

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1061 (1996) which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 7 June 1996,

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

Expressing its grave concern at the serious deterioration of the situation in Tajikistan, and stressing the urgent need for the Tajik parties to adhere sincerely and in good faith to the commitments they have made,

Recalling the commitments made by the 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

¹¹ Ibid., p. 6.

¹² Ibid., pp. 9-10.

¹³ Ibid., pp. 6-7 (Botswana); pp. 7-8 (Republic of Korea); pp. 8-9 (Honduras); p. 9 (Guinea-Bissau); pp. 10-11 (Chile); p. 11 (Indonesia); after the vote: pp. 12-13 (Poland) and p. 13 (Egypt).

inadmissibility of any hostile acts in Tajikistan and on the Tajik-Afghan border,

Stressing the need for an early resumption of talks between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition, expressing the hope that substantive progress will be achieved as soon as possible towards a political settlement of the conflict, and encouraging the efforts of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative in this direction,

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,

Expressing its satisfaction at the regular contacts between the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and 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,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the report of the Secretary-General of 7 June 1996;

2. *Calls upon* the parties immediately to cease hostilities and to comply fully with the Tehran agreement and all the other obligations they have assumed, and strongly urges them to extend the ceasefire for the whole duration of the inter-Tajik talks;

3. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan until 15 December 1996 subject to the proviso that the Tehran agreement remains in force and the parties demonstrate their commitment to an effective ceasefire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy, and further decides that this mandate will remain in effect unless the Secretary-General reports to the Council that these conditions have not been met;

4. *Expresses its intention* to review the future of the United Nations commitment in Tajikistan should the prospects for the peace process not have improved during the mandate period;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate fully with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and to resume the round of inter-Tajik talks without delay in order to achieve a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict, with the assistance of the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at the inter-Tajik talks;

6. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate fully with the Mission and to ensure the safety of the personnel of the United Nations and other international organizations, and also calls upon them, in particular the Government of Tajikistan, to lift all restrictions on the freedom of movement of Mission personnel;

7. *Also calls upon* the parties to resume the activities of the Joint Commission without delay and, in this context, encourages the Tajik opposition to accept in good faith the

security guarantees offered to them by the Government of Tajikistan;

8. *Calls upon* the Afghan authorities and the United Tajik Opposition to finalize arrangements that would permit the establishment of an additional liaison post at Taloqan;

9. *Urges* the Tajik parties to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross to facilitate the exchange of prisoners and detainees between the two sides;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to report to the Council every three months on the implementation of the Tehran agreement, progress towards a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict and the operations of the Mission;

11. *Expresses its deep concern* over the worsening of the humanitarian situation, aggravated by the recent natural calamities, and urges Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously in support of the humanitarian relief efforts of the United Nations and other international organizations;

12. *Encourages* States to contribute to the voluntary fund established by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994, in particular in the expectation of the resumption of work of the Joint Commission;

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

Speaking after the vote, the representative of the United States expressed concern about the deterioration of the military situation in Tajikistan and the continued lack of progress in the United Nations-mediated inter-Tajik talks. The two sides continued to profess their commitment to the standing ceasefire but, in practice, had reinforced their troops, conducted offensives and counter-offensives and had shown little inclination to end the dangerous spiral. There had also been reports that areas of northern Afghanistan had been bombed or shelled in recent months, apparently in connection with the Tajik conflict. One key step towards national reconciliation would be resumption of the operations of the Joint Commission for monitoring the ceasefire accord. He stated that the two sides also needed to abide by their commitment to allow UNMOT observers freedom of movement and unfettered access to areas where ceasefire violations might have occurred. Finally, he underlined his Government's strong endorsement of the passage in the resolution calling for a review of the future of UNMOT in

Tajikistan should prospects for the peace process not improve during the mandate period.¹⁴

Decision of 20 September 1996 (3696th meeting): statement by the President

On 13 September 1996, pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 1061 (1996), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the progress towards a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict and on the operations of UNMOT.¹⁵ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that the situation in Tajikistan had deteriorated and the agreements reached in Ashgabat had not been implemented. In addition to the heavy fighting in the Tavildara sector, military confrontations had intensified in the Karategin valley and the Garm district, and a tense situation existed on the Tajik-Afghan border. The activities of UNMOT had been impeded by restrictions on the freedom of movement of the military observers. Those developments, which contradicted the stated intentions of the Tajik parties to resolve the conflict through political means, were a cause of serious concern. He stressed that it was imperative to resume the political dialogue. In response to the acute crisis of the people of Tajikistan, the Secretary-General informed the Council that he had asked the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs to arrange for an inter-agency mission to Tajikistan to help determine how the United Nations system might respond most effectively to the situation.

At its 3696th meeting, held on 20 September 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 8 August 1996 from the representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General,¹⁶ which proposed the convening of a meeting of representatives of the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Afghanistan to work out urgent measures for building confidence and promoting security; and a letter dated 9 August 1996 from the representative of Tajikistan addressed to the Secretary-General, expressing concern at the escalation of armed

confrontation in the areas adjacent to the Tajik-Afghan border.¹⁷

At the same meeting, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:¹⁸

The Security Council has considered the report of the Secretary-General of 13 September 1996 on the situation in Tajikistan.

The Council expresses its concern at the deterioration of the situation in Tajikistan and at the increasing tension along the Tajik-Afghan border. It reaffirms its commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Republic of Tajikistan and to the inviolability of its borders.

The Council is also concerned about the violations of the Tehran ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994 and about the failure of both parties to implement the Ashgabat agreements. It is, in particular, concerned about the ongoing fighting in the Tavildara region and the seizure of the towns of Jirgatal and Tajikabad by the opposition. The Council demands the immediate cessation of all hostilities and acts of violence.

The Council recalls the commitments made by the Government of Tajikistan and by the leadership of the United Tajik Opposition to resolve the conflict and to achieve national reconciliation through peaceful means. It regrets that these commitments have so far not been honoured.

The Council commends the efforts of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and urgently calls upon the parties to cooperate fully with the Mission and to ensure the safety of the personnel of the United Nations and other international organizations. The Council also calls upon the parties to lift all restrictions on the freedom of movement of Mission personnel. In this connection it is concerned about the large-scale use of landmines owing to the threat it creates for the population and Mission personnel.

The Council welcomes the initiative of the Secretary-General to arrange for an inter-agency mission to Tajikistan to determine how to respond most effectively to the humanitarian situation.

The Council welcomes the renewed work of the Joint Commission and the results of its efforts in reducing tensions in the Garm region and in the Karategin valley.

The Council emphasizes that the primary responsibility for resolving their differences rests with the Tajik parties themselves. It recalls paragraphs 3 and 4 of its resolution 1061 (1996) of 14 June 1996.

The Council commends the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and calls upon the parties to cooperate fully with him in resuming the inter-Tajik

¹⁴ S/PV.3673, p. 12.

¹⁵ S/1996/754.

¹⁶ S/1996/638.

¹⁷ S/1996/640.

¹⁸ S/PRST/1996/38.

talks. The Council reiterates the importance of the continuation of direct political dialogue between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition for the peace process and encourages them to hold their next meeting as soon as possible.

**Decision of 13 December 1996 (3724th meeting):
resolution 1089 (1996)**

On 5 December 1996, pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution 1061 (1996), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the progress towards a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict and on the operations of UNMOT.¹⁹ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that the overall situation in Tajikistan had deteriorated and the ceasefire had been frequently violated by both sides. However, he had taken note of the readiness of the Tajik parties to meet in Northern Afghanistan and Moscow by the end of the year. He welcomed those plans and expressed hope that the progress made in the latest rounds of preparatory talks in Tehran would be given substance in an agreement, which could give much-needed impetus to the negotiating process. In that context he recommended that the Security Council extend the mandate of UNMOT for a further period of six months.

At its 3724th meeting, held on 13 December 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Italy), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.²⁰ The President also drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 4 December 1996 from the representative of Tajikistan addressed to the Secretary-General, reporting that armed formations of the Tajik opposition had attacked the town of Garm causing casualties amongst the civilian population.²¹

The representative of Tajikistan expressed gratitude to the United Nations, the Organization for

Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), States acting as observers of the inter-Tajik talks and the Russian Federation, which had contributed the core of the collective peacekeeping forces. Those forces also included the participation of military contingents from Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, which were carrying out the difficult task of preventing the unsealing of the southern border of CIS. That task remained pressing, as the situation along the Tajik-Afghan border was considered to be tense, and the groups of fighters of the irreconcilable wing of the armed Tajik opposition, which included a significant number of foreign mercenaries, regularly attempted to make their way from Afghan territory into Tajikistan. He welcomed the resumption of the activity of UNMOT and hoped that there would be cooperation in verifying compliance with the agreements that had been achieved. For its part, the Government of Tajikistan would continue, firmly and consistently, to follow the path of the peace process. Finally, he stated that Tajikistan would welcome the decision of the Security Council to extend the mandate of UNMOT.²²

The representative of the Russian Federation stated that the draft resolution reflected the profound concern of the Council over the acute deterioration of the situation in Tajikistan as a result of the offensive actions of the opposition in the Garm region and over the continuing stagnation in the inter-Tajik talks caused by the unconstructive policy of the opposition leaders. The Russian Federation condemned the continuing terrorist acts in Dushanbe aimed at the peaceful population, the military personnel of CIS peacekeeping forces and the border forces of the Russian Federation. It also condemned the gross mistreatment of the United Nations observers at the hands of both the government personnel and the fighters of the opposition. The Russian Federation was firmly convinced that only the rejection of force as a solution to the Tajik problem, the sincere implementation of the commitments made by the sides and their readiness to make mutual concessions and compromises would allow progress to be made. He concluded by stating that his country intended to comprehensively strengthen further

²² S/PV.3724, pp. 3-4.

