



Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council

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Department of Political Affairs - Security Council Affairs Division
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Protection of civilians in armed conflict

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held four meetings and adopted one presidential statement under the item entitled “Protection of civilians in armed conflict”. In its deliberations, the Council discussed issues such as the role of peacekeeping missions in the protection of civilians, compliance with international humanitarian law by non-state armed groups, humanitarian assistance and accountability for crimes committed against civilians in the context of armed conflicts. The deliberations of the Council on the protection of civilians acquired particular relevance in 2011 in light of the political and social uprisings in the Middle East. In decisions relating to country-specific and other thematic items, the Council included a number of provisions concerning protection of civilians, confirming a trend of increased mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues in its decisions.¹

Table 1 provides a list of the meetings held in connection with the protection of civilians in armed conflict, as well as related information including invitees, speakers and decisions adopted. Table 2 lists, by item, instances of provisions relating to protection of civilians in armed conflict that were included in decisions adopted under other items.

¹ For mainstreaming of other thematic issues, see in the present part, sects. 31 and 33, with regard to children and armed conflict and women and peace and security, respectively.

7 July 2010: consideration of the gap between normative progress and effective protection on the ground

At its 6354th meeting, on 7 July 2010, the Security Council heard briefings by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs. In his introductory statement, the Secretary-General highlighted that despite important institutional measures taken by the Council such as the adoption of the aide-memoire and the establishment of an informal expert group on protection of civilians, core challenges remained.² He stressed, for example, that protection of civilians by peacekeeping missions should be maximized through sustained political and financial support, while it was also essential to “manage expectations” since protection of “all people, from all threats, at all times” was not achievable. Warning against the consequences of a premature drawdown of peacekeeping operations, he also pointed out that host governments should meet clear benchmarks on protection of civilians before peacekeepers could withdraw. On the engagement of the United Nations with non-State armed groups, the Secretary-General encouraged the distinction between humanitarian and political goals and reminded that accountability should prevail for violations against civilians, including the hindering of humanitarian access.³ In that regard, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs emphasized that the existing normative framework had paradoxically outpaced the will and capacity of the international community to enforce accountability and that the Council should therefore take a more robust approach to implementing alternative accountability means, including the establishment of a permanent inquiry mechanism within the United Nations system, when national justice systems failed to prosecute.⁴ The High Commissioner for Human Rights, pointing to a vast “gulf between policy and practice” in the protection of civilians, argued that greater cooperation between human

² In his previous reports on protection of civilians ([S/2007/643](#) and [S/2009/277](#)), the Secretary-General identified five core challenges: enhancing compliance with international law; enhancing compliance by non-State armed groups; enhancing protection through more effective and better resourced United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions; enhancing humanitarian access; and enhancing accountability for violations.

³ [S/PV.6354](#), pp. 2-3.

⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

rights and humanitarian actors on the ground was needed to bridge that implementation gap.⁵

During the debate, speakers welcomed progress on implementation of [resolution 1894 \(2009\)](#), but acknowledged that much remained to be done to ensure the protection of civilians, in particular women and children. A number of speakers concurred that peacekeeping missions played a vital role in protecting civilians in armed conflict and that their mandates in that context should be reinforced. The Head of the Delegation of the European Union expressed readiness to cooperate with the United Nations in further developing concepts, guidelines and training programmes for European Union missions.⁶ The representative of Japan argued that the gap between expectation and implementation could be neutralised if protection mandates reflected in more specific terms targets and means of protecting civilians.⁷ Regarding the pre-drawdown requirements, the representative of Austria underlined that untimely and premature downscaling of peacekeeping missions could seriously endanger the safety of civilians⁸ and the representative of France, in that respect, stated that the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) could not withdraw as long as the national forces were not in a position to take over in good conditions.⁹

The representative of China, however, argued that civilian protection tasks should not be generalized across all missions as the need for and capacities to implement such mandates had to be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.¹⁰ Noting that 8,000 Indian peacekeepers were serving in often very challenging situations, the representative of India pointed at the insufficient attention given by the Council to operational challenges as compared with the emphasis on normative aspects, adding that peacekeepers found they were “asked to do more and more with less.”¹¹ Regarding accountability measures, the representative of the Russian Federation contended that the creation of new, separate

⁵ Ibid., p. 8.

⁶ [S/PV.6354 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 13.

⁷ [S/PV.6354](#), p. 22.

⁸ Ibid., p. 11.

⁹ Ibid., p. 23.

¹⁰ Ibid., p. 28.

¹¹ [S/PV.6354 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9.

Security Council mechanisms would not be useful, arguing that continuous compliance with international humanitarian law and consensual interpretation of violations would be more helpful in protecting civilians.¹²

22 November 2010: adoption of a presidential statement endorsing the updated aide-memoire on protection of civilians in armed conflict

At its 6427th meeting, on 22 November 2010, the Council discussed the latest report of the Secretary-General on protection of civilians¹³ and adopted a presidential statement by which it endorsed an updated aide-memoire on protection of civilians. Reaffirming the primary responsibility of States and parties to the conflict in protecting civilians, the Council underscored the need to fight impunity and ensure compliance with international humanitarian law. In addition, it emphasised the achievement of sustainable peace and development as well as respect for human rights and the rule of law as of utmost importance for long-term protection of civilians and stressed the need to set clear benchmarks in the context of drawdown in peacekeeping missions, with particular attention to the inclusion of indicators of progress regarding the protection of civilians in such benchmarks. The Council also reiterated its request to the Secretary-General for more detailed and systematic reporting on protection of civilians in country-specific situations.¹⁴

Briefing the Council, the Director General of the International Committee of the Red Cross stated that the reality on the ground was often dismal compared to the progress in policy was the lack of respect for humanitarian law by State and non-State actors, coupled with a prevailing culture of impunity. He noted that while true consensus on the meaning of “protection” might be hard to achieve, it was essential to have clarity and transparency on the objectives of various actors and to distinguish between physical

¹² [S/PV.6354](#), p. 17.