¹⁹ S/1996/1010.

²⁰ S/1996/1039.

²¹ S/1996/1003.

cooperation with the United Nations towards a settlement of the conflict.²³

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1089 (1996), which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 5 December 1996,

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

Expressing its grave concern at the continuing deterioration of the situation in Tajikistan, and stressing the urgent need for the Government of Tajikistan and the leadership of the United Tajik Opposition to adhere sincerely to the commitments they have made to resolve the conflict and to achieve national reconciliation exclusively through peaceful, political means on the basis of mutual concessions and compromises,

Also expressing its grave concern at the ongoing fighting in Tajikistan and repeated violations of the Tehran ceasefire agreement of 17 September 1994 and about the failure of both parties to implement the Ashgabat agreements,

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

Expressing its satisfaction at the regular contacts between the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and 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,

Commending the efforts of the Mission under difficult circumstances,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the report of the Secretary-General of 5 December 1996;

2. *Condemns* the ongoing flagrant violations of the ceasefire by the parties, in particular the recent opposition offensive in the Garm region, and demands the immediate cessation of all hostilities and acts of violence;

3. *Calls upon* the parties to comply fully with the Tehran agreement and all the other obligations they have

assumed, and strongly urges them to extend the ceasefire for the whole duration of the inter-Tajik talks;

4. *Condemns* the terrorist acts and other acts of violence which have resulted in the loss of life of civilians as well as members of the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Russian border forces;

5. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission until 15 March 1997 subject to the proviso that the Tehran agreement remains in force and the parties demonstrate their commitment to an effective ceasefire, to national reconciliation and to the promotion of democracy, and further decides that this mandate will remain in effect until that date unless the Secretary-General reports to the Council that these conditions have not been met;

6. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to report to the Council by 15 January 1997 on the compliance by parties with the Tehran agreement and the results of meetings between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition, and requests the Secretary-General also to provide recommendations in that report on the nature and size of the United Nations presence in Tajikistan in this light;

7. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate fully with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in resuming the inter-Tajik talks in order to achieve a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict, with the assistance of the countries and regional organizations acting as observers at the talks, and, in this context, welcomes the meeting between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition on 10 and 11 December 1996 and encourages them to continue this dialogue;

8. *Welcomes* the efforts of the Joint Commission in defusing tensions between government and opposition forces on the ground;

9. *Strongly condemns* the gross mistreatment of members of the Mission by both parties, including threats against their lives, and urgently calls upon the parties to ensure the safety of the personnel of the United Nations and other international organizations, to cooperate fully with the Mission and to lift all restrictions on the freedom of movement of its personnel;

10. *Urges* the Tajik parties to cooperate fully with the International Committee of the Red Cross to facilitate the exchange of prisoners and detainees between the two sides;

11. *Expresses its serious concern* at the indiscriminate use of landmines in Tajikistan and the threat it poses to the population and Mission personnel, and welcomes the proposals of the Secretary-General in his report of 5 December 1996 in this regard;

12. *Expresses its deep concern* over the worsening of the humanitarian situation in Tajikistan, and calls upon Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously

²³ Ibid., pp. 4-5.

to the consolidated inter-agency donor alert on urgent humanitarian needs for the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 May 1997 launched by the Secretary-General;

13. *Encourages* States to contribute to the voluntary fund established by the Secretary-General in accordance with resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994;

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

Decision of 7 February 1997 (3739th meeting): statement by the President

On 21 January 1997, the Secretary-General submitted a report on the issue of compliance by the parties with the provisions of the ceasefire agreement and on possible results of the meeting between the parties.²⁴ In his report, the Secretary-General stated that the agreement reached in Moscow had broken the long impasse that had existed between the parties on the main political issues and represented a qualitative change for the better. Nevertheless, the situation in Tajikistan remained extremely fluid. He stated that the agreements reached between the two sides entailed new tasks for UNMOT. With reference to paragraph 6 of resolution 1089 (1996) of 13 December 1996, the Secretary-General was recommending no changes in the nature and size of the United Nations presence in Tajikistan at that stage, although he would keep the situation under review and revert to the Council in due course.

At its 3739th meeting, held on 7 February 1997 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Kenya), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

At the same meeting, the President drew the attention of the Council to the following documents: a letter dated 23 December 1996 from the representative of Ukraine addressed to the President of the Security Council;²⁵ a letter dated 24 December 1996 from the representative of the Russian Federation addressed to

²⁴ S/1997/56.

²⁵ S/1996/1065, transmitting the statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine concerning the situation in Tajikistan.

the Secretary-General;²⁶ a letter dated 24 December 1996 from the representatives of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General;²⁷ and a letter dated 17 January 1997 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General.²⁸

At the same meeting, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council.²⁹

The Security Council has considered the progress report of the Secretary-General of 21 January 1997 on the situation in Tajikistan, submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of Council resolution 1089 (1996) of 13 December 1996.

The Council welcomes the signing in Moscow on 23 December 1996 by the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition of the agreement, including the protocol on the Commission on National Reconciliation, and notes the progress made in the inter-Tajik talks in Tehran in particular the signing of the protocol on refugees. It believes that these agreements, provided they are carried out as written, represent a qualitative change for the better and give a new impetus to efforts aimed at achieving national reconciliation. The Council urges the parties to honour and implement consistently and in good faith the agreements already reached, in particular in the course of negotiating future agreements. It also urges them to make further substantive progress at the next rounds of the inter-Tajik talks.

The Council notes with satisfaction that the ceasefire has been generally observed by the parties since December 1996 and calls upon them to maintain it scrupulously for the whole duration of the inter-Tajik talks in accordance with their obligations and commitments.

²⁶ Letter transmitting the texts of the Agreement between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition on the results of the meeting held in Moscow on 23 December 1996, and of the Protocol on the basic functions and powers of the Commission on National Reconciliation (S/1996/1070).

²⁷ Letter transmitting the text of a joint statement of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Russian Federation on Tajikistan adopted at the talks in Tehran on 22 and 23 December 1996 between the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation (S/1996/1071).

²⁸ Letter transmitting the text of the Protocol on refugees, signed in Tehran on 13 January 1997 by the heads of the delegation of the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and of the United Tajik Opposition in the presence of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations (S/1997/55).

²⁹ S/PRST/1997/6.

The Council commends the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and calls upon the parties to cooperate fully with him in continuing the inter-Tajik talks. The Council also commends the efforts of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan in fulfilling its mandate.

The Council calls upon the parties to ensure the safety and the freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other international personnel in Tajikistan.

The Council strongly condemns the attacks on and kidnapping of international personnel, in particular personnel of the Mission, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the International Committee of the Red Cross and others, and demands the immediate release of all those taken hostage. It stresses the inadmissibility of kidnapping and any other mistreatment of United Nations personnel and supports the efforts of the Secretary-General to ensure that the essential security requirements of the Mission are met.

In this context, the Council expresses satisfaction at the efforts by and cooperation between the Mission, the Russian Federation and the parties to resolve the hostage crisis.

The Council considers it necessary for the United Nations to continue its vigorous support for the political process in Tajikistan. It takes note of the request from the parties to the Mission to extend the necessary assistance in the implementation of the Moscow agreement and to cooperate closely with the Commission on National Reconciliation in its activities. The Council accepts the recommendation of the Secretary-General not to change the nature and size of the United Nations presence in Tajikistan at this stage. It requests the Secretary-General to keep the situation under review and to submit in due course his recommendations with regard to the United Nations presence in Tajikistan in the light of the progress in implementation of the inter-Tajik agreements and bearing in mind the request for assistance by the parties contained in the Moscow agreement and the tasks and functions that would be required to provide such assistance.

The Council expresses deep concern over the deteriorating humanitarian situation in Tajikistan and calls for continuing emergency relief, including assistance for the return of refugees, in the context of the implementation of the protocol on refugees, and support to Tajikistan for rehabilitation, aimed at mitigation of the consequences of the war and reconstruction of its economy.

**Decision of 14 March 1997 (3752nd meeting):
resolution 1099 (1997)**

On 5 March 1997, pursuant to resolution 1089 (1996), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the progress towards a comprehensive

political settlement of the conflict and on the operations of UNMOT.³⁰ In his report, the Secretary-General stated that the documents agreed at Mashhad on the settlement of the military and political situation in the areas of confrontation; the Moscow agreement and protocol of 23 December 1996; and the Tehran protocol of 13 February 1997 on refugees, had been significant steps on the difficult path from armed conflict to normal peaceful political competition. As a result, the negotiating process had acquired a strong momentum. At the same time, he had been profoundly disturbed at the threat to the personnel of the United Nations and he had therefore decided, so long as the situation in Tajikistan continued in a state of flux and international personnel were at particular risk, to maintain for the time being the suspension of United Nations activities in Tajikistan, except for a limited UNMOT presence. He therefore recommended that the Security Council extend the mandate of UNMOT for a period of three months only, until June 1997, on the understanding that he would be keeping the Council informed of any significant developments.

At its 3752nd meeting, held on 14 March 1997 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Poland), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.³¹ The President further drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 24 February 1997 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General;³² and a letter dated 10 March 1997 from the representative of the Russian Federation addressed to the Secretary-General.³³

³⁰ S/1997/198.

³¹ S/1997/216.

³² Transmitting the Statute of the Commission on National Reconciliation of Tajikistan and the Additional Protocol on the main function and powers of the Commission and joint communiqué signed by the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the opposition (S/1997/169).

³³ Transmitting a joint statement by the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition on the

The representative of Tajikistan stated that the restoration of peace, stability and civil harmony in Tajikistan had been and continued to be the central task with which his Government had been dealing. Active progress had been to a large extent possible thanks to the sincere support and assistance of the Russian Federation, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the observer States and international organizations, to which his Government would like to express its sincere gratitude. He stated that the March agreements in Moscow had opened the door to a new, final stage of inter-Tajik political dialogue. A very important stage lay before them: the consistent and steadfast implementation of the agreements. He expressed hope that the Secretary-General would offer his good offices to achieve a full and effective implementation of the agreements signed. In that connection, he would welcome a decision by the Council to extend the mandate of UNMOT.³⁴

The representative of the Russian Federation noted that the peaceful settlement process in Tajikistan had become increasingly irreversible. An important step in the Tajik settlement had been the signing of the Protocol on Military Issues and the joint statement on the outcome of the Moscow round of inter-Tajik talks. His delegation attached particular significance to an early elaboration by the United Nations of the parameters of its contribution to the achievement of the inter-Tajik agreements so that it could render speedy assistance in the implementation of those agreements immediately after their entry into force. He considered central to the draft resolution before them those provisions in which the Security Council welcomed the inter-Tajik agreements and expressed its intention to consider the Secretary-General's recommendations on the ways in which the United Nations could assist in their implementation in accordance with the requests of the parties. He reiterated that the Russian Federation, in cooperation with the United Nations, OSCE, the observer countries at the negotiations and all interested States, were actively promoting consistent progress in the inter-Tajik negotiating process and a final agreement on national reconciliation in Tajikistan.³⁵

outcome of the round of the inter-Tajik talks held in Moscow, 26 February and 8 March 1997 and the Protocol on Military Issues (S/1997/209).

³⁴ S/PV.3752, pp. 2-3.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

The representative of the United States congratulated the parties on their accomplishments and at the same time urged them to complete successfully the difficult task of negotiating peace for their country. In contrast to those successes, however, he stressed that the security threat to international personnel had hindered the ability of the international community to assist the parties in their quest. Those threats had forced the Secretary-General to suspend United Nations activities in Tajikistan to the real detriment of the people of Tajikistan. He underscored that the situation needed to be resolved immediately. His country could not in good conscience condone the return of all UNMOT personnel to Tajikistan or another extension of its mandate until it was clear that the personnel would be able to carry out their mandate free of threats.³⁶

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1099 (1997) which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 5 March 1997,

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

Welcoming the agreements signed by the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition since December 1996, by which the efforts towards national reconciliation have made important progress and gained strong momentum, noting with satisfaction the personal contribution made in this respect by the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition, with the assistance of the Secretary-General and his Special Representative, and encouraging the parties to continue their efforts to this end,

Welcoming, in particular, the results of the latest round of inter-Tajik talks held in Moscow from 26 February to 8 March 1997, including the signing of the protocol on military issues, which contains agreements on reintegration, disarmament and disbandment of the armed units of the United Tajik Opposition, reforming the power structures of the Republic of Tajikistan and a detailed timetable for their implementation,

Taking note of the requests of the parties, contained in the statute of the Commission on National Reconciliation and in the protocol on military issues, for the assistance of the United

³⁶ *Ibid.*, p. 5.

Nations in the full and effective implementation of those agreements,

Gravely concerned about the worsening humanitarian situation in Tajikistan,

Deeply concerned about continuing attacks on the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other international personnel in Tajikistan, and deploring the deterioration in the security situation which necessitated the decision of the Secretary-General to suspend the United Nations activities in Tajikistan, except for a limited presence of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan,

1. *Expresses its appreciation* for the report of the Secretary-General of 5 March 1997;

2. *Welcomes* the agreements reached by the parties since December 1996, in particular the protocol on military issues, which represents an important new step towards the successful completion of the task of national reconciliation in Tajikistan, and calls upon the parties to honour and implement consistently and in good faith those agreements, as well as to make further substantive progress in the next rounds of the inter-Tajik talks;

3. *Expresses its satisfaction* that the ceasefire has been generally observed by the parties since December 1996, and calls upon the parties to maintain it scrupulously for the whole duration of the inter-Tajik talks, in accordance with their obligations and commitments;

4. *Strongly condemns* the acts of mistreatment against personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and other international personnel, and urgently calls upon the parties to cooperate in bringing the perpetrators to justice, to ensure the safety and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other international personnel, and to cooperate fully with the Mission;

5. *Calls upon* the Government of Tajikistan, in particular, to take further, more rigorous security measures to this end, thus enabling the international community vigorously to support Tajikistan on its difficult path from armed conflict to normal peaceful life;

6. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission until 15 June 1997, subject to the proviso that the Tehran agreement remains in force and the parties demonstrate their commitment to the agreements already reached, and further decides that this mandate will remain in effect until that date unless the Secretary-General reports to the Council that these conditions have not been met;

7. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to inform the Council of any significant developments with regard to the situation in Tajikistan, in particular of a decision to resume all those United Nations activities presently suspended, including those of the Mission;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to inform the Council by 30 April 1997 on possible ways and means by which the United Nations could assist in the implementation of the protocol on military issues;

9. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the situation in Tajikistan to the Council no later than 1 June 1997, including recommendations on the United Nations presence in Tajikistan, in particular the manner in which the United Nations can assist in the implementation of the inter-Tajik agreements, based on the requests by the parties contained in those agreements and in the light of the security situation;

10. *Commends* the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and of the personnel of the Mission, and calls upon the parties to cooperate fully with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in conducting the inter-Tajik talks in order to achieve a comprehensive political settlement;

11. *Calls upon* Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously to the consolidated interagency donor alert on urgent humanitarian needs for the period from 1 December 1996 to 31 May 1997, launched by the Secretary-General, and to offer support to Tajikistan for rehabilitation, aimed at mitigation of the consequences of the war and reconstruction of its economy;

12. *Encourages* Member States to contribute to the voluntary fund established by the Secretary-General in accordance with its resolution 968 (1994) of 16 December 1994;

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

**Decision of 12 June 1997 (3788th meeting):
resolution 1113 (1997)**

On 30 May 1997, pursuant to resolution 1099 (1997), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the situation in Tajikistan, including the United Nations presence in the country and the manner in which it could assist in the implementation of the inter-Tajik agreements.³⁷ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that the signing of the protocol on guarantees at Tehran on 28 May 1997 completed the series of agreements to be concluded by the parties. The determination and effort invested by the United Nations in those negotiations had been rewarded by success. The Commission on National Reconciliation would be the principal implementing body for the transition period leading to general elections. However, the agreements foresaw the support and assistance of the international community and gave the United

³⁷ S/1997/415.

Nations a leading role in that regard. In addition, OSCE was to assist in the development of democratic political and legal institutions and processes; and the Collective Peacekeeping Forces of CIS had been requested to escort, under the supervision of UNMOT, the personnel, weapons and ammunition of the United Tajik Opposition from the Tajik-Afghan border to the designated assembly areas. The Mission was to continue to monitor the ceasefire agreement and to monitor the process of reintegration, disarmament and disbandment. The Secretary-General pointed out to the Council that those tasks were not fully covered by the present mandate of UNMOT, nor did UNMOT have the capacity to perform them. To fulfil the tasks envisaged, the mandate would require amendment and its civilian component would need to be strengthened and the number of military observers significantly increased. He recommended that the Security Council extend the mandate of UNMOT for a period of three months, until 15 September 1997.

At its 3788th meeting, held on 12 June 1997 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Russian Federation), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion, without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.³⁸

At the same meeting, the President drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 20 May 1997 from the representative of Kyrgyzstan addressed to the Secretary-General,³⁹ and a letter dated 28 May 1997 from the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran addressed to the Secretary-General.⁴⁰

³⁸ S/1997/444.

³⁹ Letter transmitting the text of the Protocol on Political Questions and the Bishkek Memorandum signed at the conclusion of the inter-Tajik talks in Bishkek on 18 May 1997 (S/1997/385).

⁴⁰ Letter transmitting the text of the Protocol on the Guarantees of implementation of the general agreement on the establishment of peace and national accord in Tajikistan, signed by the delegations of the Republic of Tajikistan and of the United Tajik Opposition in Tehran on 28 May 1997 (S/1997/410).