¹³ [S/2010/579](#).

¹⁴ [S/PRST/2010/25](#).

protection which humanitarian actors could not provide and protection by promoting compliance with the law.¹⁵

During the debate, speakers generally acknowledged that the primary responsibility for protection of civilians remained with national authorities, and that, on the question of impunity and accountability, the international community should be involved only where national systems were not able to fulfil their functions. In that regard, the representatives of Austria, the United States, Chile and France, among others, stressed that the Security Council could encourage the use of mixed national-international courts, commissions of inquiry, and referrals to the International Criminal Court (ICC) or consider targeted sanctions, as necessary.

A few speakers raised concerns regarding the operationalization of the concept of “protection of civilians”. For instance, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela emphasized the significant risks inherent in any initiative that sought to operationalize the protection of civilians, especially due to the coexistence of divergent conceptual approaches and to the specificity of each conflict.¹⁶ The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, underlined the need to refrain from using the concept of protection of civilians as a pretext for military intervention by the United Nations, particularly in view of the challenges in identifying exactly who were the civilians the peacekeepers would protect.¹⁷ Finally, some speakers including the representatives of Sri Lanka¹⁸ and Pakistan,¹⁹ expressed concern about the impact of interaction with non-State actors, arguing that such contact could confer unintended legitimacy to terrorist groups. On the other hand, the representative of Germany as well as other speakers argued that access to non-State parties to conflict was key in enhancing compliance by those groups with applicable international law, and therefore encouraged Member States to grant the United Nations such access.²⁰

¹⁵ [S/PV. 6427](#), pp. 10-11.

¹⁶ [S/PV. 6427 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 28.

¹⁷ [S/PV. 6427](#), p. 36.

¹⁸ [S/PV. 6427 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 12.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 16.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 11.

10 May to 9 November 2011: debates on protection of civilians in the context of the events in the Middle East

At its 6531st meeting, on 10 May 2011, the Council held an open debate on protection of civilians in the midst of developments in Libya,²¹ Syria and Côte d'Ivoire which all involved attacks against civilians. In her briefing to the Council, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator noted in that context the “pressing need” to ensure more effective protection of civilians in the conduct of hostilities. She added that the adoption of [resolution 1973 \(2011\)](#) on Libya, authorizing the subsequent use of force to protect civilians, had prevented civilian deaths and injuries, but had also raised concerns about potentially undermining the civilian-protection agenda and its important role in providing a framework for action in future crises.²²

During the debate, a majority of speakers condemned all attacks on civilians during armed conflict, notably the disproportionate and excessive use of force, and stressed the need to hold perpetrators of human rights violations accountable. In addition, Member States exchanged views on the conditions and legitimacy of Council-mandated action aimed at protecting civilians, with a particular emphasis on the Council mandated, NATO-led intervention in Libya, and some speakers questioned whether the operation had gone beyond the mandate authorized by the Council and was rather aimed at changing the regime than protecting civilians.

Among those speakers, some argued that action to protect civilians must ensure full respect for the United Nations Charter, including the sovereignty and integrity of Member States, and that decision to intervene must not be associated with political agendas or double standards. In that regard, the representative of Brazil opined that the concept of protection of civilians should not be confused or conflated with threats to international peace and security, or with the responsibility to protect. Acting on the basis of such confusion, she argued, could lead to the exacerbation of conflict, compromise the

²¹ On 16 September 2011, the National Transitional Council requested, via the Protocol and Liaison Service, that the form "Libya", previously not in use at the United Nations, replace both the earlier official and short forms (respectively, the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya and Libyan Arab Jamahiriya (the)).

²² [S/PV.6531](#), pp. 2 and 4.

impartiality of the United Nations and encourage the perception that the principle of protection of civilians was used as a pretext for intervention or regime change.²³ Similarly, the representative of China expressed his opposition to any attempt to wilfully interpret the resolutions adopted in relation with the situation in Libya, or to take actions exceeding the mandate described therein. He stressed that only preventive diplomacy and negotiated conflict resolution could help minimize civilian casualties.²⁴

Other speakers strongly supported intervention on humanitarian grounds and stressed the responsibility of the international community as well as of the United Nations to act when national governments were not willing or able to protect their citizens. The representative of Liechtenstein argued that the indiscriminate and disproportionate use of force against civilians was unacceptable and unlawful, and that there was a collective responsibility to protect civilians, including outside situations of armed conflict.²⁵ The representative of Austria noted that with the recent adoption of [resolutions 1970 \(2011\)](#) and [1973 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya, as well as [resolution 1975 \(2011\)](#) concerning Côte d'Ivoire, the Council had sent a strong signal that serious violations of international humanitarian and human rights law would not be tolerated and would necessarily entail action by the Council.²⁶ While noting the differences between the responsibility to protect and the protection of civilians conceptually, the representative of the Netherlands stressed that the two principles also shared a similar normative foundation and that they could be better implemented, if their similarities were better understood and further acknowledged.²⁷

Lastly, some Member States urged the Government of Sri Lanka to implement the recommendations provided in the recent report of the Secretary-General's Panel of Experts on accountability in Sri Lanka.²⁸ A few speakers also welcomed the informal consultations held at the initiative of the Brazilian presidency in February 2011 to discuss

²³ Ibid., p. 11.

²⁴ Ibid., pp. 20-21.

²⁵ Ibid., p. 33.

²⁶ [S/PV.6531 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 17.

²⁷ Ibid., pp. 23-25.

²⁸ [S/PV.6531](#), p. 8 (United Kingdom); p. 15 (United States); p. 19 (Germany); p. 24 (France); p. 30 (Switzerland); and p. 33 (Liechtenstein); [S/PV.6531 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 12 (Norway).

ways to mutually reinforce protection-related items on the agenda of the Council, namely protection of civilians, children and armed conflict, and women and peace and security.²⁹

On 9 November 2011, the Council heard briefings by the Secretary-General, the High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and the Director for International Law and Cooperation at the International Committee of the Red Cross. In his statement, the Secretary-General highlighted that the five core challenges identified in his previous reports remained relevant,³⁰ and stressed that only political solutions could end and prevent the majority of conflicts, and ensure the safety and well-being of civilians.³¹

During the debate, a majority of speakers acknowledged that protection of civilians was an essential part of the Council's work. While the representative of Nigeria underlined that the effectiveness of the United Nations and of the Security Council particularly, was increasingly measured against its ability to protect civilians,³² the representative of the United States deplored that no resolution had been adopted, even to condemn attacks on civilians, with regard to the situation in Syria.³³ The representative of the European Union stated that the Council had saved lives by mandating the protection of civilians, in particular in Côte d'Ivoire and Libya, and encouraged it to take robust action in situations of human rights violations, in particular in Syria where the regime was "brutally repressing its own people".³⁴

On the other hand, some Council members expressed grave concerns about civilian casualties involved as a result of action aimed at protecting civilians and cautioned against inadequate, excessive interpretation of the protection mandate. The representative of Brazil, delivering her statement on behalf of the Minister for External Relations of Brazil, introduced the "responsibility while protecting"³⁵ as a new concept

²⁹ [S/PV.6531](#), p. 9 (Russian Federation); and p. 18 (South Africa); [S/PV.6531 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 17 (Austria); and p. 21 (Slovenia).

³⁰ For more information on the five core challenges, see footnote 2 above.

³¹ [S/PV.6650](#), pp. 4-5.

³² *Ibid.*, p. 26.

³³ *Ibid.*, p. 20.

³⁴ [S/PV.6650 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 8.

³⁵ See concept note enclosed in [S/2011/701](#).

to be further elaborated and operationalized, taking into account that the use of force authorized by the Council always carried with it risks of unintended casualties and spreading violence and instability. She added that mechanisms capable of producing an objective and detailed assessment of such risks should be established. She further stated that as the international community exercised its responsibility to protect, it also had to demonstrate a high level of responsibility while protecting by following certain parameters such as: the necessity to prioritize and exhaust preventive, non-military measures; when the use of force was envisaged, the need to limit harm and to strictly respect the objectives established by the Council; and the need for enhanced Council procedures to monitor and assess the manner in which resolutions were interpreted and implemented to ensure a high level of responsibility while protecting.³⁶ In addition, the representative of South Africa, referring to the situation in Libya, stated that “regime change and the arming and harming of civilians [could] not be justified in the name of protection of civilians” and warned that abusing the authorization granted by the Council would lead to a permanent state of paralysis within the Council in addressing similar situations.³⁷

On accountability for crimes committed against civilians, Council members acknowledged progress in the fight against impunity, in particular through the work of the International Criminal Court (ICC) and the special tribunals. Some Member States highlighted the Council’s responsibility to refer situations to ICC and to monitor conflict situations, including through the monitoring and reporting arrangements established in accordance with [resolution 1960 \(2010\)](#) on women and peace and security, and through commissions of inquiry and fact-finding missions. The representative of Bosnia and Herzegovina hoped the Council would adopt a more consistent and comprehensive approach to addressing humanitarian access constraints, including means of accountability for grave instances of impeded access.³⁸ The representative of Germany³⁹

³⁶ [S/PV.6650](#), pp. 16-17.

³⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 22.

³⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 13.

³⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 28.

as well as other speakers⁴⁰ welcomed the adoption of [resolution 1998 \(2011\)](#) in July 2011 which would ensure that information concerning attacks on schools and hospitals was included in the Secretary-General's annual report on children and armed conflict.

⁴⁰ Ibid., p. 22 (South Africa); and p. 27 (Nigeria); [S/PV.6650 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 6 (Bangladesh); and p. 13 (Norway).

Table 1

Meetings: protection of civilians in armed conflict

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub- item</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6354 7 July 2010		21 Member States ^a	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members and all invitees	
6427 22 November 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on the protection of civilians in armed conflict (S/2010/579)	34 Member States ^b	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Director-General of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	S/PRST/2010/25
6531 10 May 2011		31 Member States ^c	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights and Head of the New York Office of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Acting Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members and all invitees	

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub- item</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6650 9 November 2011		28 Member States ^d	United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs, Director for International Law and Cooperation of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, representative of the International Humanitarian Fact- Finding Commission	Secretary-General, all Council members ^e and all invitees	

^a Afghanistan, Argentina, Australia, Bangladesh, Canada, Colombia, Germany, India, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

^b Afghanistan, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Egypt, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, India, Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Liechtenstein, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

^c Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Botswana, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cuba, Italy, Japan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Morocco, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Norway, Peru, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

^d Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Canada, Chile, Egypt, Georgia, Guatemala, Honduras, Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

^e Portugal was represented by its President.

Mainstreaming of issues relating to protection of civilians in armed conflict in the decisions of the Security Council

In 2010 and 2011, the Security Council continued to include provisions on protection of civilians in country- and region-specific resolutions and presidential statements, confirming a trend of increased mainstreaming of cross-cutting issues into its decisions. In addition, the Council incorporated provisions relating to protection of civilians in a number of decisions adopted in connection with other thematic items.

In its decisions relating to country-specific situations, the Council included various types of provisions related to protection of civilians, which were either addressed to relevant Member States, parties to a conflict, or to the Secretary-General. The provisions included calls for compliance with the obligations of parties under international humanitarian and human rights law, condemnations of violations of humanitarian and human rights law, calls to cease attacks against civilians, calls to facilitate humanitarian assistance to affected populations, including refugees and internally displaced persons, condemnation of attacks against, threats and acts of obstruction and violence perpetrated against United Nations personnel and calls for prosecution of such crimes.