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1113 (1997). The resolution reads as follows:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 30 May 1997 on the situation in Tajikistan,

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

Welcoming the signing by the Government of the Republic of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition in Moscow on 8 March 1997 of the protocol on military issues, in Bishkek on 18 May 1997 of the protocol on political questions and in Tehran on 28 May 1997 of the protocol on the guarantees of implementation of the general agreement on the establishment of peace and national accord in Tajikistan,

Noting that those agreements foresee the support and assistance of the international community, in particular the United Nations, in different aspects of their implementation,

Expressing concern that the security situation in Tajikistan remains precarious and that the humanitarian situation has continued to deteriorate,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 30 May 1997;

2. *Calls upon* the parties to implement fully the agreements reached in the course of the inter-Tajik talks, and encourages them to sign the general agreement on the establishment of peace and national accord in Tajikistan as a matter of priority;

3. *Emphasizes* that the implementation of the agreements reached in the course of the inter-Tajik talks will require the consistent good faith and constant effort of the parties, as well as the sustained and vigorous support of the United Nations and the international community;

4. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the safety and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other international personnel;

5. *Commends* the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and of the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and calls upon the parties to cooperate fully with them;

6. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission for a period of three months until 15 September 1997;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of significant developments and to present to the Council, as soon as appropriate, detailed recommendations on the role of the United Nations in support of the implementation of the inter-Tajik agreements and the adjustment of the mandate and strength of the Mission;

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

Decision of 12 September 1997 (3816th meeting): resolution 1128 (1997)

On 4 September 1997, pursuant to resolution 1113 (1997), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on developments in Tajikistan with recommendations on the role of the United Nations in support of the implementation of the inter-Tajik agreements and the adjustment of the mandate and strength of UNMOT.⁴¹ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that the situation in the country remained fluid and the hostilities within the government camp and between government forces and certain UTO groups indicated how much was yet to be achieved. He recommended that the Security Council expand the mandate of UNMOT and authorize the strengthening of the Mission. He also recommended that the new mandate be authorized for an initial period of six months.

At its 3816th meeting, held on 12 September 1997 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (United States), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

At the same meeting, the President drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁴² The draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1128 (1997), which reads:

The Security Council,

⁴¹ S/1997/686 and Add.1.

⁴² S/1997/708.

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 4 September 1997 on the situation in Tajikistan,

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

Welcoming the successful conclusion of the inter-Tajik talks, conducted under United Nations auspices since 1994, with the signing by the President of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition in Moscow on 27 June 1997 of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan,

Noting that the implementation of the General Agreement will require the consistent good faith and constant effort of the parties, as well as the sustained and vigorous support of the United Nations and the international community,

Taking note with appreciation of the readiness of the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States to assist in providing security for United Nations personnel at the request of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and with the agreement of the parties,

Expressing concern that the security situation in Tajikistan remains volatile,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 4 September 1997;

2. *Takes note* of the recommendations on the expansion of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, contained in the report of the Secretary-General;

3. *Calls upon* the parties to implement fully the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, and encourages them to resume without delay the work of the Commission on National Reconciliation in Dushanbe;

4. *Commends* the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and of the personnel of the Mission, encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement through their good offices, and calls upon the parties to cooperate fully with those efforts;

5. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the safety and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other international personnel;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to explore ways to provide security for United Nations personnel;

7. *Decides* to extend the present mandate of the Mission for a period of two months until 15 November 1997;

8. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of all significant developments, in particular on an adequate solution to the security problem, and expresses its readiness to take a decision concerning the extension of the mandate of the Mission recommended by the Secretary-General;

9. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue to respond promptly and generously to the urgent humanitarian needs in Tajikistan and to offer support to Tajikistan for rehabilitation, aimed at mitigation of the consequences of the war and reconstruction of its economy;

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

Decision of 14 November 1997 (3833rd meeting): resolution 1138 (1997)

On 5 November 1997, pursuant to resolution 1128 (1997), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the progress made towards a comprehensive political settlement of the conflict and on the operations of UNMOT.⁴³ In his report, the Secretary-General stated that the main development had been the convening of the Commission on National Reconciliation and the progress achieved on a number of fronts, including the exchange of prisoners of war and detainees, the registration of UTO fighters inside Tajikistan and the repatriation of refugees from Afghanistan. Both the Government and UTO had made serious efforts to carry out their commitments under the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan (the General Agreement) and their representatives to the Commission had cooperated. While the pace at which the implementation of the peace agreement had progressed had lagged behind the ambitious timetable envisaged in the agreement, it was still possible to complete the process in the course of 1998. He noted that the ceasefire between the Government and UTO had been firmly maintained, although the level of violence had continued to be high in the central part of the country. Therefore, the safety of United Nations personnel would remain an important concern and the decision of CIS to authorize its peacekeeping force in Tajikistan to provide security to the United Nations on request provided a most welcome additional reassurance. The Secretary-General recommended that the Security Council expand the mandate of UNMOT, in accordance with the proposals he had submitted.

⁴³ S/1997/859.

At its 3833rd meeting, held on 14 November 1997 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (China), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁴⁴ The President also drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 17 October 1997 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council.⁴⁵

The representative of Tajikistan stated that expanding the mandate of UNMOT would definitely mark the beginning of a qualitatively new stage in the practical implementation of the General Agreement. He thanked the Security Council for its constant attention to the situation in Tajikistan and on the Tajik-Afghan border. Resolutions of the Security Council and statements of its Presidents had had a decisive impact on resolving the inter-Tajik conflict by stressing the main responsibility of the Council for the maintenance of international peace and security, pursuant to the Charter of the United Nations. The Council's authority had been enhanced by the individual efforts of a number of members who had sought to move the peace process in Tajikistan forward. He also expressed gratitude to the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran, which had played an exceptionally important role in promoting and successfully concluding the inter-Tajik talks, and for their having provided substantial assistance in the post-conflict period.⁴⁶

The representative of the Russian Federation stated that the signing of the General Agreement and the start of the work of the Commission on National Reconciliation had opened prospects for overcoming the political and military confrontation and for the achievement of peace and national reconciliation in

⁴⁴ S/1997/887.

⁴⁵ Letter reporting receipt of letters from the President of Tajikistan and from the leader of the United Tajik Opposition confirming their agreement to jointly provide security for United Nations personnel and transports (S/1997/808).

⁴⁶ S/PV.3833, pp. 2-4.

Tajikistan. It was important that the Security Council had achieved agreement on the need to help to consolidate that trend and to show solidarity with the Tajik people, who needed emergency assistance. He stated that the establishment of stable peace and national reconciliation in Tajikistan was important for the Central Asian region and beyond, and it would help the efforts of the international community to combat the drugs trade, terrorism and arms smuggling.⁴⁷

The representative of the United States expressed support for the expansion of UNMOT at a critical time in the peace process so that the parties could demobilize rapidly and turn their efforts towards rebuilding Tajikistan. He noted that the road ahead would be difficult because of the proliferation of armed groups beyond the control of the parties that threatened the security and tranquillity of Tajikistan.⁴⁸

The representative of the United Kingdom stated that his delegation was encouraged by the progress which had been reported by the Secretary-General in the implementation of the General Agreement. He noted that his delegation considered the exchange of prisoners of war and the process for the return of refugees as particularly important and urgent items. He commended the parties in Tajikistan for their commitment to the peace process and urged them to continue to cooperate with each other and with the United Nations to ensure rapid progress on what was an ambitious timetable. He noted that, while his delegation accepted the recommendations for an expansion of UNMOT and would vote in favour of the draft resolution in Tajikistan, it remained concerned about the security situation in Tajikistan.⁴⁹

The representative of France maintained that the United Nations needed to help the Tajiks restore peace to their country and rebuild it. The maintenance of international peace and security had never been risk free; the United Nations needed to shoulder its responsibilities, because a lack of support from the Organization could hamper the rapid and complete implementation of the General Agreement.⁵⁰

The representative of China stated that, as a neighbour of Tajikistan, China welcomed the General

Agreement, signed by the two parties in Tajikistan, as well as the stabilization of the overall situation. His delegation believed that the recommendation of the Secretary-General for the extension of the mandate of UNMOT and its expansion was in conformity with the wishes of the parties concerned and was conducive to the implementation of the General Agreement, and would, therefore, vote in favour of the draft resolution. He expressed hope that through the common efforts of the parties concerned and the help of the international community, Tajikistan could achieve sustained stability and economic development.⁵¹

A number of other speakers expressed support for the draft resolution and the expansion of the mandate of UNMOT.⁵²

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1138 (1997), which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the reports of the Secretary-General on the situation in Tajikistan of 4 September and 5 November 1997,

Having considered also the letter dated 17 October 1997 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council,

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

Welcoming the progress made by the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan and the effective maintenance of the ceasefire between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition,

Expressing concern that the security situation in Tajikistan remains volatile, in particular, with a high level of violence in the central part of the country, although large parts of the country are relatively calm,

Welcoming the decision of the Commonwealth of Independent States to authorize its collective peacekeeping forces to assist in providing security for United Nations

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

⁵² *Ibid.*, pp. 6-7 (Japan); p. 7 (Sweden); p. 8 (Republic of Korea); pp. 8-9 (Portugal); p. 9 (Chile); pp. 9-10 (Costa Rica); pp. 10-11 (Poland); p. 11 (Kenya); p. 11 (Egypt); and pp. 11-12 (Guinea-Bissau).