The Council included such provisions in decisions adopted in connection with Afghanistan, the Central African region, the Central African Republic, Côte d'Ivoire, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Middle East, Libya, Somalia and the Sudan. For instance, by [resolution 1973 \(2011\)](#) adopted in connection with the situation in Libya, the Council authorized under Chapter VII of the Charter all necessary measures to protect civilians under threat of attack, and established a flight ban over the Libyan territory in order to help protect civilians.³⁴ The previous month, following gross and systematic violation of human rights, including repression of peaceful demonstrators, the Council had adopted measures under Article 41 of the Charter against individuals and entities involved in the commission of serious human rights abuses as well as attacks on civilian

³⁴ See [resolution 1973 \(2011\)](#), paras. 4 and 6.

populations and facilities.³⁵ Also, by [resolution 1923 \(2010\)](#) adopted in connection with the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion, the Council took note of the commitment of the Government of Chad to achieve specific benchmarks related to the protection of civilians and humanitarian workers in the context of the reduction of the military component of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) and the progressive drawdown of the mission, and requested the Secretary-General to establish a joint Working Group with the Chadian authorities to assess the situation on the ground with respect to the protection of civilians.³⁶ In relation to the situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Council adopted a presidential statement following incidents of mass rapes committed by armed groups in the Walikale region in late July and early August 2010, in which it expressed its readiness to consider all appropriate actions, including targeted measures against the perpetrators.³⁷ The following year, the Council adopted a presidential statement expressing concerns at persistent high levels of violence and human rights abuses against civilians. In its statement, the Council urged the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to ensure a swift and fair prosecution of the perpetrators, and to take all necessary steps, including ensuring proper conduct by its armed forces in compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law, to facilitate the return of refugees and displaced persons.³⁸

Table 2 lists, by item, instances of provisions relating to protection of civilians in armed conflict that were included in decisions adopted under other items. The table does not reflect the integration of provisions relating to protection of civilians in the mandates of subsidiary bodies, as those are covered in Part X of the present Supplement. Provisions with a specific focus on protection of civilians in armed conflict are reproduced in full, while related provisions, broader in scope, are indicated by a reference (introduced by “see also”) to the corresponding decisions and relevant paragraph numbers.

³⁵ See [resolution 1970 \(2010\)](#), para. 22.

³⁶ See [resolution 1923 \(2010\)](#), paras. 2, 3 and 4.

³⁷ See [S/PRST/2010/17](#), first paragraph.

³⁸ See [S/PRST/2011/11](#), fourth paragraph.

Table 2:

**Mainstreaming of issues relating to protection of civilians in armed conflict in the decisions of the Security Council, 2010-2011:
selected provisions**

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
AFRICA	
The situation in Somalia	
Resolution 1964 (2010) 22 December 2010 (adopted under Chapter VII)	<p>Calls for the immediate cessation of all acts of violence or abuses committed against civilians, including women and children, and humanitarian personnel in violation of international humanitarian law and human rights law, and stresses the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in Somalia to comply with their obligations to protect the civilian population from the effects of hostilities, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate or excessive use of force (para. 15)</p> <p>Calls upon all parties and armed groups to take appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of humanitarian personnel and supplies, and demands that all parties ensure full, safe and unhindered access for the timely delivery of humanitarian aid to persons in need of assistance across the country (para. 17)</p> <p>See also resolution 1964 (2010), second, fourteenth, sixteenth and seventeenth preambular paragraphs; and resolution 1910 (2010), second, twelfth, fourteenth and sixteenth preambular paragraphs and paras. 16 and 17.</p>
S/PRST/2011/6 10 March 2011	<p>The Council condemns all attacks, including terrorist attacks on the Transitional Federal Government, the African Union Mission in Somalia and the civilian population by armed opposition groups and foreign fighters, particularly Al-Shabaab (tenth paragraph)</p> <p>The Security Council stresses the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in Somalia to comply with their obligations to protect the civilian population from the effects of hostilities, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate or excessive use of force. The Council expresses deep concern about the continuing violations and abuses committed against children in Somalia by parties to the conflict and urges the immediate implementation of all conclusions of its Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict on Somalia (twelfth paragraph)</p>
S/PRST/2011/10 11 May 2011	<p>The Security Council calls upon all States, particularly those in the region, to fully implement the Somalia and Eritrea arms embargoes. The Council condemns attacks, including terrorist attacks, on the Transitional Federal Government, the African Union Mission in Somalia and the civilian population by armed opposition groups and foreign fighters, particularly Al-Shabaab. It calls upon all opposition groups to lay down their arms and join the peace process (eleventh paragraph)</p>
The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
Resolution 1925 (2010) 28 May 2010	<p>Emphasizes that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo bears primary responsibility for security, peacebuilding and development in the country, and encourages the Government to remain fully committed to protecting the population through the establishment of professional and sustainable security forces, to promote non-military solutions as an integral part of the overall solution for reducing the threat posed by Congolese and foreign armed groups and to restore full State authority in the areas freed from armed groups (para. 5)</p> <p>Calls upon the United Nations system, along with international partners, to focus its efforts on helping the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to consolidate the conditions to ensure effective protection of civilians and sustainable development in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, requests the Secretary-General to continue to coordinate all the activities of the United Nations system in the country through continued cooperation between the Mission and the United Nations country team under the authority of his Special Representative for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and encourages the international and donor community to support the activities of the country team (para. 9)</p>
S/PRST/2010/17 17 September 2010	<p>The Security Council reiterates its strong condemnation of mass rapes which occurred in the east of the Democratic Republic of the Congo late July and August, reaffirming its resolutions 1820 (2008), 1882 (2009), 1888 (2009), 1894 (2009) and 1925 (2010) and recalling its statements to the press on August 26, September 8 and 9, the Security Council urges the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to ensure a swift and fair prosecution of the perpetrators of these terrible crimes and to inform the Security Council on measures undertaken to this end. The Security Council expresses its readiness to consider all appropriate actions, including targeted measures against the perpetrators (first paragraph)</p> <p>The Council stresses the primary responsibility of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for ensuring security in its territory and protecting its civilians with respect for the rule of law, human rights and international humanitarian law (second paragraph)</p> <p>The Council requests a briefing by the Secretary-General on the strategy of the Mission for the protection of civilians and the overall challenges that the Mission faces in implementing this strategy. The Council continues to support a comprehensive approach to the protection of civilians and to ensuring peace and security in the region, in particular efforts to accelerate effective disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of Congolese armed groups and disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration of foreign armed groups, to fight against the illegal exploitation of natural resources and to establish effective State authority and strengthen the rule of law in conflict-affected areas (tenth paragraph)</p>
Resolution 1952 (2010) 29 November 2010 (adopted under Chapter VII)	<p>Encourages the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to continue to take appropriate measures to address the threat of criminal networks within the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) involved in illegal economic activities, such as mining, undermining their capacity to protect civilians in the eastern part of the country (para. 11)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 1952 (2010), ninth and tenth preambular paragraphs.</i></p>
S/PRST/2011/11 18 May 2011	<p>The Council reiterates its deep concern about the persistent high levels of violence, especially sexual violence, and human rights abuses against civilians, mostly affecting women and children, including the use and recruitment of children by parties to the conflict, in particular in the eastern part of the country. It reiterates its deep concern about continuing activities of the Lord's Resistance Army. It calls for an urgent end to the attacks against the civilian population by all armed groups. It condemns all violations of human rights, including those committed by some elements of the Congolese security forces. The Council welcomes progress with the recent prosecutions after the incidents in Fizi and other cases. It reiterates the urgent need for the swift prosecution of all perpetrators of human rights abuses, and urges the Congolese authorities, with the support of the Mission, to implement the appropriate</p>