⁴⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

⁴⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6.

⁴⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 7.

⁵⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

personnel at the request of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and with the agreement of the parties,

Taking note of the requests of the parties, contained in the General Agreement and in the letter dated 27 June 1997 from the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition addressed to the Secretary-General, for the further assistance of the United Nations in implementing the General Agreement, and recognizing that the implementation of the Agreement will require the consistent good faith and constant effort of the parties, as well as the sustained and vigorous support of the United Nations and the international community,

1. *Welcomes* the reports of the Secretary-General of 4 September and 5 November 1997;

2. *Welcomes also* the serious efforts made by the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition to carry out their commitments under the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan and the progress achieved in the activities of the Commission on National Reconciliation, the exchange of prisoners of war and detainees, the registration of United Tajik Opposition fighters inside Tajikistan and the repatriation of refugees from Afghanistan;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the agreement of the parties to form a joint security unit with the task of providing security, including armed escorts, for personnel and transports of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan mainly in the central part of the country, and calls upon them to establish it without delay;

4. *Authorizes* the Secretary-General to expand the size of the Mission in accordance with his recommendations;

5. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission until 15 May 1998;

6. *Decides* that the mandate of the Mission shall be to use its best efforts to promote peace and national reconciliation and to assist in the implementation of the General Agreement and, to this end:

(a) To provide good offices and expert advice as stipulated in the General Agreement;

(b) To cooperate with the Commission on National Reconciliation and its subcommissions and with the Central Commission on Elections and the Holding of a Referendum;

(c) To participate in the work of the Contact Group of guarantor States and organizations and to serve as its coordinator;

(d) To investigate reports of ceasefire violations and report on them to the United Nations and the Commission on National Reconciliation;

(e) To monitor the assembly of United Tajik Opposition fighters and their reintegration, disarmament and demobilization;

(f) To assist in the reintegration into governmental power structures or demobilization of ex-combatants;

(g) To coordinate United Nations assistance to Tajikistan during the transition period;

(h) To maintain close contacts with the parties, as well as cooperative 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;

7. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the safety and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces and other international personnel;

8. *Welcomes* the intention of the Secretary-General to convene in Vienna on 24 and 25 November 1997 a Donor Conference to obtain international support dedicated to the fulfilment of the General Agreement, and encourages Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously to ensure that this opportunity is not lost to contribute to the success of the peace process;

9. *Encourages* Member States and others concerned to continue assistance to alleviate the urgent humanitarian needs in Tajikistan and to offer support to Tajikistan for the rehabilitation and reconstruction of its economy;

10. *Welcomes* the continued contribution made by the collective peacekeeping forces in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement in coordination with all concerned;

11. *Commends* the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and of the personnel of the Mission, and encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of all significant developments, in particular regarding the security situation, and also requests him to report on the implementation of the present resolution within three months of its adoption;

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

**Decision of 24 February 1998 (3856th meeting):
statement by the President**

On 10 February 1998, pursuant to resolution 1138 (1997), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on the developments in Tajikistan and on the activities of UNMOT.⁵³ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that work on the implementation of the General Agreement had continued at a slow pace.

⁵³ S/1998/113.

He expressed hope that there would be practical work and tangible progress on such matters as the reintegration of UTO fighters and the revision of the Constitution and adoption of new laws. He would also encourage the Commission on National Reconciliation to launch the broad dialogue among the various political forces, including those not represented on the Commission, as foreseen in the General Agreement. He noted that for the United Nations, safety of its personnel had continued to be a major preoccupation. Security in Tajikistan had been precarious and was likely to remain so for the foreseeable future. The United Nations needed to seek to limit the risks for its personnel to the extent possible. He had outlined the simple practical steps that needed to be taken in that regard and for which the United Nations needed to rely on the cooperation of the Tajik authorities, and he trusted that they understood the importance of this and would accord it the highest priority.

At its 3856th meeting, held on 24 February 1998 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Gabon), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

At the same meeting, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁵⁴

The Security Council has considered the progress report of the Secretary-General of 10 February 1998 on the situation in Tajikistan, submitted pursuant to paragraph 12 of its resolution 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997.

The Council regrets that during the last three months work on the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan and the relevant activities of the Commission on National Reconciliation have proceeded very slowly. It welcomes recent efforts made by the parties in order to fulfil their obligations. The Council calls upon them to intensify their efforts to implement fully the General Agreement, including the protocol on military issues. It also encourages the Commission on National Reconciliation to continue its efforts aimed at the institution of a broad dialogue among the various political forces, as foreseen in the General Agreement.

The Council commends the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the personnel of the United Nations

⁵⁴ S/PRST/1998/4.

Mission of Observers in Tajikistan for their work and encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement. It welcomes the results of the international donor conference in support of peace and reconciliation in Tajikistan convened by the Secretary-General in Vienna on 24 and 25 November 1997, and looks forward to the contribution of those results to consolidating the peace process in Tajikistan.

The Council reiterates its concern that the security situation in some parts of Tajikistan remains precarious. It reminds both parties that the international community is ready to continue assisting in the implementation of the General Agreement as well as in humanitarian and rehabilitation programmes, but that its ability to do so and also the ability of the Mission to carry out its tasks more effectively is linked to improvements in security conditions.

The Council firmly condemns the hostage-taking of relief workers that took place in November 1997 and urges the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the security and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States and other international personnel, and to take practical steps in this respect, such as those mentioned in paragraph 7 of the report of the Secretary-General.

The Council welcomes the presidential decree establishing a joint security unit with the task of providing security, including armed escorts, for Mission personnel and calls upon the parties to make the unit operational as soon as possible. It also welcomes the readiness of the collective peacekeeping forces to arrange for the guarding of United Nations premises in Dushanbe, as mentioned in the report of the Secretary-General, and encourages the Mission and the collective peacekeeping forces to make the relevant detailed arrangements.

The Council encourages the Secretary-General to continue the expansion of the Mission to the strength authorized by its resolution 1138 (1997) as soon as the Secretary-General deems conditions appropriate.

**Decision of 14 May 1998 (3879th meeting):
resolution 1167 (1998)**

On 6 May 1998, pursuant to resolution 1138 (1997), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on developments in Tajikistan and on the activities of UNMOT.⁵⁵ In his report, the Secretary-General stated that progress in the peace process had been very slow, and it had become clear that the task of building confidence between the former adversaries was more difficult than anticipated and would take longer than allowed for in the ambitious timetable of

⁵⁵ S/1998/374.

the peace agreement. As a result, it seemed unlikely that elections could be held in 1998. It was clear that comprehensive international support remained essential for the continuation of the peace process. The Mission and other members of the United Nations system, as well as the Contact Group, provided much-needed impetus and helped stabilize the situation during crises. In the light of those circumstances, the Secretary-General recommended that the Council extend the mandate of UNMOT for a further period of six months, until 15 November 1998.

At its 3879th meeting, held on 6 May 1998 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Kenya), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁵⁶ The President further drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 1 May 1998 from the representative of Tajikistan addressed to the Secretary-General, which reported continuing armed violations of the General Agreement by individual armed units of UTO.⁵⁷

The representative of Tajikistan stated that the assistance of the international community to the efforts of the Government of Tajikistan aimed at a further stabilization of the situation and the continued progress of the country towards peace and national accord was particularly important at this time, when tensions had ignited in March and April resulting in the loss of human life. The Government of Tajikistan had expressed its concern at the local conflicts, which had been initiated by individual field commanders of UTO. He informed the Council that the President of Tajikistan was firm in his position that there was no reasonable alternative to the peace agreement and that progress towards national accord was irreversible. The representative noted that despite the fact that the implementation of key agreements on military issues had been unjustifiably delayed, thus holding back the progress of the entire peace process, that process was

moving forward at a steady pace. In that respect, a significant role was being played by UNMOT with which his Government was maintaining the closest contacts.⁵⁸

Speaking before the vote, the representative of the Russian Federation noted that despite the agreed timetable, there were significant delays in the implementation of key elements of the inter-Tajik agreement, particularly regarding the problems of reintegration, disarmament and the disbanding of the armed units of UTO. The delays in the implementation of the Protocol on military issues had led to an unjustified shift in emphasis and a break in the sequence of steps in the implementation of the General Agreement, with major emphasis being placed on political aspects to the detriment of the resolution of military issues. Such an imbalance contradicted the logic of the complex peace process and had become the major reason for the dangerous complications in the situation in a number of regions in Tajikistan. He drew the attention of the parties to the provisions in the draft resolution that reflected the need for a balanced approach to the implementation of the General Agreement. He expressed support for the intention of the Secretary-General to conclude the deployment of UNMOT and to reduce its personnel to the level authorized by the Security Council. He also reaffirmed the readiness of CIS peacekeepers to continue to provide assistance in resolving issues with regard to the security of the United Nations military observers, and to resolve with the leadership of UNMOT specific issues for taking measures in that respect.⁵⁹

The representative of China stated that China supported the peace process in Tajikistan and advocated an active role for the United Nations in promoting peace and reconciliation in Tajikistan and was in favour of further extending the mandate of UNMOT. The assessment of China of the regional peacekeeping efforts of the CIS countries in Tajikistan was also positive. He expressed the belief that the international community, including the United Nations, needed to support those efforts.⁶⁰

⁵⁶ S/1998/390.

⁵⁷ S./1998/367.

⁵⁸ S/PV.3879, pp. 2-3.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 3-4.

⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

A number of other speakers made statements expressing support for the draft resolution and the extension of the mandate of UNMOT.⁶¹

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1167 (1998) which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 6 May 1998 on the situation in Tajikistan,

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

Expressing regret that during the past three months progress in the peace process has been very slow,

Expressing concern at the precarious security situation in some parts of Tajikistan,

Expressing further concern at violations of the ceasefire in Tajikistan,

Welcoming the intensified contacts between the leadership of the Government of Tajikistan and the leadership of the United Tajik Opposition, which helped to contain the crises in the period covered by the report of the Secretary-General and confirmed the commitment of both parties to the peace process,

Recognizing that comprehensive international support remains essential for the intensification of the peace process in Tajikistan,

Welcoming the maintenance of close contact by the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan with the parties, as well as its cooperative 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,

Welcoming also the contribution of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations to the peace process,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 6 May 1998;

2. *Condemns* renewed fighting in violation of the ceasefire resulting from attacks initiated by some local United Tajik Opposition commanders, and calls upon all concerned to refrain from acts of violence;

3. *Calls upon* the parties to undertake vigorous efforts to implement fully the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, including the protocol on military issues, and to create conditions for the holding of elections at the earliest possible time;

4. *Also calls upon* the parties, with the involvement of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations, to implement the timetable of measures adopted by the Commission on National Reconciliation on 29 April 1998, notably, and as a matter of priority, the implementation of the protocol on military issues and the appointment of United Tajik Opposition representatives to the remaining government positions allocated to them, as well as the implementation of the amnesty law;

5. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the retiring Special Representative of the Secretary-General, commends the efforts of all the personnel of the Mission, and encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement;

6. *Calls upon* the parties to intensify their efforts to bring into operation as soon as possible a joint security unit tasked with providing security for Mission personnel, and to cooperate further in ensuring the safety and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States, and other international personnel;

7. *Encourages* the Mission and the collective peacekeeping forces to continue discussion of options for improving security cooperation;

8. *Calls upon* Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously to the consolidated appeal for Tajikistan for 1998 launched in Geneva in March 1998, and expresses the hope that the meeting of the Consultative Group to be held by the World Bank on 20 May 1998 will bring positive results;

9. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission for a period of six months until 15 November 1998;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of all significant developments, in particular regarding the security situation, and also requests him to report within three months of the adoption of the present resolution on its implementation;

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

Speaking after the vote, the representative of the United States stated that his delegation had voted in favour of extending the mandate of UNMOT as a sign of continued faith in the peace process. However, he stressed that the willingness of the United States to support "a broken process" was not infinite. He stressed that, while the United States and the

⁶¹ Ibid., pp. 5-6 (Gambia); p. 6 (Japan); and pp. 6-7 (Kenya).

international community wanted to give the parties the time they needed to establish an enduring peace, the parties needed to recognize that they alone held the responsibility for moving the process forward. It was clearly within the capacity of both to comply with their obligations under the peace accords. The parties also had a responsibility for ensuring the security of UNMOT, foreign diplomatic missions and international personnel. They needed to cooperate in that effort, specifically making the joint protection unit into a showcase of national cooperation.⁶²

Decision of 12 November 1998 (3943rd meeting): resolution 1206 (1998)

On 3 November 1998, pursuant to resolution 1167 (1998), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on developments in Tajikistan and on the activities of UNMOT.⁶³ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that, after a period of relative stagnation, the crisis at the end of September started by the assassination of a prominent member of UTO had led to renewed movement in the political process. However, much remained to be done before the holding of elections and the installation of a new national Government, which was to mark the end of the transition period. The Secretary-General was convinced that the political process would continue to require active international support, through UNMOT and the Contact Group in particular. Therefore, he recommended that the mandate of UNMOT be extended for another six months, until 15 May 1999. Regarding the killing of four members of UNMOT in July 1998, he expressed deep concern that there had not been more progress in establishing all of the relevant facts.

At its 3943rd meeting, held on 12 November 1998 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (United States), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of

the Council's prior consultations.⁶⁴ The President further drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 4 November 1998 from the representative of Tajikistan addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement by the Government inviting members of the anti-Government movement that carried out attacks in various towns on 3 and 4 November to lay down their arms and surrender to the country's forces of law and order.⁶⁵

The representative of Tajikistan expressed deep distress at the murder in July 1998 of four staff members of the United Nations Mission and stated that his Government was taking all possible measures to prevent the tragic incident from having consequences for the future relations with the United Nations and with other international organizations. The leadership of Tajikistan had already taken serious measures to improve security conditions for international personnel working in the country and was firmly committed to close cooperation with the leaders of UTO to successfully complete the investigation of all circumstances surrounding the incident. Noting that the dedication to the peace process of both parties to the General Agreement had been severely tested during the recent hostilities, which had erupted as a result of the attempt made by an armed group of rebels in northern Tajikistan to seize power by force, he informed the Council that the President of Tajikistan had resolutely embarked on a course of protecting the unity and territorial integrity of the country and the existing constitutional system. The President had firmly stated that the peace process in the Republic was moving ahead and that no force could stop it. He expressed gratitude to the Security Council, the Secretary-General and the States members of CIS, particularly the Russian Federation, for their timely and clear political assessment of the rebels' subversive and destabilizing activities and for their determined and unequivocal moral support for the Government and people of Tajikistan at a difficult time. Tajikistan was counting on continued cooperation with their partners in CIS in order to ensure the security of Tajikistan and to prevent any new attempt by destructive forces to

⁶⁴ S/1998/1063.

⁶⁵ S/1998/1034.

⁶² *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

⁶³ S/1998/1029.

strike a blow against the process of national reconciliation.⁶⁶

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1206 (1998), which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 3 November 1998 on the situation in Tajikistan,

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

Welcoming the movement towards the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan and the effective maintenance of the ceasefire between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition, and noting that there remain difficulties to be resolved in this regard,

Welcoming also the intensified regular contacts between the leadership of the Government of Tajikistan and of the United Tajik Opposition which helped to contain the crises in the period covered by the report of the Secretary-General, confirmed the commitment of both parties to the peace process and contributed to the implementation of the General Agreement,

Welcoming further the maintenance of close contact by the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan with the parties, as well as its cooperative 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,

Welcoming the contribution of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations to the peace process,

Expressing concern at the precarious security situation in some parts of Tajikistan,

Deeply concerned that there has not been sufficient progress in establishing all relevant facts concerning the murder of four members of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan in July 1998,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 3 November 1998;

2. *Strongly condemns* the recent fighting in the Leninabad area initiated by forces trying to hinder the peace process in Tajikistan, and calls upon all concerned to refrain from the use of force;

3. *Calls upon* the parties to undertake vigorous efforts to implement fully the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, including the protocol on military issues, and to create conditions for the holding of elections at the earliest possible time in 1999;

4. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, commends the efforts of all the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement;

5. *Welcomes* the continued contribution made by the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement in coordination with all concerned;

6. *Strongly condemns* the murder of four members of the Mission, recognizes that the completion of the investigation into this case is important for the resumption of the field activities of the Mission, urges the Government of Tajikistan to complete the investigation expeditiously and to bring to justice all those found to be responsible for the crime, and also urges the United Tajik Opposition leaders to continue to cooperate fully with these efforts;

7. *Acknowledges* the efforts of the Government of Tajikistan to enhance the protection of international personnel, and calls upon the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the safety and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces and other international personnel;

8. *Notes with satisfaction* the meeting of the Consultative Group held by the World Bank on 20 May 1998, and calls upon Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously to the consolidated appeal for Tajikistan for 1998 launched in Geneva in March 1998;

9. *Recognizes* that comprehensive international support remains essential for the intensification of the peace process in Tajikistan, and reminds both parties that the ability of the international community to mobilize and to continue assistance for Tajikistan is linked to the security of the personnel of the Mission and international organizations, and of humanitarian workers;

10. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission for a period of six months until 15 May 1999;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of all significant developments, in particular regarding the security situation and measures taken to enhance the security of the Mission, and also requests him to report within three months of the adoption of the present resolution on its implementation;

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

⁶⁶ S/PV.3943, pp. 2-3.

Decision of 23 February 1999 (3981st meeting): statement by the President

On 8 February 1999, pursuant to resolution 1206 (1998), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on developments in Tajikistan and on the activities of UNMOT.⁶⁷ In his report, the Secretary-General noted that there had been slow progress in the peace process and a great deal remained yet to be done. The holding of the constitutional referendum, as well as presidential and parliamentary elections, all to be held in 1999, remained uncertain. The risk inherent in the slow pace was the growing restlessness among the groups that were not direct parties to the peace agreement and to its power-sharing arrangements, as well as among UTO fighters, who were awaiting reintegration into the Tajik army or demobilization. He expressed concern at the precarious security situation in Tajikistan and noted that UNMOT had continued to limit its activities to Dushanbe and observe strict security precautions.