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
	responses to address this challenge, including in Walikale. It urges the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to take all necessary steps, including ensuring proper conduct by its armed forces in compliance with international humanitarian and human rights law, to facilitate the return of refugees and displaced persons (fourth paragraph)
The situation in the Central African Republic	
S/PRST/2010/26 14 December 2010	<p>The Council remains seriously concerned by the security situation in the Central African Republic. The Council condemns all attacks by local and foreign armed groups that threaten the population as well as the peace and stability of the Central African Republic and the subregion, including the attacks on Birao carried out by the Convention des patriotes pour la justice et la paix on 19 July and 24 November 2010 (fifth paragraph)</p> <p>Noting the primary responsibility of the Government of the Central African Republic to promote security and for protecting its civilians with respect for the rule of law, human rights and international humanitarian law, the Council stresses the importance of bilateral partners' work enhancing the capacity of the Central African Armed Forces and stresses that such assistance should be in support of the wider security sector reform process. The Council also encourages further cooperation between the Governments of the Central African Republic, Chad and the Sudan in order to secure their common borders. The Council recognizes the contribution of the Mission for the Consolidation of Peace in the Central African Republic in support of durable peace and security in the Central African Republic and calls upon regional and subregional organizations to consider, upon request of the Government of the Central African Republic, further actions to support security in the Central African Republic, such as reinforcing the Mission (seventh paragraph)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 2031 (2011), para. 11.</i></p>
The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	
Resolution 1911 (2010) 28 January 2010 (adopted under Chapter VII)	<p>Reaffirms paragraphs 14 to 17 of resolution 1880 (2009), calls upon all Ivorian parties, with the continued support of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire, to ensure the protection of civilians, including women and children, to fully implement the recommendations of the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict on children and armed conflict in Côte d'Ivoire, including to adopt a national action plan to address sexual violence, and to ensure that the rule of law is strengthened and that all reported abuses are investigated and those responsible brought to justice, and calls, in particular, upon all parties to take appropriate measures to refrain from, prevent and protect civilians from all forms of sexual violence (para. 13)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 1911 (2010), tenth preambular paragraph; resolution 1933 (2010), ninth preambular paragraph and para. 13; and resolution 1962 (2010), fifth and eighteenth preambular paragraphs and para. 9.</i></p>
Resolution 1975 (2011) 30 March 2011 (adopted under Chapter VII)	<p>Urges all the Ivorian parties and other stakeholders to respect the will of the people and the election of Mr. Alassane Dramane Ouattara as President of Côte d'Ivoire, as recognized by the Economic Community of West African States, the African Union and the rest of the international community, expresses its concern at the recent escalation of violence, and demands an immediate end to the violence against civilians, including women, children and internally displaced persons (para. 1)</p> <p>Urges all Ivorian State institutions, including the Defence and Security Forces of Côte d'Ivoire, to yield to the authority vested by the Ivorian people in President Alassane Dramane Ouattara, condemns the attacks, threats, and acts of obstruction and violence perpetrated by the Defence and Security Forces, militias and mercenaries against United Nations personnel, obstructing them from protecting civilians and monitoring and helping to investigate human</p>

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
	<p>rights violations and abuses, stresses that those responsible for such crimes under international law must be held accountable, and calls upon all parties, in particular Mr. Laurent Gbagbo's supporters and forces, to fully cooperate with the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire and to cease interfering with its activities in implementation of its mandate (para. 4)</p> <p>Reiterates its firm condemnation of all violence committed against civilians, including women, children, internally displaced persons and foreign nationals, and other violations and abuses of human rights, in particular enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, killing and maiming of children and rapes and other forms of sexual violence (para. 5)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 1975 (2011), ninth and thirteenth preambular paragraphs.</i></p>
<hr/> Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	
<p>Resolution 1919 (2010) 29 April 2010</p>	<p>Expresses its concern for the health and welfare of the civilian populations in the Sudan, calls upon the parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and the communiqué signed by the United Nations and the Government of National Unity in Khartoum on 28 March 2007 to support and protect all humanitarian personnel and facilitate all humanitarian operations in the Sudan, and urges the Government of the Sudan to continue working with the United Nations to ensure the continuity of humanitarian assistance throughout the Sudan (para. 13)</p>
<p>Resolution 1935 (2010) 30 July 2010</p>	<p>Demands that all parties to the conflict in Darfur immediately end violence and attacks on civilians, peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel, and comply with their obligations under human rights and international humanitarian law, affirms in this context the strong opposition of the Council to serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law, calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities and for all parties to commit themselves to a sustained and permanent ceasefire, requests the Secretary-General to consult with relevant parties with a view to developing a more effective ceasefire monitoring mechanism, and underlines the need for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur to report on major instances of violence which undermines the full and constructive efforts of the parties towards peace (para. 9)</p> <p>Demands that the parties to the conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and children, from all forms of sexual violence, in line with resolution 1820 (2008) of 19 June 2008, requests the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur to report on the implementation of its comprehensive strategy for providing protection to women and children from sexual violence and gender-based violence, as well as to assess progress towards the elimination of sexual and gender-based violence, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that the relevant provisions of resolutions 1325 (2000), 1820 (2008), 1888 (2009) of 30 September 2009 and 1889 (2009) of 5 October 2009 are implemented by the Operation and to include information on this in his reporting to the Council (para. 18)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 1945 (2010), seventh and ninth preambular paragraphs.</i></p>
<p>S/PRST/2010/24 16 November 2010</p>	<p>The Council underlines the need for the parties to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement to promote calm, including by providing immediate and ongoing reassurance to people of all nationalities in the Sudan, including Southerners in the North and Northerners in the South, that their rights, safety and property will be respected whatever the outcome of the referendums. The Council calls for an immediate end to statements threatening the security of vulnerable populations. The Council also emphasizes that the protection of civilians is primarily the responsibility of the Sudanese authorities. The Council urges the parties to work actively with local leaders to mitigate tensions in Abyei and other border areas (sixth paragraph)</p>

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
	<p>The Council reaffirms its support for the African Union-United Nations-led peace process for Darfur, hosted by Qatar, the work of the African Union-United Nations Joint Chief Mediator for Darfur, Mr. Djibril Bassolé, and the principles guiding the negotiations. The Council strongly urges all rebel movements to join the peace process without further delay or preconditions, and all parties immediately to cease hostilities and engage constructively in negotiations with a view to finding a lasting peace in Darfur. The Council expresses concern about attacks on civilians by militias and calls for all support to such groups to cease. The Council expresses its willingness to consider measures against any party whose actions undermine peace in Darfur (tenth paragraph)</p> <p>The Council expresses deep concern about the increase in violence and insecurity in Darfur, including ceasefire violations, attacks by rebel groups, aerial bombardment by the Government of the Sudan, increased inter-tribal fighting, and attacks on humanitarian personnel and peacekeepers, which have restricted humanitarian access to conflict areas where vulnerable populations reside. In this context, the Council calls upon all parties to protect civilians and maintain full, safe and unhindered access for humanitarian workers to the population in need of assistance. The Council notes the need to support efforts to halt arms flows into Darfur in contravention of the arms embargo strengthened by resolution 1945 (2010). The Council recalls the importance it attaches to an end to impunity, and to justice for crimes committed in Darfur (eleventh paragraph)</p>
S/PRST/2010/28 16 December 2010	<p>The Security Council reiterates its call for all parties to cooperate fully with UNMIS in the discharge of its mandate, specifically with respect to protection of civilians and to granting unhindered access and freedom of movement (fourth paragraph)</p> <p>The Security Council reiterates the urgent need for the parties to provide immediate and ongoing reassurance to people of all nationalities in Sudan, so that their rights, safety and property will be respected whatever the outcome of the referenda, and the urgent need to focus on the security and protection of minorities including Southerners in the North and Northerners in the South. The Security Council urges the parties to ensure that citizenship and residency arrangements are in accordance with applicable international obligations and refrain from arbitrarily depriving an individual of citizenship. The Council urges the CPA parties to respect their obligations (fifth paragraph)</p>
S/PRST/2011/3 9 February 2011	<p>The Council reiterates its deep concern over the increase in violence and insecurity in Darfur, including ceasefire violations, attacks by rebel groups and aerial bombardment by the Sudanese Armed Forces, which recently displaced approximately 43,000 civilians, and the kidnapping on 13 January 2011 of three members of the United Nations Humanitarian Air Service. The Council recalls the importance it attaches to an end to impunity, and to justice for crimes committed in Darfur. The Council reaffirms its support for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur and urges all parties to ensure full and unhindered access for the Operation throughout the mission area and to allow humanitarian workers to provide assistance to all populations in need (ninth paragraph)</p>
S/PRST/2011/8 21 April 2011	<p>The Council reaffirms its support for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur, including the increasingly full implementation of its Chapter VII mandate to deliver its core tasks to protect civilians and assure humanitarian access, as defined in resolution 1769 (2007) of 31 July 2007, and recalls the priority given to its efforts in support of the African Union-United Nations-led political process for Darfur. The Council demands that the Government of the Sudan and the armed movements cease hostilities and ensure full and unhindered access, by land and by air, for the Operation throughout the mission area and allow humanitarian workers to provide assistance to all populations in need. The Council notes the statement made by the Permanent Representative of the Sudan to the United Nations before the Council on 20 April 2011 that his Government would issue all outstanding 1,117 visas for Operation personnel, and urgently calls upon the Government of the Sudan to do so (ninth paragraph)</p>
S/PRST/2011/12	<p>The Council strongly condemns the Government of the Sudan's taking and continued maintenance of military control over the Abyei Area and the</p>