At its 3981st meeting, held on 23 February 1999 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Canada), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

At the same meeting, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁶⁸

The Security Council has considered the report of the Secretary-General of 8 February 1999 on the situation in Tajikistan, submitted pursuant to paragraph 11 of its resolution 1206 (1998) of 12 November 1998.

The Council welcomes the regular contacts between the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leader of the United Tajik Opposition and the work of the Commission on National Reconciliation aimed at achieving further progress in the peace process. It regrets that progress has remained slow during the last three months and underlines the necessity for the parties to speed up the full and sequential implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, especially the protocol on military issues. The Council calls upon the parties to intensify their efforts to create conditions for the holding in 1999 of a constitutional

referendum and presidential elections, as well as for the timely holding of parliamentary elections.

The Council notes with appreciation the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and of all the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan and encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement. It underlines the importance of the Mission playing a full and active role in the implementation of the General Agreement and requests the Secretary-General to continue to consider means of achieving this, taking into account the security situation.

The Council welcomes the continued contribution made by the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement in coordination with all concerned.

The Council welcomes also the contribution of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations to the peace process and, in this context, considers that the holding of a meeting of the Contact Group at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs, in support of the peace process, could indeed be useful, if properly prepared.

The Council welcomes further the activities of various international organizations and humanitarian workers related to the implementation of the General Agreement and addressing the humanitarian, rehabilitation and development needs of Tajikistan. It calls upon Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously to the consolidated appeal for Tajikistan for 1999 launched in Geneva in December 1998.

The Council reiterates its concern that the security situation in some parts of Tajikistan remains precarious. It reiterates the importance of a full investigation into the murder in July 1998 of four members of the Mission and notes with appreciation the efforts of the Government of Tajikistan in this regard. The Council calls upon the United Tajik Opposition to contribute more effectively to the investigation in order to bring those responsible to justice. It acknowledges the efforts of the Government of Tajikistan to enhance the protection of international personnel and calls upon the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the security and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces and other international personnel. The Council reminds both parties that the ability of the international community to mobilize and to continue assistance for Tajikistan is linked to the security of the personnel of the Mission and international organizations, and of humanitarian workers.

Decision of 15 May 1999 (4004th meeting): resolution 1240 (1999)

On 6 May 1999, pursuant to resolution 1206 (1998), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council a report on developments in Tajikistan and on the

⁶⁷ S/1999/124.

⁶⁸ S/PRST/1999/8.

activities of UNMOT.⁶⁹ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that the peace process in Tajikistan had made some progress, although it continued to be held back by a deep-seated lack of confidence between the parties. UNMOT, in close cooperation with OSCE and the other members of the Contact Group, had been assisting the parties in overcoming obstacles and contributing to an atmosphere conducive to finding agreed solutions. Stating that the peace process in Tajikistan had continued to require direct international attention and support, he recommended that the mandate of UNMOT be extended for another six months, until 15 November 1999.

At its 4004th meeting, held on 15 May 1999 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Gabon), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁷⁰

The representative of Tajikistan stated that it was important that the Security Council advocate protecting the valuable active role played by UNMOT in helping to implement the General Agreement, and to that end needed to strengthen the organizational and financial foundations of the Mission's activities. He stated that the peace process in Tajikistan, supported by the invaluable contribution of the United Nations and the entire international community, was entering a new and extremely serious stage in its development. The constitutional reform exercise and elections would be a serious test of the unified nature and sustainability of that process.⁷¹

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1240 (1999) which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

⁶⁹ S/1999/514.

⁷⁰ S/1999/557.

⁷¹ S/PV.4004, pp. 2-3.

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 6 May 1999 on the situation in Tajikistan,

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

Welcoming progress in the peace process in Tajikistan and the effective maintenance of the ceasefire between the Government of Tajikistan and the United Tajik Opposition, while underlining the fact that more needs to be done to translate agreements and decisions into concrete actions and to deal with the many pending issues,

Welcoming also the renewed efforts of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leadership of the Commission on National Reconciliation to advance and to expedite the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, which have helped to achieve movement on both military and political issues,

Welcoming further the maintenance of close contact by the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan with the parties, as well as its cooperative 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,

Noting with appreciation the continued contribution of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations to the peace process, in particular through periodic joint plenary meetings with the Commission on National Reconciliation to review progress in the implementation of the General Agreement,

Welcoming the fact that the general situation in Tajikistan has remained relatively calm with better security than in earlier periods, while noting that the situation in some parts of the country has remained tense,

Recognizing that comprehensive international support remains crucial for achieving a positive outcome of the peace process in Tajikistan,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 6 May 1999;

2. *Calls upon* the parties to speed up the full and sequential implementation, in a balanced manner, of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, especially the protocol on military issues, and to create conditions for the holding in 1999 of a constitutional referendum, as well as for the timely holding of presidential and parliamentary elections, and encourages the Commission on National Reconciliation to intensify its efforts aimed at the institution of a broad dialogue among the various political forces in the country in the interests of the restoration and strengthening of civil accord in Tajikistan;

3. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and of all the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan,

encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement, notes that the reopening of field offices should strengthen the Mission in this regard, underlines the need for the Mission to have the necessary personnel and financial support, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to consider means of ensuring a full and active role for the Mission in the implementation of the General Agreement;

4. *Encourages* the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe to continue its close cooperation with the United Nations on matters relating to constitutional reform, democratization and elections, as requested under the General Agreement;

5. *Supports* the active political work of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations in promoting the implementation of the General Agreement, and considers that a meeting of the Contact Group at the level of Ministers for Foreign Affairs could lend further impetus to the peace process;

6. *Welcomes* the continued contribution made by the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement, in coordination with all concerned;

7. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the security and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces and other international personnel, and reminds the parties that the ability of the international community to mobilize and to continue assistance for Tajikistan is linked to the security of those personnel;

8. *Calls upon* Member States and others concerned to make voluntary contributions to launch projects for demobilization and to provide support for the elections, and to respond promptly and generously to the consolidated inter-agency appeal for Tajikistan for 1999;

9. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission for a period of six months until 15 November 1999;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of all significant developments, and also requests him to report within three months of the adoption of the present resolution on its implementation;

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

**Decision of 19 August 1999 (4034th meeting):
statement by the President**

On 12 August 1999, pursuant to resolution 1240 (1999), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council an interim report on developments in Tajikistan and on

the activities of UNMOT.⁷² In his report, the Secretary-General stated that there had been significant progress in the implementation of the General Agreement by the Government of Tajikistan and UTO. Major obstacles that had held that process back had been removed. He informed the Council that Tajikistan was facing three important ballots: the referendum on constitutional amendments on 26 September, and presidential and parliamentary elections in November 1999 and February 2000, respectively. The United Nations and OSCE had agreed on a joint approach to the parliamentary elections and were in close contact concerning the modalities of their cooperation.

At its 4034th meeting, held on 19 August 1999 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the interim report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Namibia), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

At the same meeting, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:⁷³

The Security Council has considered the report of the Secretary-General of 12 August 1999 on the situation in Tajikistan, submitted pursuant to paragraph 10 of its resolution 1240 (1999) of 15 May 1999.

The Council welcomes significant progress in the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, achieved to a great extent owing to the renewed efforts of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leadership of the Commission on National Reconciliation. It particularly welcomes the official declaration by the United Tajik Opposition of the disbandment of its armed units and the decision by the Supreme Court of Tajikistan lifting the bans and restrictions on activities by the political parties and movements of the United Tajik Opposition as important steps contributing to the democratic development of Tajik society. The Council reiterates its encouragement to the Commission on National Reconciliation to intensify its efforts aimed at the institution of a broad dialogue among the various political forces in the country in the interests of the restoration and strengthening of civil accord in Tajikistan.

The Council encourages the parties to undertake further concerted measures to ensure the full and sequential implementation, in a balanced manner, of the General Agreement, especially all the provisions of the protocol on

⁷² S/1999/872.

⁷³ S/PRST/1999/25.

military issues, including those related to the reintegration of former opposition fighters. It also encourages them to continue their active work in creating conditions for the timely holding of a constitutional referendum and presidential and parliamentary elections, underlines the importance of the involvement of the United Nations in this process, in continued close cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and welcomes the intention of the Secretary-General to approach Member States with concrete proposals on voluntary contributions to support such involvement.

The Council notes with appreciation the work of the outgoing Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Ján Kubiš, and of all the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, and encourages the Mission to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement. It underlines the need for the Mission to operate throughout Tajikistan and to have the necessary personnel and financial support, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to consider means of ensuring a full and active role for the Mission in the implementation of the General Agreement up to the strength authorized by its resolution 1138 (1997) of 14 November 1997, while continuing to observe stringent security measures. The Council urges the Secretary-General to appoint a successor to Mr. Kubiš as the Special Representative as soon as possible.