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
3 June 2011	<p>resulting displacement of tens of thousands of residents of Abyei. The Council calls upon the Sudanese Armed Forces to ensure an immediate halt to all looting, burning and illegal resettlement. The Council stresses that all those responsible for violations of international law, including humanitarian and human rights law, as well as those who ordered those acts, will be held accountable. The Council expresses grave concern about the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the area and praises the efforts of the humanitarian community to deliver emergency assistance, including food, health care, shelter and water, to those affected by the conflict, despite continued insecurity in the region and despite severe limitations on access (second paragraph)</p> <p>The Council underscores the responsibility of the parties to protect civilians, and to respect the Chapter VII mandate of the Mission for the protection of civilians under imminent threat of physical violence in Abyei. In this regard, the Council condemns in the strongest terms ongoing threats and intimidation against elements of the Mission ... (twelfth paragraph)</p>
Resolution 2003 (2011) 29 July 2011	<p>Demands that all parties to the conflict in Darfur immediately end violence and attacks on civilians, peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel, and comply with their obligations under international human rights and humanitarian law; affirms in this context the Council's condemnation of serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law; calls for an immediate cessation of hostilities and for all parties to commit themselves to a sustained and permanent ceasefire; requests the Secretary-General to consult with relevant parties with a view to developing a more effective ceasefire monitoring mechanism; and underlines the need for the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur to report on major instances of violence which undermines the full and constructive efforts of the parties towards peace (para. 14)</p> <p>Expresses its serious concern at the deterioration of the humanitarian situation in some parts of Darfur, the continued threats to humanitarian organizations and the restricted humanitarian access in Darfur resulting from increased insecurity, attacks against humanitarian workers and denial of access by the parties to the conflict, calls for the full implementation of the joint communiqué between the Government of the Sudan and the United Nations on facilitation of humanitarian activities in Darfur, including regarding the timely issuance of visas and travel permits for humanitarian organizations, demands that the Government of the Sudan, all militias, armed groups and all other stakeholders ensure the full, safe and unhindered access of humanitarian organizations and relief personnel and the delivery of humanitarian assistance to populations in need, and underscores the importance of upholding the principles of neutrality, impartiality and independence in the provision of humanitarian assistance (para. 15)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 2003 (2011), thirteenth preambular paragraph.</i></p>
<hr/> The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion	
Resolution 1923 (2010) 25 May 2010	<p>Takes note of the commitment of the Government of Chad, as recalled in the letter dated 21 May 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council, to assume full responsibility for the security and protection of the civilian population in eastern Chad, including refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees and host communities, with a particular focus on women and children, and United Nations and humanitarian personnel and assets, in accordance with its obligations under international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and underscores that in so doing, the Government commits itself to carrying out the following tasks:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(i) To ensure the security and protection of civilians in danger, particularly refugees and internally displaced persons;(ii) To facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid and the free movement of humanitarian personnel by improving security in eastern Chad;(iii) To ensure the security and freedom of movement of Mission staff and United Nations and associated personnel (para. 2) <p>Notes that, in this context, the Government of Chad commits itself to working towards the achievement of the following benchmarks related to the</p>

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
	<p>protection of civilians and humanitarian workers, in accordance with international humanitarian law, as outlined in resolution 1861 (2009):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Voluntary return and resettlement in secure and sustainable conditions of internally displaced persons;(ii) Demilitarization of refugee and internally displaced persons camps as evidenced by a decrease in arms, violence and human rights abuses;(iii) Improvement in the capacity of Chadian authorities in eastern Chad, including national law enforcement agencies, the judiciary and the prison system, to provide the necessary security for refugees, internally displaced persons, civilians and humanitarian workers with respect for international human rights standards (para. 3) <p>Requests the Government of Chad and the Secretary-General to establish a joint Government of Chad/United Nations High-level Working Group to assess on a monthly basis the situation on the ground with respect to the protection of civilians, the measures adopted by the Government to implement the tasks set out in paragraph 2 above and to progress towards meeting the benchmarks set out in paragraph 3 above, and the capacity of the D�tachment int�gr� de s�curit� to provide security inside and around refugee camps and internally displaced persons sites, security escorts and area security, in coordination with the Gendarmerie and the Nomad National Guard (para. 4)</p> <p>Welcomes the intention of the Government of Chad and the United Nations to establish a forum to foster dialogue and collaboration with a view to reaching a common understanding of roles and responsibilities on issues relating to the protection of civilians, humanitarian access, and safety and security arrangements of humanitarian actors and in order to impact positively on humanitarian and early recovery initiatives (para. 13)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 1923 (2010), ninth, eleventh, twelfth and thirteenth preambular paragraphs.</i></p>
<p>S/PRST/2010/29 20 December 2010</p>	<p>The Council recalls the commitment of the Government of Chad, outlined in the letter dated 7 September 2010 from the Permanent Representative of Chad to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Council, to assume full responsibility for the security and the protection of the civilian population in eastern Chad, including refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees and host communities, with a particular focus on women and children, and United Nations and humanitarian personnel and assets, in accordance with its obligations under international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law (third paragraph)</p> <p>The Council requests the Secretary-General to report by the conclusion of the liquidation phase of the Mission on 30 April 2011 on the progress made in eastern Chad on the protection of civilians, especially women and children, including (i) the status of refugees and internally displaced persons and durable solutions to their displacement, (ii) unimpeded, safe and timely humanitarian access, including the movement and security of humanitarian personnel and the delivery of humanitarian aid, (iii) the measures taken to respond to violations of humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, and (iv) the overall security situation as it affects the humanitarian situation (sixth paragraph)</p>
<p>The situation in Libya^a</p> <p>Resolution 1970 (2011) 26 February 2011 (adopted under</p>	<p>Decides that the measures contained in paragraphs 15 and 17 above shall apply to the individuals and entities designated by the Committee, pursuant to paragraphs 24 (b) and (c) below respectively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) Involved in or complicit in ordering, controlling or otherwise directing, the commission of serious human rights abuses against persons in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, including by being involved in or complicit in planning, commanding, ordering or conducting attacks, in violation of