The Council supports the continued active involvement of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations in the peace process.

The Council welcomes the continued contribution made by the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement in coordination with all concerned.

The Council expresses its concern at the precarious humanitarian situation in Tajikistan. It welcomes the activities of various international organizations and humanitarian workers related to the implementation of the General Agreement and addressing the humanitarian, rehabilitation and development needs of Tajikistan. The Council calls upon Member States and others concerned to respond promptly and generously to the mid-year review of the consolidated inter-agency appeal for Tajikistan for 1999.

Decision of 12 November 1999 (4064th meeting): resolution 1274 (1999)

On 12 August 1999, pursuant to resolution 1240 (1999), the Secretary-General submitted to the Council an interim report on developments in Tajikistan and on the activities of UNMOT.⁷⁴ In his report, the Secretary-General observed that during the previous three months, the peace process in Tajikistan had made

⁷⁴ S/1999/1127.

further progress, with the constitutional referendum and the lifting of the ban on political parties associated with UTO, both important milestones. The last major event of the transition period envisaged in the General Agreement would be the parliamentary elections, to be held before the term of the current parliament expired at the end of February 2000. He noted that, as the transition period neared its end, UNMOT also approached the end of its assignment. However, close international involvement remained essential to assist Tajikistan in any political tensions, to ensure that they were resolved by peaceful means rather than by violence, for which the potential remained. Under the circumstances, the Secretary-General recommended that the Council extend the mandate of UNMOT for another six months, until 15 May 2000. He envisaged that extension of the mandate as the final one, since the transition process stipulated in the General Agreement would come to an end during that period. However, he stressed that it was widely held that the continued political presence of the United Nations would greatly assist in ensuring that Tajikistan could consolidate the path of peace and national reconciliation. Therefore, he intended to outline, in an interim report following the parliamentary elections, a possible political role for the United Nations in that respect for the Council to consider.

At its 4064th meeting, held on 12 November 1999 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Security Council included the above report of the Secretary-General in its agenda. Following the adoption of the agenda, the President (Slovenia), with the consent of the Council, invited the representative of Tajikistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote. The President then drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution prepared in the course of the Council's prior consultations.⁷⁵ The President further drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 11 November 1999 from Tajikistan, transmitting the text of the Protocol on Political Guarantees During the Preparation for and Holding of the Elections to the Majlis-i Oli (the Parliament) of Tajikistan.⁷⁶

The representative of Tajikistan informed the Council that the meeting was taking place after the

⁷⁵ S/1999/1158.

⁷⁶ S/1999/1159.

presidential elections on 6 November 1999 and after the national referendum on changes and amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Tajikistan. The presidential elections had been an important step forward towards establishing lasting peace and stability and reliable conditions for further democratic development in Tajikistan. The successful implementation of the political measures and the further progress in implementing the General Agreement had been helped to a large extent by the continuing generous support provided by the guarantor States, the United Nations, OSCE and other international organizations involved. He maintained that the full and active support of the United Nations would be decisive as Tajik society faced the holding of the first parliamentary elections under the new conditions. The important work of drafting a law on elections to the Parliament was being done with assistance from the joint OSCE/United Nations assessment mission. He concluded by stressing that comprehensive international support was an important factor for ensuring that the peace process in the country was irreversible.⁷⁷

At the same meeting, the draft resolution was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1274 (1999), which reads:

The Security Council,

Recalling all its relevant resolutions and the statements by its President,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 4 November 1999 on the situation in Tajikistan,

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

Welcoming the significant progress made in the peace process in Tajikistan, particularly the holding of the constitutional referendum which followed the official declaration by the United Tajik Opposition of the disbandment of its armed units and the decision by the Supreme Court of Tajikistan lifting the bans and restrictions on activities by the political parties and movements of the United Tajik Opposition, and noting with satisfaction that these developments have set Tajikistan on the course of national reconciliation and democratization,

Welcoming also the renewed efforts of the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and the leadership of the Commission on

National Reconciliation to advance and to expedite the implementation of the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, which have helped to contain emerging controversies and to reach the important milestones envisaged in the General Agreement,

Acknowledging the holding of presidential elections on 6 November 1999 as a necessary and important step towards durable peace in Tajikistan,

Welcoming the maintenance of close contact by the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan with the parties, as well as its cooperative 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,

Noting with appreciation the continued contribution of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations to the peace process, in particular through periodic joint plenary meetings with the Commission on National Reconciliation to review progress and to help to overcome difficulties in the implementation of the General Agreement,

Welcoming the fact that the general situation in Tajikistan has remained relatively calm, with better security than in earlier periods, while noting that the situation in some parts of the country has remained tense,

Recognizing that comprehensive international support remains crucial for achieving a positive outcome of the peace process in Tajikistan,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General of 4 November 1999;

2. *Calls upon* the parties to undertake further concerted measures to implement fully the General Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and National Accord in Tajikistan, especially all the provisions of the protocol on military issues, and to create conditions for the timely holding of parliamentary elections, underlines the necessity for the full resumption of the work of the Commission on National Reconciliation, and reiterates its encouragement to the Commission to intensify its efforts to broaden a dialogue among the various political forces in the country in the interests of the restoration and strengthening of civil accord in Tajikistan;

3. *Welcomes* the signing on 5 November 1999 by the President of Tajikistan and the Chairman of the Commission on National Reconciliation of the protocol on political guarantees during the preparation for and holding of the elections to the Majlis-i Oli (the Parliament) of the Republic of Tajikistan, and, bearing in mind concerns expressed by the Secretary-General in his report, regards the strict implementation of the protocol as essential for the successful holding of free, fair and democratic parliamentary elections under international monitoring as foreseen in the General Agreement;

⁷⁷ S/PV.4064, pp. 2-3.

4. *Notes with appreciation* the work of the new Special Representative of the Secretary-General and of all the personnel of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan, encourages them to continue assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement, reiterates the need for the Mission to operate throughout Tajikistan and to have the necessary personnel and financial support, and requests the Secretary-General to continue to consider means of ensuring a full and active role for the Mission in the implementation of the General Agreement;

5. *Reiterates* the importance of the involvement of the United Nations, in continued close cooperation with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, in the preparations for and monitoring of the parliamentary elections in Tajikistan, which will be the last major event of the transitional period envisaged in the General Agreement;

6. *Supports* the continued active involvement of the Contact Group of Guarantor States and International Organizations in the peace process;

7. *Welcomes* the continued contribution made by the collective peacekeeping forces of the Commonwealth of Independent States in assisting the parties in the implementation of the General Agreement, in coordination with all concerned;

8. *Calls upon* the parties to cooperate further in ensuring the security and freedom of movement of the personnel of the United Nations, the collective peacekeeping forces and other international personnel, and reminds the parties that the ability of the international community to mobilize and to continue assistance for Tajikistan is linked to the security of those personnel;

9. *Expresses its deep concern* at the precarious humanitarian situation in Tajikistan, and welcomes the assistance provided by Member States, international organizations and humanitarian workers towards the implementation of the General Agreement and in addressing the humanitarian, rehabilitation and development needs of Tajikistan;

10. *Calls upon* Member States and others concerned to make voluntary contributions to launch projects for demobilization and reintegration and to provide support for the elections, and to continue to respond promptly and generously to the consolidated inter-agency appeal for Tajikistan for 1999, and welcomes the preparation of a new appeal for 2000 as a strategic document that will guide a gradual transition to a more development-oriented focus;

11. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Mission for a period of six months until 15 May 2000;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to keep the Council informed of all significant developments, also requests him to submit after the parliamentary elections and within four months of the adoption of the present resolution an interim report on its implementation, and supports his intention to outline in that report the future political role for the United Nations in assisting Tajikistan to continue on the path of peace and national reconciliation and in contributing to the democratic development of Tajik society after the mandate of the Mission is concluded;

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

23. The situation in Afghanistan

Decision of 15 February 1996 (3631st meeting): statement by the President

At its 3631st meeting, held on 15 February 1996 in accordance with the understanding reached in its prior consultations, the Council included the item entitled "The situation in Afghanistan" in its agenda. After the adoption of the agenda, the President (United States) invited the representative of Afghanistan, at his request, to participate in the discussion without the right to vote.

At the same meeting, the President made the following statement on behalf of the Council:¹

The Security Council deeply deplores the continuation of armed hostilities in Afghanistan, which have brought death and

destruction to the people and property of the country and threaten the peace and security of the region.

The Council is particularly concerned about the recent intensification of shelling and air attacks in and around the capital city of Kabul and the blockade of the city, which has prevented the delivery of foodstuffs, fuel and other humanitarian items to its population.

The Council calls upon the parties involved to end the hostilities forthwith and not to obstruct the delivery of humanitarian aid and other needed supplies to the innocent civilians of the city. In this regard, the Council commends the efforts of the United Nations, the International Committee of the Red Cross and other humanitarian agencies in Afghanistan, which are working under the most trying circumstances, and the airlift of food supplies from Peshawar to Kabul, and urges the international community to continue its support of those life-saving efforts.

The Council is deeply concerned that the continued conflict in Afghanistan provides fertile ground for terrorism,

¹ S/PRST/1996/6.