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
Chapter VII)	international law, including aerial bombardments, on civilian populations and facilities; or (b) Acting for or on behalf of or at the direction of individuals or entities identified in subparagraph (a) (para. 22)
Resolution 1973 (2011) 17 March 2011 (adopted under Chapter VII)	<p>Demands the immediate establishment of a ceasefire and a complete end to violence and all attacks against, and abuses of, civilians (para. 1)</p> <p>Authorizes Member States that have notified the Secretary-General, acting nationally or through regional organizations or arrangements, and acting in cooperation with the Secretary-General, to take all necessary measures, notwithstanding paragraph 9 of resolution 1970 (2011), to protect civilians and civilian populated areas under threat of attack in the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, including Benghazi, while excluding a foreign occupation force of any form on any part of Libyan territory, and requests the Member States concerned to inform the Secretary-General immediately of the measures they take pursuant to the authorization conferred by the present paragraph which shall be immediately reported to the Security Council (para. 4)</p> <p>Decides to establish a ban on all flights in the airspace of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya in order to help to protect civilians (para. 6)</p> <p>Decides also that the ban imposed by paragraph 6 above shall not apply to flights whose sole purpose is humanitarian, such as delivering or facilitating the delivery of assistance, including medical supplies, food, humanitarian workers and related assistance, or evacuating foreign nationals from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, nor shall it apply to flights authorized by paragraphs 4 or 8, nor to other flights which are deemed necessary by States acting under the authorization conferred in paragraph 8 below to be for the benefit of the Libyan people, and that these flights shall be coordinated with any mechanism established under paragraph 8 (para. 7)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 1973 (2011), third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, ninth, twelfth, fourteenth, fifteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth preambular paragraphs.</i></p>
<hr/> ASIA	
<hr/> The situation in Afghanistan	
Resolution 1917 (2010) 22 March 2010	<p>Condemns in the strongest terms all attacks, including improvised explosive device attacks, suicide attacks and abductions, targeting civilians and Afghan and international forces and their deleterious effect on the stabilization, reconstruction and development efforts in Afghanistan, and condemns further the use by the Taliban and other extremist groups of civilians as human shields (para. 18)</p> <p>Recognizes the progress made by the International Security Assistance Force and other international forces in minimizing the risk of civilian casualties, as described in the January 2010 report of the Mission on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, and calls upon them to continue to make robust efforts in this regard, notably by the continuous review of tactics and procedures and the conduct of after-action reviews and investigations in cooperation with the Government of Afghanistan in cases where civilian casualties have occurred and when the Government finds these joint investigations appropriate (para. 20)</p> <p><i>See also resolution 1917 (2010), fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and nineteenth preambular paragraphs; resolution 1943 (2010), fifteenth, eighteenth and nineteenth paragraphs; and resolution 1974 (2011), twenty-second preambular paragraph.</i></p>

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
<hr/> MIDDLE EAST <hr/>	
The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	
S/PRST/2010/9 1 June 2010	<p>The Security Council deeply regrets the loss of life and injuries resulting from the use of force during the Israeli military operation in international waters against the convoy sailing to Gaza. The Council, in this context, condemns those acts which resulted in the loss of at least ten civilian lives and left many wounded, and expresses its condolences to the families (first paragraph)</p> <p>The Council requests the immediate release of the ships as well as the civilians held by Israel. The Council urges Israel to permit full consular access, to allow the countries concerned to retrieve their deceased and wounded immediately and to ensure the delivery of humanitarian assistance from the convoy to its destination (second paragraph)</p>
<hr/> THEMATIC ISSUES <hr/>	
United Nations peacekeeping operations	
S/PRST/2010/2 12 February 2010	<p>The Council underlines that an advanced peace process is an important factor in achieving successful transition from a peacekeeping operation to other configurations of United Nations presence. It also highlights the importance of a host State protecting its population, managing political disputes peaceably and providing for basic services and long-term development (second paragraph)</p> <p>Further improvement can be made in Council practice, supported by the Secretariat, to ensure successful transitions, by developing clear, credible and achievable mandates, to be matched by appropriate resources. The Council:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Recalls the necessity to take into account the protection of civilians in situations of armed conflict, as and when mandated, throughout the life cycle of United Nations peacekeeping and other relevant missions, in line with Council resolution 1894 (2009) (sixth paragraph)
<hr/> Women and peace and security	
Resolution 1960 (2010) 16 December 2010	<p>Reaffirming that parties to armed conflict bear the primary responsibility to take all feasible steps to ensure the protection of civilians (ninth preambular paragraph)</p> <p>Recalling that international humanitarian law affords general protection to women and children as part of the civilian population during armed conflicts and special protection due to the fact that they can be placed particularly at risk (tenth preambular paragraph)</p> <p>Reaffirming that ending impunity is essential if a society in conflict or recovering from conflict is to come to terms with past abuses committed against civilians affected by armed conflict and to prevent future such abuses, drawing attention to the full range of justice and reconciliation mechanisms to be considered, including national, international and “mixed” criminal courts and tribunals and truth and reconciliation commissions, and noting that such</p>

<i>Decision</i>	<i>Relevant provision</i>
	mechanisms can promote not only individual responsibility for serious crimes, but also peace, truth, reconciliation and the rights of the victims (tenth preambular paragraph)
<hr/> Maintenance of international peace and security	
S/PRST/2010/18 23 September 2010	The Council also reiterates its strong support for the protection of civilians and reaffirms its conviction that the protection of civilians in armed conflicts, particularly women and children, should be an important aspect of any comprehensive strategy to resolve conflicts. The Council further reiterates its opposition to impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law (sixth paragraph)
<hr/> Maintenance of international peace and security: the interdependence between security and development	
S/PRST/2011/4 11 February 2011	The Council underlines that integrated action on the ground by security and development actors needs to be coordinated with the national authorities and can significantly contribute to stabilizing and improving the security situation and ensuring the protection of civilians. The Council also notes the importance of cooperation with civil society in this context. The Council affirms that sustainable peace and development cannot be achieved without the inclusion of all relevant stakeholders and underlines that women must be included as active participants in all stages of peacebuilding, peace agreements and development programmes. The Council expresses its willingness to engage in dialogue, where necessary, on specific situations on its agenda with other actors, including United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and international financial institutions (twelfth paragraph)

^a Pursuant to the note by the President of the Security Council dated 16 March 2011 ([S/2011/141](#)), as from that date, the earlier consideration by the Council of issues pertaining to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya under the agenda item entitled "Peace and security in Africa" was subsumed under the item entitled "The situation in Libya".

Acronyms:

CPA: Comprehensive Peace Agreement

FARDC: Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

UNMIS: United Nations Missions in Sudan

UNOCI: United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire