



# *Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council*

**17th Supplement**

**2010-2011**

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

## **PART II**

### **Provisional rules of procedure**

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## **Introductory note**

The present part covers the practice of the Security Council in relation to its provisional rules of procedure and relevant Articles of the Charter of the United Nations. Since the provisional rules of procedure are routinely applied by the Council at its formal meetings, the focus of part II is on instances where there were special applications of the rules in the proceedings of the Council, rather than on the standard applications of the rules.

The sections of the present part follow the order of the relevant chapters of the provisional rules of procedure:

Section I, meetings and records (Article 28 and rules 1 to 5 and 48 to 57)

Section II, agenda (rules 6 to 12)

Section III, representation and credentials (rules 13 to 17)

Section IV, presidency (rules 18 to 20)

Section V, Secretariat (rules 21 to 26)

Section VI, conduct of business (rules 27, 29 and 30, and 33)

Section VII, participation (rules 37 and 39)

Section VIII, decision-making and voting (Article 27 and rules 31 and 32, 34 to 36, 38 and 40)

Section IX, languages (rules 41 to 47)

Section X, status of the provisional rules of procedure (Article 30)

The remaining rules are not covered in part II, but are covered in the following parts of the present supplement:

Rule 28, concerning subsidiary organs of the Council, in parts IX and X;

Rules 58 to 60, concerning admission of new members, in part IV<sup>1</sup>;

Rule 61, regarding relations with other United Nations organs, in part IV.

\* \* \*

During the period under review, the Council held a total of 445 meetings, of which 50 were private meetings. A total of 125 resolutions and 52 statements by the President were adopted. One summit meeting, concerning the role of the Council in the maintenance of international peace and security, was held in 2010.<sup>2</sup> The Council continued its practice of adopting most of its resolutions unanimously, with 116 out of 125 resolutions adopted in this manner. Two draft resolutions were not adopted due to the negative vote of a permanent

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<sup>1</sup> There were no instances of the application of rule 58 to 60 during the period under review, and therefore no material relating to these rules has been included in the present Supplement.

<sup>2</sup> 6389<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 23 September 2010, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”.

member. In connection with the question of the working methods of the Council, two open debates were held under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#))”.<sup>3</sup> The note by the President adopted on 19 July 2006<sup>4</sup> was updated and adopted on 26 July 2010.<sup>5</sup> The updated note incorporated two other presidential notes concerning the working methods of the Council adopted since 2006<sup>6</sup>, and focused on including increased interaction with the Peacebuilding Commission and troop-contributing countries.

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<sup>3</sup> The note by the President of the Council ([S/2006/507](#)) was updated and issued as a separate document ([S/2010/507](#)) on 26 July 2010. Therefore, the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011 was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”.

<sup>4</sup> [S/2006/507](#).

<sup>5</sup> [S/2010/507](#).

<sup>6</sup> [S/2007/749](#) and [S/2008/847](#).

## **Section I. Meetings and records**

### **Note**

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning meetings, publicity and records, in relation to provisions of Article 28 of the Charter of the United Nations and rules 1 to 5 and 48 to 57 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council.

### *Article 28*

*1. The Security Council shall be so organized as to be able to function continuously. Each member of the Security Council shall for this purpose be represented at all times at the seat of the Organization.*

*2. The Security Council shall hold periodic meetings at which each of its members may, if it so desires, be represented by a member of the government or by some other specially designated representative.*

*3. The Security Council may hold meetings at such places other than the seat of the Organization as in its judgment will best facilitate its work.*

### *Rule 1*

*Meetings of the Security Council shall, with the exception of the periodic meetings referred to in rule 4, be held at the call of the President at any time he deems necessary, but the interval between meetings shall not exceed fourteen days.*

### *Rule 2*

*The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council at the request of any member of the Security Council.*

### *Rule 3*

*The President shall call a meeting of the Security Council if a dispute or situation is brought to the attention of the Security Council under Article 35 or under Article 11 (3) of the Charter, or if the General Assembly makes recommendations or refers any question to the Security Council under Article 11 (2), or if the Secretary-General brings to the attention of the Security Council any matter under Article 99.*

### *Rule 4*

*Periodic meetings of the Security Council called for in Article 28 (2) of the Charter shall be held twice a year, at such times as the Security Council may decide.*

*Rule 5*

*Meetings of the Security Council shall normally be held at the seat of the United Nations.*

*Any member of the Security Council or the Secretary-General may propose that the Security Council should meet at another place. Should the Security Council accept any such proposal, it shall decide upon the place and the period during which the Council shall meet at such place.*

*Rule 48*

*Unless it decides otherwise, the Security Council shall meet in public. Any recommendation to the General Assembly regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General shall be discussed and decided at a private meeting.*

*Rule 49*

*Subject to the provisions of rule 51, the verbatim record of each meeting of the Security Council shall be made available to the representatives on the Security Council and to the representatives of any other States which have participated in the meeting not later than 10 a.m. of the first working day following the meeting.*

*Rule 50*

*The representatives of the States which have participated in the meeting shall, within two working days after the time indicated in rule 49, inform the Secretary-General of any corrections they wish to have made in the verbatim record.*

*Rule 51*

*The Security Council may decide that for a private meeting the record shall be made in a single copy alone. This record shall be kept by the Secretary-General. The representatives of the States which have participated in the meeting shall, within a period of ten days, inform the Secretary-General of any corrections they wish to have made in this record.*

*Rule 52*

*Corrections that have been requested shall be considered approved unless the President is of the opinion that they are sufficiently important to be submitted to the representatives on the Security Council. In the latter case, the representatives on the*

*Security Council shall submit within two working days any comments they may wish to make. In the absence of objections in this period of time, the record shall be corrected as requested.*

*Rule 53*

*The verbatim record referred to in rule 49 or the record referred to in rule 51, in which no corrections have been requested in the period of time required by rules 50 and 51, respectively, or which has been corrected in accordance with the provisions of rule 52, shall be considered as approved. It shall be signed by the President and shall become the official record of the Security Council.*

*Rule 54*

*The official record of public meetings of the Security Council, as well as the documents annexed thereto, shall be published in the official languages as soon as possible.*

*Rule 55*

*At the close of each private meeting the Security Council shall issue a communiqué through the Secretary-General.*

*Rule 56*

*The representatives of the Members of the United Nations which have taken part in a private meeting shall at all times have the right to consult the record of that meeting in the office of the Secretary-General. The Security Council may at any time grant access to this record to authorized representatives of other Members of the United Nations.*

*Rule 57*

*The Secretary-General shall, once each year, submit to the Security Council a list of the records and documents which up to that time have been considered confidential. The Security Council shall decide which of these shall be made available to other Members of the United Nations, which shall be made public, and which shall continue to remain confidential.*

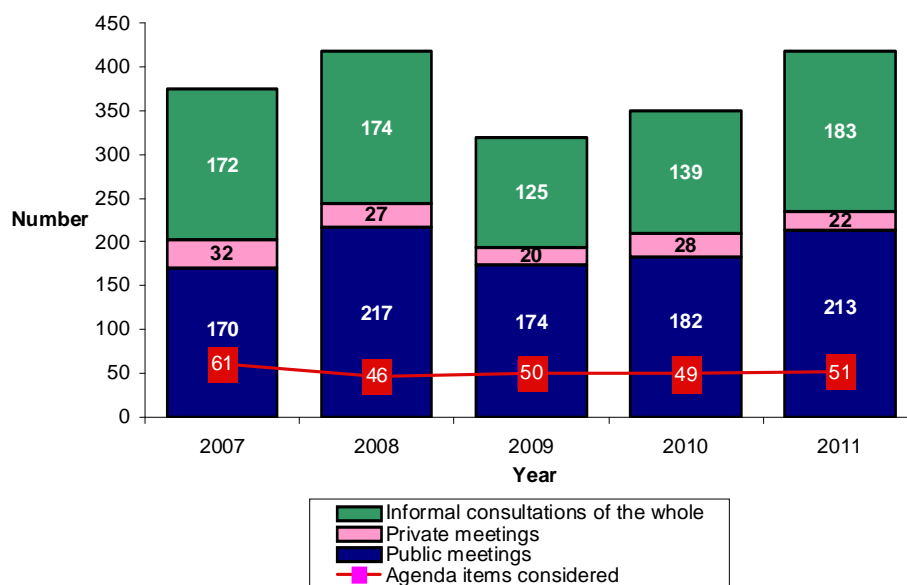
This section is organized into four sub-sections:

- A. Meetings, concerning the convening of meetings in relation to rules 1 to 5; and high-level meetings and the format of meetings in relation to rule 48;
- B. Informal consultations of the whole;
- C. Informal gatherings of members of the Council;
- D. Records, which are maintained in accordance with rules 49 to 57.

During the period under review, the Council held a total of 445 meetings,<sup>7</sup> including one summit meeting<sup>8</sup> and 321 informal consultations of the whole. Members of the Council also continued to meet in other informal gatherings such as informal dialogues<sup>9</sup> and Arria Formula meetings, following previous practice. There was an increase in both the number of meetings and the number of informal consultations of the whole over the previous period, 2008 to 2009. Also during the period, the question of the format of meetings was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 1).

Chart 1 shows the total number of meetings, informal consultations of the whole and the total number of agenda items considered during the five-year period, between 2007 and 2011.

**Chart 1: Number of meetings, informal consultations of the whole and agenda items considered, 2007-2011**



<sup>7</sup> Resumptions of meetings are not considered as separate meetings.

<sup>8</sup> 6389<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 23 September 2010, under the agenda item “Maintenance of international peace and security”.

<sup>9</sup> [S/2010/507](#), para. 59. During the period, the term “informal interactive dialogue” or “informal interactive discussion” was used interchangeably by the Council to refer to this meeting format.



## **A. Meetings**

### **1. Application of rules related to meetings**

During the period under review, there were no special instances where the Council applied rules 4 and 5 concerning periodic meetings and meetings away from headquarters, respectively. No discussion took place concerning the interpretation of rules 1 to 5 either.

#### *Intervals between meetings*

During the period under review, the Council continued to function without intervals between its meetings exceeding 14 days, as provided for under rule 1. There were three instances where the intervals between the meetings of the Council were 13 days: between the 6254<sup>th</sup> meeting on 23 December 2009 and the 6255<sup>th</sup> meeting on 6 January 2010; between the 6394<sup>th</sup> meeting on 29 September 2010 and the 6395<sup>th</sup> meeting on 13 October 2010; and between the 6464<sup>th</sup> meeting on 22 December 2010 and the 6465<sup>th</sup> meeting on 5 January 2011. The Council also continued its practice of convening, on occasion, more than one meeting a day.

#### *Meetings requested in accordance with rules 2 or 3*

During the reporting period, there were five instances of communications from Member States, requesting the Council to convene a meeting, which explicitly cited rule 2 or 3 as the basis of the request.<sup>10</sup> (See table 1).

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<sup>10</sup> For details on referrals of situations to the Security Council within the framework of Articles 11 (2) and (3), 35 and 99 of the Charter, see part VI, section I.

Table 1  
**Letters from Member States citing rules 2 or 3 in requesting a meeting in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Letter addressed to the President of the Council</i>	<i>Symbol</i>	<i>Explicit reference to rule</i>	<i>Summary of meeting request</i>	<i>Meeting convened on the basis of the request and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
Letter dated 31 May 2010 from Turkey	<a href="#">S/2010/266</a>	Rule 2	In accordance with rule 2, request for an emergency meeting on 31 May 2010, to discuss the military intervention by Israel, in international waters, of a multinational convoy of ships carrying humanitarian assistance to the people of Gaza	6325 <sup>th</sup> , 31 May 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
Letter dated 31 May 2010 from Lebanon	<a href="#">S/2010/267</a>	Rule 2	In accordance with rule 2, request for an immediate meeting on 31 May 2010, to discuss the military attacks by Israel against the multinational convoy of ships carrying humanitarian supplies to Gaza		
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Russian Federation	<a href="#">S/2010/646</a>	Rule 2	In accordance with rule 2, request for an emergency meeting on 18 December 2010 to consider the escalating tensions in the Korean Peninsula	6456 <sup>th</sup> (closed), 19 December 2010	Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Russian Federation to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2010/646</a> )
Letter dated 21 February 2011 from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	<a href="#">S/2011/102</a>	Rule 3	In accordance with rule 3, request for an emergency meeting to discuss the grave situation in Libya and to take the appropriate actions	6486 <sup>th</sup> (closed), 22 February 2011	Peace and security in Africa
Letter dated 14 September 2011 from the Russian Federation	<a href="#">S/2011/575</a>	Rule 2	In accordance with rule 2, request for an emergency public meeting, with the participation of a representative of the Government of Serbia on 15 September 2011, to consider the situation in Kosovo in view of a possible escalation of tensions	6616 <sup>th</sup> and 6617 <sup>th</sup> (closed), 15 September 2011	Security Council <a href="#">resolutions 1160 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1199 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1203 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1239 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1244 (1999)</a>

### 3. Format

#### *Public meetings*

During the period under review, the Council continued to convene public (“open”) meetings as provided for in rule 48, mainly for the purposes of the following: (i) receiving briefings on country-specific or regional situations, or on thematic issues under its consideration; (ii) holding debates on particular agenda items; and (iii) adopting decisions. There were a total of 395 public meetings during the period: 182 in 2010, and 213 in 2011 (see Chart 1 for details).

By the note by the President dated 26 July 2010, the Council decided, in order to increase the transparency of its work, to increase recourse to public meetings, particularly at an early stage in its consideration of a matter.<sup>11</sup>

#### *High-level meetings*

During the period, the Council held nine high-level meetings<sup>12</sup> (see table 2). Out of these six meetings, one summit meeting was held on 23 September 2010 under the agenda item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”.<sup>13</sup>

Table 2  
**High-level meetings held in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>	
		<i>Heads of State and Government</i>	<i>Ministerial level</i>
6389 <sup>th</sup> 23 September 2010	Maintenance of international peace and security	<b><u>Council members: 7</u></b> Austria (Federal President), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Chairman of the Presidency), China (Premier of the State Council), Gabon (President), Japan (Prime Minister), Lebanon (President), Nigeria (President), Turkey (President), Uganda (President)	<b><u>Council members: 6</u></b> Brazil (Minister for External Relations), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Mexico (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)
6390 <sup>th</sup> , 27 September 2010	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts		<b><u>Council members: 8</u></b> Austria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister of External Relations), Gabon (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Nigeria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Turkey (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Uganda (Minister for Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)
6411 <sup>th</sup> , 26 October 2010	Women and peace and security		<b><u>Council members: 5</u></b> Austria (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Japan (Parliamentary Vice-Minister for

<sup>11</sup> [S/2010/507](#), para. 28.

<sup>12</sup> For this study, any meeting with five or more Council members represented at the ministerial or higher level is considered as a high-level meeting.

<sup>13</sup> See [S/PV.6389](#).

<i>High-level participation</i>			
<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Heads of State and Government</i>	<i>Ministerial level</i>
			Foreign Affairs), Mexico (Head of the National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against Women), Uganda (First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for East African Community Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)
			<b><u>Non-Council members: 11</u></b> Canada (Minister of International Cooperation), Finland (Minister of the Interior), Gambia (Minister of Tourism and Culture), Ireland (Minister of State with Responsibility for Equality, Human Rights and Integration), Italy (Minister of Equal Opportunities), Liberia (Minister of Gender and Development), Norway (Minister of Defence), Rwanda (Senator), Slovenia (Director-General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs), South Africa (Deputy Minister for Social Development), Sweden (State Secretary for Foreign Affairs)
6450 <sup>th</sup> , 15 December 2010	The situation concerning Iraq	<b><u>Council members: 2</u></b> Uganda (Vice-President), United States (Vice-President)	<b><u>Council members: 7</u></b> Austria (Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Vice-Minister for Political Affairs), Gabon (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Japan (Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs), Turkey (Minister for Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs)
6479 <sup>th</sup> , 11 February 2011	Maintenance of international peace and security		<b><u>Non-Council members: 1</u></b> Iraq (Minister for Foreign Affairs) <b><u>Council members: 7</u></b> Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), Colombia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Gabon (Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), India (Minister for External Affairs), Portugal (Minister for Foreign Affairs)
6581 <sup>st</sup> , 12 July 2011	Children and armed conflict		<b><u>Non-Council members: 2</u></b> Costa Rica (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Slovenia (Minister for Foreign Affairs) <b><u>Council members: 6</u></b> Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Colombia (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), South Africa (Minister of Justice), Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs)

<i>High-level participation</i>			
<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Heads of State and Government</i>	<i>Ministerial level</i>
6582 <sup>nd</sup> , 13 July 2011	Admission of new Members		<b><u>Council members: 7</u></b> Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Russian Federation (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), South Africa (Minister of Justice), United Kingdom (Member of Parliament, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State)
6583 <sup>rd</sup> , 13 July 2011	Report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	<b><u>Non-Member States: 1</u></b> South Sudan (Vice-President) <sup>14</sup>	<b><u>Council members: 6</u></b> Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister of Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs), South Africa (Minister of Justice), United Kingdom (Member of Parliament, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State)
6621 <sup>st</sup> , 22 September 2011	Maintenance of international peace and security	<b><u>Council members: 5</u></b> Colombia (President), Gabon (President), Lebanon (President), Nigeria (President), Portugal (Prime Minister), South Africa (President)	<b><u>Council members: 8</u></b> Bosnia and Herzegovina (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Brazil (Minister for External Relations), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Vice-Chancellor and Minister for Foreign Affairs), India (Minister for External Affairs), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Member of President Obama's Cabinet)

### *Videoconferencing*

During the period under review, videoconferencing continued to be utilized at meetings of the Council. Generally, videoconferencing was used for briefings by Special Representatives of the Secretary-General and other mission personnel located in the field on the issue under consideration by the Council. Seven briefings were conducted via videoconferencing in 2010, and 14 in 2011 (see table 3).

**Table 3**  
**Briefings via videoconferencing held in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Briefer</i>
6376 <sup>th</sup> , 3 September 2010	Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in Liberia

<sup>14</sup> The Vice President of the Republic of South Sudan was invited under Rule 39. The Republic of South Sudan became a member of the United Nations on 14 July 2011.

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Briefer</i>
6415 <sup>th</sup> , 3 November 2010	pursuant to <a href="#">resolution 1353 (2001)</a> , annex II, sections A and B The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire and Head of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
6420 <sup>th</sup> (closed), 11 November 2010	Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to <a href="#">resolution 1353 (2001)</a> , annex II, sections A and B	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan; Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan
6425 <sup>th</sup> , 16 November 2010	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	African Union High-Level Implementation Panel on Darfur
6436 <sup>th</sup> (closed), 7 December 2010	Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to <a href="#">resolution 1353 (2001)</a> , annex II, sections A and B	Principal Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
6437 <sup>th</sup> , 7 December 2010	The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire and Head of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
6443 <sup>rd</sup> (closed), 10 December 2010	Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to <a href="#">resolution 1353 (2001)</a> , annex II, sections A and B	Force Commander of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad; Head of the Police Component of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad
6468 <sup>th</sup> , 18 January 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan; Chairperson of the Secretary-General's Panel on the Referenda in the Sudan
6474 <sup>th</sup> , 26 January 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Joint African Union-United Nations Special Representative for Darfur
6478 <sup>th</sup> , 9 February 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Head of the African Union Liaison Office in the Sudan
6494 <sup>th</sup> , 10 March 2011	The situation in Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia
6513 <sup>th</sup> , 13 April 2011	The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire and Head of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire
6559 <sup>th</sup> , 20 June 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and Head of the United Nations Mission in the Sudan; Chairperson of the African Union High-Level Panel on Sudan
6599 <sup>th</sup> , 10 August 2011	The situation in Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Political Office for Somalia
6601 <sup>st</sup> , 18 August 2011	Central African region	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa
6656 <sup>th</sup> , 11 November 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan
6660 <sup>th</sup> , 15 November 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan
6668 <sup>th</sup> , 23 November 2011	Maintenance of international peace and security	Director-General of the World Health Organization
6674 <sup>th</sup> , 5 December 2011	Peace and security in Africa	Permanent Representative of Uganda to the African

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Briefer</i>
6690 <sup>th</sup> , 19 December 2011	The situation in Afghanistan	Union; President of the Republic of Djibouti; Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia; Minister for Foreign Affairs of Kenya; President of the Republic of Somalia Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan
6698 <sup>th</sup> , 22 December 2011	The situation in Libya	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya

### *Private/closed meetings*

By the note by the President of 26 July 2010, the Council decided that the functions of private meetings were to conduct discussions and/or take actions without the attendance of the public or the press, for example in the case of the recommendation by the Council regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General, pursuant to rule 48.<sup>15</sup>

During the period under review, the Council continued to meet in private, in accordance with rule 48. There were a total of 50 private meetings, of which 33 were meetings with troop-contributing countries<sup>16</sup>, while 13 considered country-specific situations. One private meeting was held to consider the recommendation of the Council to the General Assembly regarding the appointment of the Secretary-General.<sup>17</sup> (See chart 2 for a breakdown of private meetings; and table 4 for a list of private meetings)

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<sup>15</sup> [S/2010/507](#), para. 36 (b).

<sup>16</sup> By [resolution 1353 \(2001\)](#), the Council decided upon three possible formats for consultations with troop-contributing countries. The Council to date has chosen to hold such consultations as private meetings.

<sup>17</sup> 6556<sup>th</sup> meeting on 17 June 2011.

**Chart 2: Breakdown of private meetings held in 2010 and 2011**

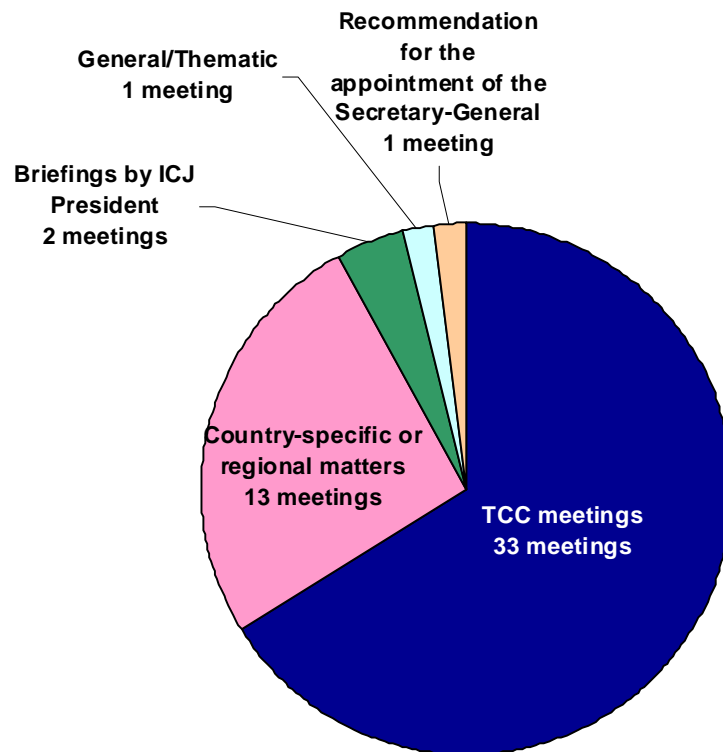




Table 4  
**Private meetings held in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>
<b>Meetings with police and troop-contributing countries (33 meetings)</b>	
Meeting of the Security Council with the troop-contributing countries pursuant to <a href="#">resolution 1353 (2001)</a> , annex II, sections A and B	6258 <sup>th</sup> , 14 January 2010; 6275 <sup>th</sup> , 22 February 2010; 6282 <sup>nd</sup> , 10 March 2010; 6294 <sup>th</sup> , 7 April 2010; 6295 <sup>th</sup> and 6296 <sup>th</sup> , 9 April 2010; 6307 <sup>th</sup> , 5 May 2010; 6328 <sup>th</sup> , 3 June 2010; 6331 <sup>st</sup> and 6332 <sup>nd</sup> , 4 June 2010; 6343 <sup>rd</sup> , 21 June 2010; 6361 <sup>st</sup> , 19 July 2010; 6373 <sup>rd</sup> , 18 August 2010; 6376 <sup>th</sup> , 3 September 2010; 6380 <sup>th</sup> , 9 September 2010; 6420 <sup>th</sup> , 11 November 2010; 6433 <sup>rd</sup> , 3 December 2010; 6435 <sup>th</sup> , 6 December 2010; 6436 <sup>th</sup> , 7 December 2010; 6443 <sup>rd</sup> , 10 December 2010; 6475 <sup>th</sup> , 3 February 2011; 6514 <sup>th</sup> , 14 April 2011; 6516 <sup>th</sup> , 18 April 2011; 6543 <sup>rd</sup> , 3 June 2011; 6550 <sup>th</sup> , 8 June 2011; 6558 <sup>th</sup> , 17 June 2011; 6578 <sup>th</sup> , 11 July 2011; 6585 <sup>th</sup> , 18 July 2011; 6600 <sup>th</sup> , 16 August 2011; 6608 <sup>th</sup> , 7 September 2011; 6615 <sup>th</sup> , 14 September 2011; 6676 <sup>th</sup> , 7 December 2011; 6680 <sup>th</sup> , 13 December 2011
<b>Country-specific or regional matters (13 meetings)</b>	
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Russian Federation to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2010/646</a> )	6456 <sup>th</sup> , 19 December 2010
Letter dated 6 February 2011 from Cambodia to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2011/58</a> )	6480 <sup>th</sup> , 14 February 2011
Peace and security in Africa	6486 <sup>th</sup> , 22 February 2011
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	6337 <sup>th</sup> , 11 June 2010; 6441 <sup>st</sup> , 9 December 2010; 6499 <sup>th</sup> , 21 March 2011; 6549 <sup>th</sup> , 8 June 2011; 6689 <sup>th</sup> , 15 December 2011
Security Council <a href="#">resolutions 1160 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1199 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1203 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1239 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1244 (1999)</a>	6617 <sup>th</sup> , 15 September 2011
The situation concerning Iraq	6357 <sup>th</sup> , 12 July 2010; 6419 <sup>th</sup> , 10 November 2010
The situation in Somalia	6408 <sup>th</sup> , 21 October 2010
The situation in the Great Lakes region	6588 <sup>th</sup> , 21 July 2011
<b>Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice (two meetings)</b>	
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice	6412 <sup>th</sup> , 27 October 2010; 6637 <sup>th</sup> , 25 October 2011
<b>General/Thematic (one meeting)</b>	
Non-proliferation	6334 <sup>th</sup> , 8 June 2010
<b>Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General (one meeting)</b>	
Question of the recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations	6556 <sup>th</sup> , 17 June 2011

## **B. Informal consultations of the whole**

Informal consultations of the whole are not meetings of the Council, but gatherings of its members for the purpose of holding discussions, and also to receive briefings from the Secretariat and representatives of the Secretary-General in private.

During the period under review, members of the Council continued to convene informal consultations of the whole: 139 times in 2010, and 182 times in 2011, respectively. Pursuant to the previous practice, no official records of informal consultations were made, and non-Council members were not invited.

## **C. Informal gatherings of members of the Security Council**

### *Informal dialogues and Arria Formula meetings*

By the note by the President of 26 July 2010, the Council decided that it may, when it deems appropriate, utilize informal dialogues as an alternative to private meetings, in order to seek the views of Member States that are parties to a conflict and/or other interested parties. By the same note, the Council also decided that its members intended to utilize Arria Formula meetings as a flexible and informal forum for enhancing their deliberations, by inviting any Member State, relevant organization or individuals to participate.<sup>18</sup> Both informal dialogues and Arria Formula meetings are convened at the initiative of a member, or members, of the Council, but neither are meetings of the Council, and no official records are made. In practice, informal dialogues have been convened with the participation of all Council members, while Arria Formula meetings have been convened with the participation of either all, or several, Council members.<sup>19</sup>

During the period under review, the Council continued to utilize informal dialogues and Arria Formula meetings.<sup>20</sup> Discussions relating to informal dialogues and Arria Formula meetings took place during the two debates<sup>21</sup> on the working methods of the Council, which are described in a case study below (case 1).

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<sup>18</sup> S/2010/507, para. 65.

<sup>19</sup> For further details on the modalities for the convening of Arria Formula meetings, see the statement by the Chair of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions at the 5601<sup>st</sup> meeting on 20 December 2006 ([S/PV.5601](#), p. 13).

<sup>20</sup> While no official records exist due to the nature of informal dialogues and Arria Formula meetings, the *Security Council Working Methods Handbook*, published by the United Nations Department of Public Information in 2013, lists informal dialogues that had been convened in the past. Consequently, a list of informal dialogues of which the Secretariat is aware as having taken place during the period is provided in table 5. The table is provided solely for the convenience of the reader and does not constitute any endorsement or acknowledgement by the Council.

<sup>21</sup> The 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting on 22 April 2010, and the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011.

### *Other informal gatherings*

During the period under review, the Council held several informal gatherings of an ad hoc nature. Following the practice established in 2007, meetings were held on an annual basis with the Peace and Security Council of the African Union.<sup>22</sup> In preparation for the thematic meeting under the item entitled “Threat to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts,” an informal meeting was held in Ankara on 17 June 2010 with the participation of members of the Security Council, with a view to taking stock of the response of the international community to terrorism and to discuss the way forward.<sup>23</sup>

## **Case 1**

### **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)<sup>24</sup>**

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 22 April 2010, under the item “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#))”, various aspects related to meetings of the Council were discussed.

Several speakers explicitly cited rule 48.<sup>25</sup> Other speakers more generally called upon the Council to hold more open meetings, rather than closed meetings or informal consultations of the whole, in order to increase interaction with Member States, and thus improve the transparency and legitimacy of its work.<sup>26</sup> The representative of Jordan, in the context of strengthening cooperation between the Council and troop-contributing countries, said that the commitment of the wider membership to United Nations peacekeeping could be further strengthened by holding open and public meetings of the Council, and in that regard encouraged the Council to continue to deepen and expand the practice of holding thematic debates and open meetings related to peacekeeping.<sup>27</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> The meetings were held on 9 July 2010 (New York) and on 21 May 2011 (Addis Ababa).

<sup>23</sup> [S/2010/546](#), p. 12.

<sup>24</sup> During the period, the note by the President of the Council of 19 July 2006 ([S/2006/507](#)) was revised. The revised note ([S/2010/507](#)) was issued on 26 July 2010. The agenda item for the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting was, therefore, “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#))”, while the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”.

<sup>25</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 9 (Lebanon); p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 15 (Brazil); and p. 33 (Portugal); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 27 (Pakistan).

<sup>26</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 5 (Mexico); p. 6 (China); p. 17 (Gabon); p. 20 (Liechtenstein); p. 28 (Sierra Leone); and p. 31 (Jordan); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 3 (Canada); p. 4 (New Zealand); p. 6 (Australia); p. 9 (Cuba); p. 10 (India); p. 19 (Kenya); p. 24 (Malaysia); p. 26 (Qatar); p. 26 (Pakistan); and p. 28 (Republic of Korea).

<sup>27</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 31.

The question of the designation by the Council of meetings as either open/public, closed/private, or the decision to meet in informal consultations of the whole, was raised by several speakers.<sup>28</sup> The representative of Mexico said that it was important to question the relevance of holding informal consultations to hear statements and briefings that could be given in open meetings, although informal consultations provided additional information for the internal work of the Council.<sup>29</sup> Similarly, the representative of Qatar said that on a number of occasions, the Council had held closed meetings to consider items that did not require confidentiality, such as the periodic meetings with the President of the International Court of Justice.<sup>30</sup> The representative of Canada said that when there was a need to hold informal consultations, the members of the Council should provide systematic briefings to other interested Member States.<sup>31</sup>

The use of informal dialogues by the Council was broadly welcomed. Several speakers called for their increased frequency.<sup>32</sup> The representative of the United Kingdom said that informal dialogues had widened the scope for interaction with non-members, and had enabled the Council to discuss sensitive issues in a flexible format.<sup>33</sup> The representative of New Zealand said that informal dialogues should become a standard Council tool for sustained interaction with non-members whose cooperation was sought by the Council, and would provide opportunities for prevention of conflict and better use of the role of the Council as set out in Chapter VI of the Charter. However, while recognizing that such issues did often require private discussion, he emphasized that the Council should also remember the need to maintain a balance of transparency.<sup>34</sup>

Similarly, speakers generally recognized the utility of Arria Formula meetings for the Council to interact with non-state actors, and several encouraged their more frequent use.<sup>35</sup> The representative of Slovakia said that more regular use of Arria Formula meetings, together with better use of private Council meetings, would help to achieve further progress in enhancing interaction between the Council and other Member States.<sup>36</sup> The representative of Mexico said

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<sup>28</sup> Ibid., p. 3 (Turkey); p. 5 (Mexico); and p. 29 (Slovakia); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 4 (New Zealand); and p. 18 (Colombia).

<sup>29</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 5.

<sup>30</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 26.

<sup>31</sup> Ibid., p. 3.

<sup>32</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 3 (Turkey); p. 6 (Austria); p. 7 (China); p. 8 (United Kingdom); p. 9 (Lebanon); p. 11 (Nigeria); p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 18 (Japan); p. 21 (Liechtenstein); p. 23 (Luxembourg); p. 25 (Finland); p. 30 (Italy); and p. 35 (Slovenia); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 4 (New Zealand); p. 11 (Uruguay); p. 17 (Germany); and p. 23 (Malaysia).

<sup>33</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 9.

<sup>34</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 5.

<sup>35</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 3 (Turkey); p. 6 (Mexico); p. 9 (Lebanon); p. 23 (Luxembourg); p. 29 (Slovakia); p. 30 (Italy); p. 33 (Portugal); and p. 35 (Slovenia); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 21 (Czech Republic); and p. 26 (Qatar).

<sup>36</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 29.

that the increased number of Arria Formula meetings successfully demonstrated the new flexibility of the Council in executing its responsibilities.<sup>37</sup>

Several speakers called for open meetings to be conducted in a more efficient or open manner. The representative of Lebanon said that if open meetings were to proceed in a more effective and result-oriented manner, it would be useful if statements were shorter and “repetitive formalities less frequent”.<sup>38</sup> The representative of the Republic of Korea said that the substantive nature of open meetings could be further improved, as they were frequently adjourned following the introductory adoption of the agenda, and the core discussion would proceed largely in closed consultations.<sup>39</sup>

At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting, held on 30 November 2011 under the same item, speakers similarly raised the question of open meetings, broadly welcoming the recent increase in numbers.<sup>40</sup> Other speakers called upon the Council to expand other formats such as informal dialogues and Arria Formula meetings.<sup>41</sup> The representative of Costa Rica said that the Council had made significant progress in enhancing its transparency since the adoption of the note by the President ([S/2006/507](#)) and its subsequent revision ([S/2010/507](#)), but noted that the improvements had not been duly formalized and thus risked reversal. For example, while the number of open meetings had increased, they were often “preceded” by informal closed meetings.<sup>42</sup> Some speakers also reiterated their call for increased transparency through limiting the number of closed meetings and consultations.<sup>43</sup> Several speakers, however, emphasized that the Council had a legitimate need to meet in private as required.<sup>44</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Ibid., p. 6.

<sup>38</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 9.

<sup>39</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 28.

<sup>40</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 3 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 4 (France); p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 11 (South Africa); p. 14 (United Kingdom); and p. 16 (Brazil); [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 2 (Mexico); p.3 (Slovenia); p. 8 (Morocco); p. 17 (New Zealand); p. 18 (Guatemala); and p. 19 (Portugal).

<sup>41</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 3 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 10 (Germany); p. 14 (United Kingdom); p. 17 (United States); p. 20 (Switzerland); and p. 24 (Egypt); [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 3 (Slovenia); p. 5 (Australia); p. 6 (Costa Rica); p. 6 (Luxembourg); p. 7 (Finland); p. 10 (Spain); p. 16 (Belgium); and p. 19 (Portugal).

<sup>42</sup> [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 6.

<sup>43</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 13 (India); and p. 16 (Brazil); [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 19 (Portugal).

<sup>44</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 4 (Russian Federation); and p. 15 (United Kingdom).

**Table 5**  
**Informal dialogues in 2010 and 2011**<sup>45</sup>

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Briefer</i>	<i>Other participants (Non-Council members)</i>
22 March 2010	MINURCAT	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	Chad, Central Africa Republic
5 May 2010	MINURCAT	Special Representative of the Secretary-General	Chad, Central Africa Republic
20 May 2010	MINURCAT	Chad	Chad, Special Representative of President Déby for MINURCAT and Head of the CONAFIT (Coordination nationale d'appui au deployment de la Force internationale à l'Est du Tchad)
14 June 2010	Republic of Korea/ Democratic People's Republic of Korea (“Cheonan incident”)	Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea
9 August 2010	Central Africa Republic	Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Central African Republic, Chair of the Country-specific Configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission for the Central African Republic	Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Central African Republic
21 October 2010	MINURCAT	Chad	Chad, Special Representative of President Déby for MINURCAT and Head of the CONAFIT (Coordination nationale d'appui au deployment de la Force internationale à l'Est du Tchad)
10 December 2010	Liberia	SRSR Løj, Chair of the Country-specific Configuration for Liberia of the Peacebuilding Commission	Liberia
2 February 2011	Burundi	Representative of the Secretary-General in Burundi and Head of the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB), Chair of the Country-specific Configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission for Burundi	Burundi
18 March 2011	Kenya	Permanent Representative of Kenya, Commissioner for Social Affairs of the African Union	Kenya
15 June 2011	Libya		Minister of Communications designate of Uganda, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Mauritania
22 June 2011	Darfur	Joint African Union-UN Chief mediator for Darfur, Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Qatar	
19 July 2011	Eritrea		Eritrea, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Somalia, Kenya, Uganda, Intergovernmental Authority on Development Facilitator for Somalia

<sup>45</sup> The Security Council Working Methods Handbook, United Nations, New York 2012, pp. 81-84.

## **D. Records**

During the period under review, verbatim records were issued following each public meeting of the Council, in accordance with rule 49, and communiqués were issued following private meetings, in accordance with rule 55. There were no instances where questions were raised at Council meetings regarding the applications of rules 49 to 57 in connection with the preparation, access and issuance of verbatim records, communiqués or other documents.

## Section II. Agenda

### Note

The present section deals with the practice of the Security Council concerning the agenda, in relation to rules 6 to 12 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council.

Rule 6 of the provisional rules of procedure relates to the circulation of communications by the Secretary-General concerning any matter for the consideration of the Council. Rules 7, 8 and 12 cover the preparation and communication of the provisional agenda. Rule 9 covers the adoption of the agenda. Rules 10 and 11 cover matters of which the Council is seized.

#### *Rule 6*

*The Secretary-General shall immediately bring to the attention of all representatives on the Security Council all communications from States, organs of the United Nations, or the Secretary-General concerning any matter for the consideration of the Security Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter.*

#### *Rule 7*

*The provisional agenda for each meeting of the Security Council shall be drawn up by the Secretary-General and approved by the President of the Security Council.*

*Only items which have been brought to the attention of the representatives on the Security Council in accordance with rule 6, items covered by rule 10, or matters which the Security Council had previously decided to defer, may be included in the provisional agenda.*

#### *Rule 8*

*The provisional agenda for a meeting shall be communicated by the Secretary-General to the representatives on the Security Council at least three days before the meeting, but in urgent circumstances it may be communicated simultaneously with the notice of the meeting.*

#### *Rule 9*

*The first item of the provisional agenda for each meeting of the Security Council shall be the adoption of the agenda.*

#### *Rule 10*

*Any item on the agenda of a meeting of the Security Council, consideration of which has not been completed at that meeting,*



*shall, unless the Security Council otherwise decides, automatically be included in the agenda of the next meeting.*

*Rule 11*

*The Secretary-General shall communicate each week to the representatives on the Security Council a summary statement of matters of which the Security Council is seized and of the stage reached in their consideration.*

*Rule 12*

*The provisional agenda for each periodic meeting shall be circulated to the members of the Security Council at least twenty-one days before the opening of the meeting. Any subsequent change in or addition to the provisional agenda shall be brought to the notice of the members at least five days before the meeting. The Security Council may, however, in urgent circumstances, make additions to the Agenda at any time during a periodic meeting.*

*The provisions of rule 7, paragraph 1, and of rule 9, shall apply also to periodic meetings.*

During the period under review, the Secretary-General continued the practice of distributing communications from States, organs of the United Nations, or from himself concerning any matter for the consideration of the Council in accordance with the provisions of the Charter as documents in the S/series, pursuant to rule 6. The Secretary-General also continued to draw up a provisional agenda for each meeting of the Council, and communicated the provisional agenda to the representatives of Council members, in accordance with rules 7 and 8. There were no instances where the question of the circulation of communications, or the preparation of the provisional agenda was discussed. Furthermore, rule 12 was not applied during the period under review, as no periodic meeting was held. Therefore, there were no instances where rules 6, 7, 8 and 12 were applied.

This section is organized under the following three main headings:

- A. Adoption of the agenda (rule 9);
- B. Matters of which the Security Council is seized (rules 10-11);
- C. Discussions concerning the agenda.

During the period, the question of the agenda was raised at one of the open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 2).

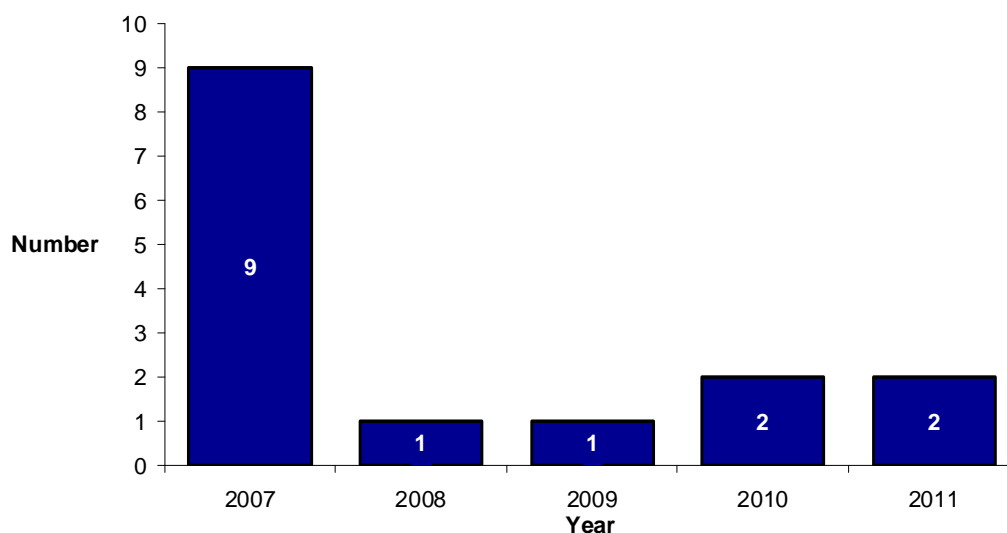
## A. Adoption of the agenda (rule 9)

In accordance with rule 9, the first item on the provisional agenda for each meeting of the Council is the adoption of the agenda. During the period under review, there were no instances where a procedural motion was raised concerning the adoption of the agenda. There were also no motions raised, or discussions held, on the substance of items inscribed on the provisional agenda. The Council continued its established practice of including a new agenda item on the summary statement of matters of which the Council was seized following its adoption at a formal meeting.

### *Newly introduced agenda items*

During the period under review, the Council added four new items to its agenda: two items each in 2010 and 2011 (see Chart 3). Prior to 2008, the Council added on average of a dozen new agenda items per year.

**Chart 3: Number of newly-introduced agenda items, 2007-2011**



Pursuant to the note by the President dated 16 March 2011, the Council decided to subsume, as from the same date, its earlier consideration on issues pertaining to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”, under the new item entitled “The situation in Libya”.<sup>46</sup>

Table 6 lists the agenda items introduced during the period.

<sup>46</sup> [S/2011/141](#). The 6498th meeting, on 17 March 2011, was the first meeting under the new item.

Table 6  
**Agenda items newly introduced in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date of first inclusion on the agenda</i>	<i>First entry in the summary statement</i>
Letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2010/281</a> ) and other relevant letters	6355 <sup>th</sup> , 9 July 2010	<a href="#">S/2010/10/Add. 27</a>
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2010/646</a> )	6456 <sup>th</sup> (closed), 19 December 2010	<a href="#">S/2010/10/Add. 51</a>
Letter dated 6 February 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2011/58</a> )	6480 <sup>th</sup> (closed), 14 February 2011	<a href="#">S/2011/10/Add. 7</a>
The situation in Libya	6486 <sup>th</sup> , 22 February 2011 <sup>47</sup>	<a href="#">S/2011/10/Add.11</a>

*Utilization of existing thematic items for country-specific discussions*

During the period under review, the Council continued the practice of utilizing agenda items of a thematic nature to discuss new country-specific situations. The Council considered the situation in Libya<sup>48</sup> and the situation in Djibouti and Eritrea<sup>49</sup> under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”. Similarly, the Council considered the situation in Guinea under the item entitled “Peace consolidation in West Africa”.<sup>50</sup>

**B. Matters of which the Security Council is seized (rules 10 and 11)**

*Overview*

During the period under review, the Council considered a total of 53 agenda items, out of which 27 dealt with country-specific and regional situations, 22 with general and thematic issues and 4 with other matters. For the breakdown of items by year, see table 7.

<sup>47</sup> Pursuant to the note by the President of the Security Council dated 16 March 2011 ([S/2011/141](#)), as from that date, the consideration by the Council of issues pertaining to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya under the agenda item entitled “Peace and security in Africa” at its 6486<sup>th</sup>, 6490<sup>th</sup> 6491<sup>st</sup> meetings was subsumed under the item entitled “The situation in Libya”.

<sup>48</sup> The situation in Libya was considered under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa” at the 6491<sup>st</sup>, 6490<sup>th</sup> and 6486<sup>th</sup> meetings, after which it was subsumed under the item entitled “The situation in Libya”.

<sup>49</sup> 6674<sup>th</sup>, 6362<sup>nd</sup> and 6316<sup>th</sup> meetings. The 5908<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 12 June 2008, was the first meeting relating to Djibouti and Eritrea discussed under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”.

<sup>50</sup> 6272<sup>nd</sup> meeting.

Table 7  
**Agenda items considered at meetings in 2010 and 2011**<sup>51</sup>

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	
	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>
<b>Country-specific and regional situations</b>		
<b>Africa</b>		
Central African region	•	•
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	•	•
The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	•	•
The situation concerning Western Sahara	•	•
The situation in Burundi	•	•
The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the sub-region	•	
The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	•	•
The situation in Guinea-Bissau	•	•
The situation in Liberia	•	•
The situation in Libya		•
The situation in Sierra Leone	•	•
The situation in Somalia	•	•
The situation in the Central African Republic	•	•
The situation in the Great Lakes region		•
<b>Americas</b>		
The question concerning Haiti	•	•
<b>Asia</b>		
Letter dated 4 June 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2010/281</a> ) and other relevant letters	•	
Letter dated 6 February 2011 from the Permanent Representative of Cambodia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2011/58</a> )		•
Letter dated 18 December 2010 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2010/646</a> )	•	
Letter dated 22 November 2006 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2006/920</a> )	•	•
The situation in Afghanistan	•	•
The situation in Timor-Leste	•	•
<b>Europe</b>		
Security Council <a href="#">resolutions 1160 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1199 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1203 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1239 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1244 (1999)</a>	•	•
The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	•	•
The situation in Cyprus	•	•
<b>Middle East</b>		
The situation concerning Iraq	•	•
The situation in the Middle East	•	•

<sup>51</sup> Following established practice, items relating to the election of members of the International Court of Justice were not included in the list of matters of which the Council was seized. Therefore, the following items are not included in the number of items discussed in the respective year under review: “Election of a member of the International Court of Justice” (considered at the 6346<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 29 June 2010, and the 6381<sup>st</sup> meeting, on 9 September 2010); “Election of five members of the International Court of Justice” (considered at the 6651<sup>st</sup>, 6652<sup>nd</sup>, 6653<sup>rd</sup>, 6654<sup>th</sup> and 6655<sup>th</sup> meetings, on 10 November 2011, the 6666<sup>th</sup> and 6667<sup>th</sup> meetings, on 22 November 2011, and the 6682<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 13 December 2011); “Date of election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice” (considered at the 6285<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 18 March 2010).

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	
	<i>2010</i>	<i>2011</i>
The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	•	•
<i>Total agenda items concerning country-specific and regional situations</i>	24 items	24 items
<b>General and thematic issues</b>		
Briefing by the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe <sup>a</sup>	•	•
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice	•	•
Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council	•	•
Children and armed conflict	•	•
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security	•	•
International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994	•	•
International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991	•	•
Maintenance of international peace and security	•	•
Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to <a href="#">resolution 1353 (2001)</a> , annex II, sections A and B	•	•
Non-proliferation	•	•
Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction	•	•
Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea	•	•
Peace and security in Africa	•	•
Peace consolidation in West Africa	•	•
Post-conflict peacebuilding	•	•
Protection of civilians in armed conflict	•	•
Security Council mission	•	•
The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the maintenance of international peace and security	•	
Threats to international peace and security	•	•
Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	•	•
United Nations peacekeeping operations	•	•
Women and peace and security	•	•
<i>Total agenda items concerning general and thematic issues</i>	21 items	21 items
<b>Other matters</b>		
Admission of new members		•
Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly	•	•
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council <sup>52</sup> ( <a href="#">S/2010/507</a> )	•	•
Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations		•
<i>Subtotal</i>	2 items	4 items
<i>Total agenda items discussed per year</i>	47 items	49 items

<sup>a</sup>This item was discussed at the 6268th meeting on 5 February 2010 and the 6481st meeting on 15 February 2011. At the meeting, the item was entitled "Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe".

<sup>52</sup> The note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#)) was updated and reissued ([S/2010/507](#)) on 26 July 2010.

*Consolidation of procedures for the management of the agenda*

By the note by the President dated 26 July 2010,<sup>53</sup> the Council consolidated the procedures for managing the items on the summary statement of matters of which the Council was seized, which had been contained in three previous notes by the President.<sup>54</sup> The procedures outlined included the criteria for inclusion and deletion of items on the summary statement, and the format of the summary statement.

During the period, in accordance with rule 11 and the note by the President dated 26 July 2010,<sup>55</sup> the Secretary-General continued to communicate each week to the representatives on the Council a summary statement of matters of which the Council was seized and of the stage reached in their consideration. The practice of including an agenda item in the summary statement upon its adoption at a formal meeting of the Council remained unchanged. The Council continued the practice of reviewing the summary statement at the beginning of the year in order to identify items which had not been considered in the preceding three years for deletion.

In 2010, two out of 29 items that had been identified for deletion at the beginning of the year<sup>56</sup> were deleted, while the remaining items were retained for one additional year at the request of Member States.<sup>57</sup> In 2011, all 28 items that had been identified for deletion were retained through the same procedure (see table 8)<sup>58</sup>.

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<sup>53</sup> [S/2010/507](#), paras. 51-58.

<sup>54</sup> See [S/2006/507](#), [S/2007/749](#), and [S/2008/847](#). For details of the amendments of the procedures introduced by each note relating to the summary statement, please see part II, section II of the 16<sup>th</sup> Supplement.

<sup>55</sup> [S/2010/507](#).

<sup>56</sup> The following agenda items were deleted: “Letters dated 26 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2005/485](#) and [S/2005/489](#))”; “Letter dated 4 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/481](#)) (15 July 2006; 6 October 2006).

<sup>57</sup> [S/2011/10/Add. 9](#).

<sup>58</sup> [S/2012/10/Add. 9](#).

**Table 8**  
**Items proposed for deletion from the summary statement in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2010</i>	<i>Status in March 2010</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2011</i>	<i>Status in March 2011</i>
The Palestine question	9 December 1947; 25 November 1966	●	Retained	●	Retained
The India-Pakistan question	6 January 1948; 5 November 1965	●	Retained	●	Retained
The Hyderabad question	16 September 1948; 24 May 1949	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 20 February 1958 from the representative of the Sudan addressed to the Secretary-General	21 February 1958; 21 February 1958	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 11 July 1960 from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cuba addressed to the President of the Security Council	18 July 1960; 5 January 1961	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 31 December 1960 from the Minister for External Affairs of Cuba addressed to the President of the Security Council	4 January 1961; 5 January 1961	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation in the India/Pakistan subcontinent	4 December 1971; 27 December 1971	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 3 December 1971 from the Permanent Representatives of Algeria, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	9 December 1971; 9 December 1971	●	Retained	●	Retained
Complaint by Cuba	17 September 1973; 18 September 1973	●	Retained	●	Retained
Arrangements for the proposed Peace Conference on the Middle East	15 December 1973; 15 December 1973	●	Retained	●	Retained
The Middle East problem, including the Palestinian question	12 January 1976; 11 October 1985	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation in the occupied Arab territories	4 May 1976; 13 July 1998	●	Retained	●	Retained
The question of the exercise by the Palestinian people of its inalienable rights	9 June 1976; 30 April 1980	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation between Iran and Iraq	26 September 1980; 31 January 1991	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 1 October 1985 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	2 October 1985; 4 October 1985	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 4 February 1986 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	4 February 1986; 6 February 1986	●	Retained	●	Retained

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2010</i>	<i>Status in March 2010</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2011</i>	<i>Status in March 2011</i>
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council;					
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Burkina Faso to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council;	15 April 1986; 24 April 1986	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council;					
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Permanent Representative of Oman to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council					
Letter dated 19 April 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Tunisia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	21 April 1988; 25 April 1988	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 2 February 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council	9 February 1990; 9 February 1990	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation between Iraq and Kuwait	2 August 1990; 11 April 2005	●	Retained	●	Retained
Complaint by Ukraine regarding the decree of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation concerning Sevastopol	20 July 1993; 20 July 1993	●	Retained	●	Retained
Protection of United Nations personnel, associated personnel and humanitarian personnel in conflict zones	9 February 2000; 26 August 2003	●	Retained	●	Retained
General issues relating to sanctions	17 April 2000; 21 December 2006	●	Retained	●	Retained
Kimberley Process Certification Scheme	28 January 2003; 28 January 2003	●	Retained	●	Retained



<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2010</i>	<i>Status in March 2010</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2011</i>	<i>Status in March 2011</i>
Letter dated 5 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2003/939</a> );	5 October 2003; 5 October 2003	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 5 October 2003 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2003/943</a> )					
Letters dated 26 July 2005 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2005/485</a> and <a href="#">S/2005/489</a> )	27 July 2005; 27 July 2005	●	Deleted	-	-
Briefing by the Chairman of the African Union	31 May 2006; 31 May 2006	●	Retained	●	Retained
Strengthening international law: rule of law and maintenance of international peace and security	22 June 2006; 22 June 2006	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 4 July 2006 from the Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2006/481</a> ) <sup>59</sup>	15 July 2006; 6 October 2006	●	Deleted		
Letter dated 5 April 2007 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2007/186</a> )	17 April 2007; 17 April 2007	-	-	●	Retained

<sup>59</sup> This item was subsumed under the item entitled “Non-proliferation/Democratic People’s Republic of Korea”.

## C. Discussions concerning the agenda

During the period under review, in one instance the Council discussed the question of management of the agenda, in particular the procedure concerning the revision of the agenda of the Council (case 2).

At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011, under the item “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, the representative of India said that the Council should amend its procedures so that items did not remain on its agenda permanently. Noting that certain items had not been discussed for decades, he said further attention of the Council should require that some valid reasons be proffered by those seeking retention of those items on the agenda.<sup>60</sup>

### Case 2

#### **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#))<sup>61</sup>**

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting on 22 April 2010, under the item “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council”, Member States discussed the practices of the Council concerning its agenda.<sup>62</sup> The representative of China noted an increase in thematic items, some of which were deemed excessive and beyond the sphere of competence of the Council. In that regard, he expressed support for an annual review by the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions of items on the agenda of the Council, in order to keep the agenda current, save resources and increase efficiency.<sup>63</sup> The representative of Cuba noted the same for thematic items and urged the Council to carry out, as soon as possible, a revision of its agenda to bring it in line with its mandate.<sup>64</sup> The representative of Portugal said that it was necessary to identify practical ways of increasing the influence of the general membership in determining the agenda of the Council.<sup>65</sup> Several Member States suggested that thematic issues be incorporated into discussions of country-specific situations.<sup>66</sup> The

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<sup>60</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 13.

<sup>61</sup> The note by the President of the Council ([S/2006/507](#)) was updated and issued as a separate document ([S/2010/507](#)) on 26 July 2010. Therefore, the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 30 November 2011, was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”.

<sup>62</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), pp. 6-7 (China); p. 17 (Uganda); p. 21 (Egypt; on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); p. 24 (Luxembourg); p. 24 (Finland); p. 33 (Portugal); p. 35 (Slovenia); and p. 38 (Switzerland); [S/PV. 6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#) p. 9 (Cuba); p. 16 (Ukraine); and p. 24 (Ecuador).

<sup>63</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), pp. 6-7 (China). For discussions on the primary responsibility of the Council for the maintenance of international peace and security, see part V, section I of the *Repertoire*.

<sup>64</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9.

<sup>65</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 33.

<sup>66</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 24 (Luxembourg); p. 24 (Finland); p. 35 (Slovenia); and p. 38 (Switzerland).

representative of Switzerland suggested that thematic issues such as human rights, the protection of civilians, and women and peace and security should be further integrated in the discussions of country-specific situations and systematically included in the terms of reference of Council missions.<sup>67</sup>

At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011, under the item “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, several Member States expressed similar concern over the increase in thematic items.<sup>68</sup> The representative of Lebanon called for an ongoing review process of the Council’s agenda by the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions, and added that all Council documents should be issued in the six official languages of the United Nations in a timely manner in order to increase transparency.<sup>69</sup>

Some speakers welcomed the increase in thematic items on the agenda of the Council.<sup>70</sup> The representative of Finland, speaking on behalf of the Nordic countries<sup>71</sup> said that the Council should now systematically link country-specific situations and thematic and horizontal themes, and follow up on requests for thematic information when handling reports on country-specific situations.<sup>72</sup>

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<sup>67</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 38.

<sup>68</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 3 (Russian Federation); pp. 6-7 (Gabon); p. 11 (Lebanon); p. 13 (India); and p. 18 (Guatemala).

<sup>69</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 11.

<sup>70</sup> [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 4 (Australia); and p. 9 (Morocco).

<sup>71</sup> Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden.

<sup>72</sup> [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 8 (Finland, on behalf of Nordic countries).

### **Section III. Representation and credentials**

#### **Note**

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning representation and credentials of its members, in relation to rules 13 to 17 of the provisional rules of procedure.

#### *Rule 13*

*Each member of the Security Council shall be represented at the meetings of the Security Council by an accredited representative. The credentials of a representative on the Security Council shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before he takes his seat on the Security Council. The credentials shall be issued either by the Head of the State or of the Government concerned or by its Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Head of Government or Minister of Foreign Affairs of each member of the Security Council shall be entitled to sit on the Security Council without submitting credentials.*

#### *Rule 14*

*Any Member of the United Nations not a member of the Security Council and any State not a Member of the United Nations, if invited to participate in a meeting or meetings of the Security Council, shall submit credentials for the representative appointed by it for this purpose. The credentials of such a representative shall be communicated to the Secretary-General not less than twenty-four hours before the first meeting which he is invited to attend.*

#### *Rule 15*

*The credentials of representatives on the Security Council and of any representative appointed in accordance with rule 14 shall be*

*examined by the Secretary-General who shall submit a report to the Security Council for approval.*

*Rule 16*

*Pending the approval of the credentials of a representative on the Security Council in accordance with rule 15, such representative shall be seated provisionally with the same rights as other representatives.*

*Rule 17*

*Any representative on the Security Council, to whose credentials objection has been made within the Security Council, shall continue to sit with the same rights as other representatives until the Security Council has decided the matter.*

During the period under review, in accordance with rule 13, the credentials of representatives of members of the Council were communicated to the Secretary-General, who submitted his report to the Council pursuant to rule 15. Such a report was transmitted to the Council when there were changes in the representation of members of the Council<sup>73</sup>, as well as when representatives of the newly elected non-permanent members of the Council were designated prior to the beginning of each term.<sup>74</sup> No discussions or special cases arose during the period under review regarding the interpretation and application of rules 13 to 17.

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<sup>73</sup> See [S/2010/30](#), [S/2010/64](#), [S/2010/126](#), [S/2010/223](#), [S/2010/224](#), [S/2010/231](#), [S/2010/241](#), [S/2010/242](#), [S/2010/276](#), [S/2010/313](#), [S/2010/354](#), [S/2010/374](#), [S/2010/380](#), [S/2010/383](#), [S/2010/423](#), [S/2010/428](#), [S/2010/435](#), [S/2010/449](#), [S/2010/450](#), [S/2010/480](#), [S/2010/481](#), [S/2010/517](#), [S/2010/551](#), [S/2010/647](#), [S/2010/670](#), [S/2010/671](#), [S/2011/8](#), [S/2011/19](#), [S/2011/26](#), [S/2011/63](#), [S/2011/67](#), [S/2011/138](#), [S/2011/205](#), [S/2011/206](#), [S/2011/330](#), [S/2011/398](#), [S/2011/399](#), [S/2011/415](#), [S/2011/437](#), [S/2011/438](#), [S/2011/441](#), [S/2011/442](#), [S/2011/467](#), [S/2011/486](#), [S/2011/489](#), [S/2011/491](#), [S/2011/599](#), [S/2011/600](#), [S/2011/601](#), [S/2011/615](#), [S/2011/616](#), [S/2011/618](#), [S/2011/683](#), [S/2011/684](#), [S/2011/685](#), [S/2011/686](#), [S/2011/687](#), [S/2011/722](#), [S/2011/749](#), and [S/2011/818](#).

<sup>74</sup> For the reports of the Secretary-General concerning the credentials of the representatives and deputies and alternate representatives of Council members elected for the periods 2010 to 2011 and 2011 to 2012, see [S/2009/669](#), and [S/2010/669](#), respectively.

## Section IV. Presidency

### Note

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning the monthly rotation of the presidency, the role of the President, and the temporary cessation of the chair by the President during the consideration of a particular question with which the member he or she represents is directly connected, in relation to rules 18 to 20 of the provisional rules of procedure. During the period under review, there were no instances of the application of rule 20.

### *Rule 18*

*The presidency of the Security Council shall be held in turn by the members of the Security Council in the English alphabetical order of their names. Each President shall hold office for one calendar month.*

### *Rule 19*

*The President shall preside over the meetings of the Security Council and, under the authority of the Security Council, shall represent it in its capacity as an organ of the United Nations.*

### *Rule 20*

*Whenever the President of the Security Council deems that for the proper fulfilment of the responsibilities of the presidency he should not preside over the Council during the consideration of a particular question with which the member he represents is directly connected, he shall indicate his decision to the Council. The presidential chair shall then devolve, for the purpose of the consideration of that question, on the representative of the member next in English alphabetical order, it being understood that the provisions of this rule shall apply to the representatives on the Security Council called upon successively to preside. This rule*

*shall not affect the representative capacity of the President as stated in rule 19, or his duties under rule 7.*

### **The role of the President of the Security Council (rules 18 and 19)**

During the period under review, the presidency of the Council was held in turn by the members of the Council in the English alphabetical order, on a monthly basis, in accordance with rule 18. The President of the Council, in addition to presiding over meetings of the Council and informal gatherings, continued to perform several functions under the authority of the Council, in accordance with rule 19. These included: (i) briefing non-Council members on the monthly programme of work of the Council at the beginning of the month; (ii) representing and delivering statements on behalf of the Council, including the presentation of the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly<sup>75</sup>; and (iii) delivering statements or remarks to the press, following the conclusion of discussions in informal consultations of the whole, whenever Council members reached an agreement on the text. Representatives of Council members, in their national capacities, continued to submit monthly assessments of the work of the Council during their respective presidencies, following their completion.<sup>76</sup>

Following previous practice, Council members that held the presidency during the months of July 2010 and July 2011 continued to prepare the introduction to the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly. In addition, the presidencies for the months of July 2010 and July 2011 continued the practice of convening informal meetings with Member States to exchange views on the annual report, a practice since 2008.<sup>77</sup>

At the 6641<sup>st</sup> meeting, on 27 October 2011, under the item entitled “Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly”, the representative of Germany, presenting the annual report of the Council in his capacity as the President for the month of July 2011, said that the informal meeting held to exchange views with the wider United Nations membership on the draft report had been extremely useful, both for the input received and for fostering the working relationship between the Council and non-Council members. In this regard, he expressed hope for the continuation of the practice in the future.<sup>78</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> For example, at the 48<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the 65<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly, on 11 November 2010, the President of the Council for the month of November (United Kingdom) introduced the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly covering the period from 1 August 2009 to 31 July 2010 ([A/65/2](#)). For other meetings that the President attended, see part IV, sections I and II entitled “Relations with the General Assembly” and “Relations with the Economic and Social Council”.

<sup>76</sup> A list of the monthly assessments during the period under review is provided in the annual reports of the Council to the General Assembly ([A/65/2](#), p. 74; [A/66/2](#), p. 90; and [A/67/2](#), p. 104).

<sup>77</sup> For details, see [S/PV.6413](#), p. 2 and [S/PV.6641](#), p.2.

<sup>78</sup> *Ibid.*

The question of the roles and responsibilities of the President, including communication with Member States and the media, interaction with other organs of the United Nations, and the preparation of monthly assessments and annual reports, was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 3).

### Case 3

#### **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)<sup>79</sup>**

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, several speakers called for the President to take on a greater role in communicating with Member States and other parties.<sup>80</sup> The representative of Turkey said that the President should be given a more systematic role in conveying the gist of closed consultations to non-members and the media. While the practice of the President issuing oral remarks after consultations was useful, he suggested that micromanaging the exercise should be avoided, and the President be allowed more leeway in informing the interested parties about the deliberations of the Council.<sup>81</sup> The representative of Kenya said that briefings by the President to the General Assembly should be regular, substantive and conducted promptly after each informal consultation of the whole.<sup>82</sup> The representative of Jordan encouraged the President to brief the members of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations (C-34) during its sessions, and when appropriate, on the major developments and initiatives regarding peacekeeping in the Council. In this regard, he also suggested that the President could arrange regular meetings with regional groups such as the Non-aligned Movement, the European Union and any other interested groups that contributed to peacekeeping.<sup>83</sup> Several other speakers called for the strengthening of the interaction between the President and the heads of other United Nations organs, in particular the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council.<sup>84</sup>

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<sup>79</sup> The note by the President of the Council (S/2006/507) was updated and issued as a separate document (S/2010/507) on 26 July 2010. Therefore, the agenda item for the 6672nd meeting, on 30 November 2011, was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507).”

<sup>80</sup> S/PV.6300, p. 4 (Turkey); p. 6 (Mexico); p. 11 (Nigeria); p. 16 (Gabon); p. 17 (Uganda); p. 18 (Japan); p. 28 (Sierra Leone); p. 30 (Italy); p. 31 (Jordan); p. 33 (Portugal); p. 36 (Slovenia); and p. 37 (Switzerland); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 6 (Australia); p. 10 (India); pp. 12-13 (Malta); p. 18 (Colombia); p. 19 (Kenya); p. 21 (Czech Republic); p. 24 (Ecuador); p. 25 (Qatar); and p. 27 (Pakistan).

<sup>81</sup> S/PV.6300, p. 4.

<sup>82</sup> S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 19.

<sup>83</sup> S/PV.6300, pp. 31-32.

<sup>84</sup> Ibid., p. 3 (Japan); and p. 17 (Uganda); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), pp. 12-13 (Malta); and p. 25 (Qatar).



At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting held on 30 November 2011, under the same item, the question of “wrap-up sessions”, whereby the President would brief Member States on the developments in the Council at the conclusion of each Presidency, was raised by several speakers.<sup>85</sup> The representative of Luxembourg said that interactive wrap-up sessions at the end of each Presidency would enhance information-sharing and openness.<sup>86</sup>

Some speakers called upon the President to assume a greater role in speaking with the media.<sup>87</sup> The representative of Lebanon said that informing the media as to the basic thrust of closed consultations enabled other Member States to follow the activities of the Council.<sup>88</sup>

Several speakers called for the monthly assessment by the President as well as the annual report of the Council to be more analytical and informative.<sup>89</sup> The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, suggested that monthly assessments should include cases in which the Council had failed to act, including the reasons for resorting to veto and the views expressed by its members during the deliberations under the items under its consideration. He also emphasized that both monthly assessments and annual report should elaborate on the circumstances under which the Council adopted different outcomes, such as resolutions, statements by the President, press statements and elements to the media, so that the General Assembly would be aware not only of the decisions adopted, but also of the rationale, reasons and backgrounds of those decisions, as well as of the effectiveness and impact of those decisions on the situation on the ground.<sup>90</sup>

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<sup>85</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 24 (Egypt, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); and [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 19 (Portugal).

<sup>86</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7.

<sup>87</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 8 (Nigeria); and [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 19 (Portugal).

<sup>88</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 11.

<sup>89</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 11 (Lebanon); and p. 21 (Japan); [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 19 (Portugal).

<sup>90</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 24.

## Section V. Secretariat

### Note

The present section covers the practice of the Security Council concerning the administrative functions and powers of the Secretary-General in connection with meetings of the Council, in relation to rules 21 to 26 of its provisional rules of procedure.<sup>91</sup>

#### *Rule 21*

*The Secretary-General shall act in that capacity in all meetings of the Security Council. The Secretary-General may authorize a deputy to act in his place at meetings of the Security Council.*

#### *Rule 22*

*The Secretary-General, or his deputy acting on his behalf, may make either oral or written statements to the Security Council concerning any question under consideration by it.*

#### *Rule 23*

*The Secretary-General may be appointed by the Security Council, in accordance with rule 28, as rapporteur for a specified question.*

#### *Rule 24*

*The Secretary-General shall provide the staff required by the Security Council. This staff shall form a part of the Secretariat.*

#### *Rule 25*

*The Secretary-General shall give to representatives on the Security Council notice of meetings of the Security Council and of its commissions and committees.*

#### *Rule 26*

*The Secretary-General shall be responsible for the preparation of documents required by the Security Council and shall, except in urgent circumstances, distribute them at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered.*

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<sup>91</sup> For non-administrative functions that the Secretary-General was requested or authorized to carry out in accordance with Article 98, see part IV, Relations with other United Nations organs.

## **Administrative functions of the Secretariat (rules 21 to 26)**

During the period under review, following previous practice, the Secretary-General and senior officials of the Secretariat attended Council meetings and provided briefings to the Council as requested. The Secretariat also assisted in the organization of Council meetings, preparation and dissemination of documents, and other activities.

At the 6603<sup>rd</sup> meeting on 26 August 2011, under the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, the Council adopted a statement by the President by which it requested, inter alia, that the Secretariat circulate to police- and troop-contributing countries by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month a notice of and an invitation to an upcoming meeting on individual peacekeeping mission mandates to be held the following month.<sup>92</sup>

The question of the various aspects of the functions of the Secretariat, including those concerning documentation, was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 4).

### **Case 4**

#### **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)<sup>93</sup>**

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, the representative of the United Kingdom called for more frequent briefings by the Secretariat, on an ad hoc basis, on situations of emerging concern. He further suggested that the Secretary-General and his senior officials be invited to brief the Council as a matter of routine when they return from visits to countries on the agenda of the Council or other countries of concern.<sup>94</sup> Similarly, the representative of Slovenia called for an increase in the number of briefings by United Nations officials.<sup>95</sup>

The question of documentation was raised by several speakers.<sup>96</sup> The representative of China called for further improvement in the timeliness and quality of Council documents, noting

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<sup>92</sup> [S/PRST/2011/17](#).

<sup>93</sup> The note by the President of the Council ([S/2006/507](#)) was updated and issued as a separate document ([S/2010/507](#)) on 26 July 2010. Therefore, the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 30 November 2011, was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”.

<sup>94</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 9.

<sup>95</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 35.

<sup>96</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 7 (China); and p. 16 (Gabon); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 17 (Germany); and p. 28 (Republic of Korea).

that the surge in the quantity of documents adopted by the Council in recent years demonstrated the increase in its workload, but served as a reminder that greater attention should be paid to the quality of documents and their practical implementation.<sup>97</sup> The representative of Gabon said that sometimes there was a delay in the publication of documents in the six official languages of the United Nations, with documents being published just a few days before scheduled Council meetings. He also expressed his regret about the failure to implement paragraphs 8 and 9 of the annex of the note by the President<sup>98</sup>, which called on the Secretariat to circulate briefing texts and to provide Council members with printed fact sheets on issues considered by the Council, prior to the holding of informal consultations.<sup>99</sup> Similarly, the representative of Costa Rica said that in accordance with paragraph 11 of the note by the President, the reports of the Secretary-General should be circulated in all official languages at least four working days before the meeting. He further said that should there be significant changes in the situation in the field, these could be communicated via an addendum to the reports, and that the need to update the reports should not be an excuse for circulating them late.<sup>100</sup>

At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011, under the same item, the question of the translation of Council documents was again raised by several speakers. The representative of the Sudan said that Council documents, especially the reports of the Secretary-General on peacekeeping operations, should be circulated in advance of their consideration by the Council, in all official languages of the United Nations. He noted that very often a version of the report was distributed to members of the Council only, but was not circulated to Member States until the day of the meeting, or occasionally even after the meeting.<sup>101</sup>

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<sup>97</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7.

<sup>98</sup> [S/2006/507](#).

<sup>99</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 16.

<sup>100</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 7.

<sup>101</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 11.

## Section VI. Conduct of business

### Note

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning the conduct of business in its meetings, in relations to rules 27, 29, 30 and 33 of its provisional rules of procedure.

#### *Rule 27*

*The President shall call upon representatives in the order in which they signify their desire to speak.*

#### *Rule 29*

*The President may accord precedence to any rapporteur appointed by the Security Council.*

*The Chairman of a commission or committee, or the rapporteur appointed by the commission or committee to present its report, may be accorded precedence for the purpose of explaining the report.*

#### *Rule 30*

*If a representative raises a point of order, the President shall immediately state his ruling. If it is challenged, the President shall submit his ruling to the Security Council for immediate decision and it shall stand unless overruled.*

#### *Rule 33*

*The following motions shall have precedence in the order named over all principal motions and draft resolutions relative to the subject before the meeting:*

- 1. To suspend the meeting;*
- 2. To adjourn the meeting;*
- 3. To adjourn the meeting to a certain day or hour;*
- 4. To refer any matter to a committee, to the Secretary-General or to a rapporteur;*
- 5. To postpone discussion of the question to a certain day or indefinitely; or*
- 6. To introduce an amendment.*

*Any motion for the suspension or for the simple adjournment of the meeting shall be decided without debate.*

During the period under review, procedural motions for the suspension and adjournment of meetings were taken by the President without requiring any debate or voting by the Council. While there was no special application of the provisional rules of procedure concerning conduct

of business, the Council continued to implement measures aimed at improving efficiency, effectiveness and transparency of its meetings. For example, in accordance with paragraph 27 of the note by the President dated 19 July 2006,<sup>102</sup> the President frequently requested speakers to limit their statements usually to five minutes, to circulate the full text of their statements in the Council chamber and to deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Chamber.<sup>103</sup> At the 6411<sup>th</sup> meeting on 26 October 2010, under the item entitled “Women, peace and security”, following a request by the President to all speakers to limit their statements to no more than five minutes, the representative of the Civil Society Advisory Group to the United Nations distributed the full statement and limited her speech to a few paragraphs of the statement.<sup>104</sup> In other meetings, speakers delivered a brief version of their statement without a request by the President. For example, at the 6310<sup>th</sup> meeting on 11 May 2010 and 6536<sup>th</sup> meeting on 16 May 2011, under the item entitled “Briefings by Chairman of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”, respectively, several speakers distributed the full statement to the members of the Council, and delivered a summarized version.<sup>105</sup>

During the period under review, when non-Council members were invited to participate in a meeting, Council members spoke before Member States invited under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure, except in some instances when parties directly involved in the matter under consideration took the floor before Council members.<sup>106</sup> For example, at the 6497<sup>th</sup> meeting on 17 March 2011, under the item entitled “The situation in Afghanistan”, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, invited under rule 39, took the floor but requested that the Council allow the representative of Afghanistan, invited under rule 37, to speak before him, Council members and other rule 37 invitees.<sup>107</sup>

### **Discussions relating to the speaking order**

During the period under review, the question of speaking order was raised at an open debate concerning the working methods of the Council (case 5).

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<sup>102</sup> [S/2006/507](#).

<sup>103</sup> For example, see the statement by the President at the 6265<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 27 January 2010 ([S/PV.6265](#), p. 2).

<sup>104</sup> [S/PV.6411](#), pp. 10-11.

<sup>105</sup> [S/PV.6310](#), p. 2 (Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)) and [S/PV.6536](#), p. 2 (joint statement by the representative of India on behalf of the Committees established pursuant to [resolutions 1267 \(1999\)](#), [1373 \(2001\)](#) and [1540 \(2004\)](#)).

<sup>106</sup> For example, at the 6405<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 19 October 2010, on the situation in Timor-Leste, following the briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Timor-Leste, the representative of Timor-Leste spoke before Council members and other rule 37 invitees ([S/PV.6405](#), pp. 5-9). At the 6636<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 24 October 2011, concerning the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, following the briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, the representative of Israel spoke before Council members and other Member States invited under rule 37 ([S/PV.6636](#), pp. 8-11).

<sup>107</sup> [S/PV.6497](#), p. 2.

## Case 5

### **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)<sup>108</sup>**

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)”, several speakers raised the question of speaking order, in particular regarding the timing of statements by non-members of the Council vis-à-vis those of the Council members.<sup>109</sup> The representative of Portugal said that the Council should value the participation of the wider membership through allowing non-Council members to speak first at open thematic debates, with Council members taking the floor at the end.<sup>110</sup> The representative of Australia expressed support for the proposal by Portugal, and encouraged Council members to listen more attentively when non-members spoke.<sup>111</sup> The representative of Slovenia said that in debates on situation-specific issues, parties directly affected or particularly interested should be allowed to speak prior to Council members to present their views.<sup>112</sup>

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<sup>108</sup> The note by the President of the Council ([S/2006/507](#)) was updated and issued as a separate document ([S/2010/507](#)) on 26 July 2010. Therefore, the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 30 November 2011, was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#)).

<sup>109</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 33 (Portugal); [S/PV.6300](#), p. 35 (Slovenia); and [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 6 (Australia).

<sup>110</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 33.

<sup>111</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 6.

<sup>112</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 35.

## Section VII. Participation

### Note

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning the extension of invitations to non-members of the Council for their participation in meetings of the Council. Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter of the United Nations, and rules 37 and 39 of the provisional rules of procedure describe instances where invitations can be extended to non-members of the Council to participate, without vote, when it so decides.

#### *Article 31*

*Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council may participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Security Council whenever the latter considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected.*

#### *Article 32*

*Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council or any state which is not a Member of the United Nations, if it is a party to a dispute under consideration by the Security Council, shall be invited to participate, without vote, in the discussion relating to the dispute. The Security Council shall lay down such conditions as it deems just for the participation of a state which is not a Member of the United Nations.*

#### *Rule 37*

*Any Member of the United Nations which is not a member of the Security Council may be invited, as the result of a decision of the Security Council, to participate, without vote, in the discussion of any question brought before the Security Council when the Security Council considers that the interests of that Member are specially affected, or when a Member brings a matter to the attention of the Security Council in accordance with Article 35 (1) of the Charter.*

#### *Rule 39*

*The Security Council may invite members of the Secretariat or other persons, whom it considers competent for the purpose, to supply it with information or to give other assistance in examining matters within its competence.*



During the period under review, following its previous practice, the Council invited non-members to participate in its meetings. These invitations were extended either under the “relevant provisions” of the Charter without an explicit reference to a rule, or under rule 37 or rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council. Specifically, Member States continued to be invited under rule 37, while representatives of the Secretariat, subsidiary organs of the Security Council, other United Nations organs, specialized agencies, funds and programmes, regional and other intergovernmental organizations, or other invitees, including representatives of non-governmental organizations, were invited under rule 39.

This section is divided into four sub-sections:

- A. Invitations extended under rule 37 (Member States);
- B. Invitations extended under rule 39 (members of the Secretariat or other persons);
- C. Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39;
- D. Discussions relating to participation.

#### **A. Invitations extended under rule 37**

In accordance with the relevant Articles and rules, all States, whether or not members of the United Nations, can be invited to participate in Council meetings when: (a) a Member State of the United Nations brings a matter to the attention of the Council in accordance with Article 35 (1) of the Charter (rule 37);<sup>113</sup> (b) a Member State or a non-Member State is a party to a dispute under consideration by the Council (Article 32); and (c) the interests of a Member State are “specially affected” (Article 31 and rule 37).

During the period under review, there were no changes to the procedure for extending invitations to Member States to participate in the proceedings of the Council. Member States requested invitations in letters addressed to the President of the Council, which were not issued as official documents of the Council. At the beginning or during Council meetings, the President informed the Council of the receipt of such letters and proposed that, with the consent of the Council, invitations be extended “under the relevant provisions of the Charter and rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council”, without referring explicitly to any specific Article.

Following previous practice, Member States invited under rule 37 spoke occasionally in other capacities, such as on behalf of regional or international organizations, or groups of States.<sup>114</sup>

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<sup>113</sup> For more details on referral of a dispute or situation to the Council by States, see part VI, section I.

<sup>114</sup> For example, at the 6531<sup>st</sup> meeting, on 10 May 2011, the representative of Switzerland, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Human Security Network ([S/PV.6531](#), p. 28). At the 6648<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 3 November 2011,

### *Renewal of invitations under rule 37*

During the period under review, invitations to Member States were usually renewed automatically in instances where a meeting of the Council was resumed. Unless otherwise mentioned, invitations to Member States under rule 37 extended at the first of several consecutive meetings held concerning the same agenda item were automatically renewed at each of the meetings.<sup>115</sup>

### *Requests for invitations denied or not acted upon*

There was no instance during the period under review where a request from a Member State to participate in a Council meeting was put to a vote or denied at a public meeting. There were also no instances where a Member State communicated to the Council that their request for participation in meetings had not been acted upon.

## **B. Invitations extended under rule 39**

In accordance with rule 39 of the provisional rules of procedure, members of the Secretariat or other persons may be invited to supply the Council with information or give other assistance in examining matters within its competence.

Following previous practice, invitations under rule 39 were extended to representatives of Member States on an exceptional basis, only if their participation was in a role other than as representative of their State, for example, as chairpersons of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and its country-specific configurations, or as representatives of certain organizations.<sup>116</sup>

### *Invitations under rule 39*

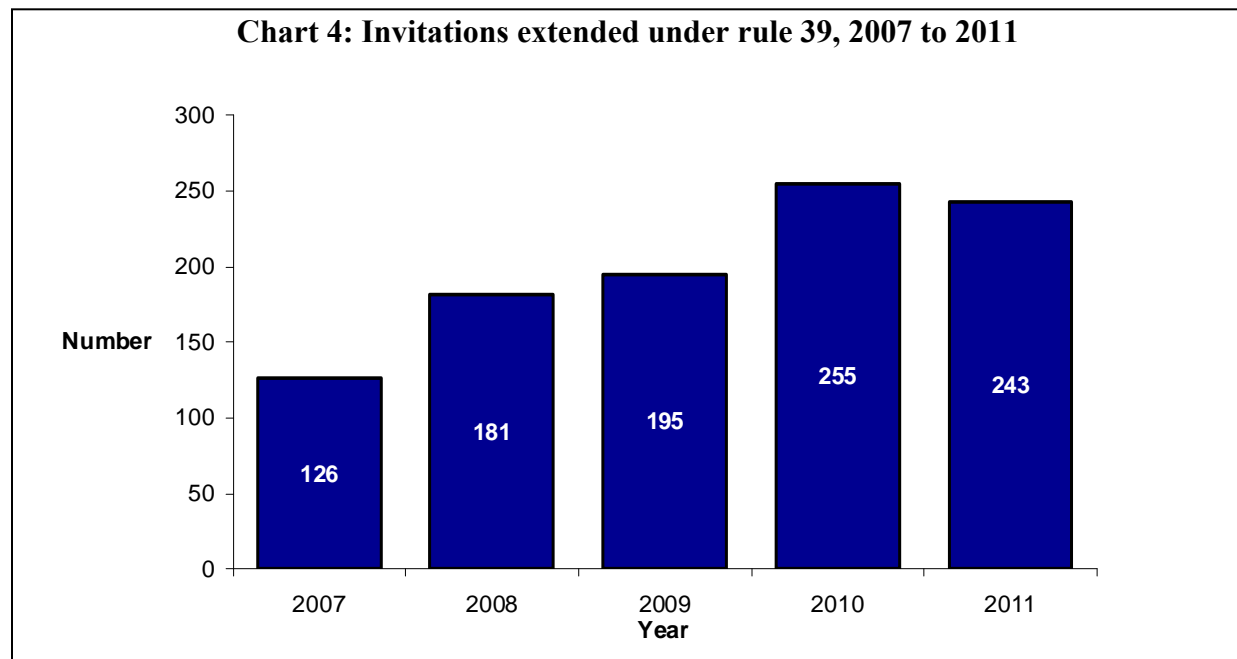
During the period under review, a total of 498 invitations were extended under rule 39, with 255 in 2010 and 243 in 2011 (see chart 4).

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the representative of Angola spoke on behalf of the Communities of Portuguese-Speaking Countries ([S/PV.6648](#), p. 9).

<sup>115</sup> For example, at the 6357<sup>th</sup> meeting (closed) on 12 July 2010, the Head of the Committee of Financial Experts of Iraq, who had been invited under rule 37 at the 6356<sup>th</sup> meeting, was invited “pursuant to the decision taken at the 6356<sup>th</sup> meeting” ([S/PV.6357](#)). Similarly, at the 6689<sup>th</sup> meeting (closed) on 15 December 2011, the representative of the Sudan, who had been invited under rule 37 at the 6688<sup>th</sup> meeting, was invited “pursuant to the decision taken at the 6688<sup>th</sup> meeting” ([S/PV.6689](#)).

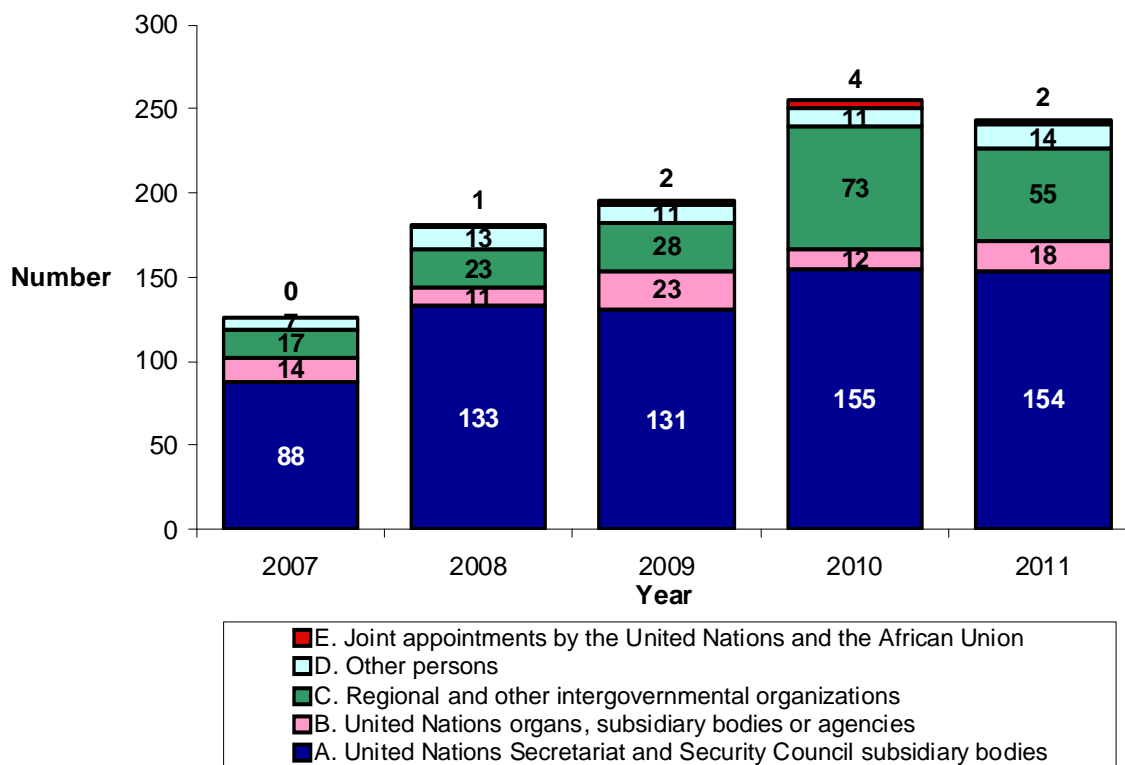
<sup>116</sup> For example, at the 6257<sup>th</sup> meeting on 13 January 2010, the representative of Australia was invited under rule 39 to speak on behalf of the Pacific Islands Forum. At the 6345<sup>th</sup> meeting on 28 June 2010, the representative of Belgium and the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission were invited under rule 39.



Invitations under rule 39 can be grouped into the following five categories: (a) the Secretariat and subsidiary bodies of the Council; (b) other organs of the United Nations, subsidiary bodies or agencies; (c) regional and other intergovernmental organizations; (d) other persons; and (e) persons holding joint appointments by the United Nations and the African Union (see chart 5 for a breakdown of rule 39 invitations during the period).

In 2010, the number of rule 39 invitations extended to category (a) increased to 155 from 131 in 2009, and invitations extended to category (c) increased to 73 from 28 in 2009. Also in 2010, the invitations extended under category (b) declined to 12 from 23 in 2009. In 2011, in comparison with the previous year, the number of invitations extended to category (a) remained largely the same at 154, while the invitations extended to category (c) declined to 55. There were no major changes in the number of rule 39 invitations extended to other categories during the period.

Chart 5: Breakdown of rule 39 invitees by category, 2007 to 2011



### First-time invitations under rule 39

During the period, 17 invitations were extended under rule 39 for the first time (see table 9). At the 6341<sup>st</sup> meeting on 16 June 2010, under the item entitled “Children and armed conflict”, Ms. Manju Gurung, a former child soldier in Nepal was invited, under rule 39 to participate in the Council meeting.<sup>117</sup> Previously, child soldiers were not invited expressly under rule 39.<sup>118</sup>

Several representatives of South Sudan were invited, for the first time, under rule 39 to participate in the Council meetings before South Sudan was admitted by the General Assembly on 14 July 2011.<sup>119</sup>

<sup>117</sup> S/PV.6341, p. 2.

<sup>118</sup> See the 16<sup>th</sup> Supplement, part II, section VII, p. 62.

<sup>119</sup> For example, the Vice-President of South Sudan was invited under rule 39 at the 6583<sup>rd</sup> meeting, on 13 July 2011.

Table 9  
**First-time invitations under rule 39 in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>
<b>Secretariat officials and subsidiary bodies of the Security Council</b>		
Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women	6302 <sup>nd</sup> , 27 April 2010	Women and peace and security
Chair of the Secretary-General's Panel on the Referenda in the Sudan	6452 <sup>nd</sup> , 16 December 2010	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Special Envoy of the Secretary-General to the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	6509 <sup>th</sup> , 4 April 2011	The situation in Libya
Chair of the Senior Advisory Group for the Review of International Civilian Capacities	6533 <sup>rd</sup> , 12 May 2011	Post-conflict peacebuilding
Head of the United Nations Office to the African Union	6561 <sup>st</sup> , 21 June 2011	Peace and security in Africa
Special Representative of the Secretary-General for South Sudan and Head of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan	6656 <sup>th</sup> , 11 November 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa	6657 <sup>th</sup> , 14 November 2011	Central African region
Under-Secretary-General for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women	6411 <sup>th</sup> , 26 October 2010	Women and peace and security
<b>Regional and other intergovernmental organizations</b>		
Head of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo	6353 <sup>rd</sup> , 6 July 2010	Security Council <a href="#">resolutions 1160 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1199 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1203 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1239 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1244 (1999)</a>
<b>Other persons</b>		
Ms. Manju Gurung (former Nepalese child soldier)	6341 <sup>st</sup> , 16 June 2010	Children and armed conflict
Ms. Thelma Awori ( Civil Society Advisory Group to the United Nations on Women, Peace and Security)	6411 <sup>th</sup> , 26 October 2010	Women and peace and security
Mr. Deng Alor Kuol (Minister of Regional Cooperation of the Government of Southern Sudan)	6478 <sup>th</sup> , 9 February 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Mr. David Buom Choat (Political, United Nations, Congressional Affairs Officer of the Government of Southern Sudan)	6522 <sup>nd</sup> , 27 April 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Mr. Enver Hoxhaj	6534 <sup>th</sup> , 12 May 2011	Security Council <a href="#">resolutions 1160 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1199 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1203 (1998)</a> , <a href="#">1239 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1244 (1999)</a>
Mr. Ezekiel Lol Gatkuoth	6542 <sup>nd</sup> , 31 May 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Mr. Riek Marcher Teny-Dhurgon (Vice-President of the Republic of South Sudan)	6583 <sup>rd</sup> , 13 July 2011	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan
Ms. Mateya Kelley (International Humanitarian Fact-Finding Commission)	6650 <sup>th</sup> , 9 November 2011	Protection of civilians in armed conflict

*Renewal of invitations extended under rule 39*

Similar to invitations extended under rule 37, renewal of invitations under rule 39 was automatic if the meeting was resumed. Unless otherwise mentioned, invitations extended at the first meeting of consecutive meetings concerning the same agenda item were automatically renewed at each meeting.<sup>120</sup>

**C. Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39**

During the period under review, the Council extended several invitations not expressly under rule 37 or rule 39 (see table 10).

Invitations to representatives of Palestine to participate in meetings of the Council were routinely extended, without reference to any rule and “in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure and the previous practice in this regard”.

At the 6408<sup>th</sup> meeting (closed) on 21 October 2010, under the item entitled “The situation in Somalia”, the Under-Secretary-General for the Department of Field Support and the Force Commander for African Union Mission in Somalia participated in the meeting without any invitation, either under rule 37 or rule 39.<sup>121</sup>

Table 10  
**Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39 in 2010-2011**

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
Palestine <sup>a/</sup>	6265 <sup>th</sup> , 27 January 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6298 <sup>th</sup> , 14 April 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6325 <sup>th</sup> , 31 May 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6326 <sup>th</sup> , 1 June 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6341 <sup>st</sup> , 16 June 2010	Children and armed conflict
	6363 <sup>rd</sup> , 21 July 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6404 <sup>th</sup> , 18 October 2010	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6411 <sup>th</sup> , 26 October 2010	Women and peace and security
	6470 <sup>th</sup> , 19 January 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6484 <sup>th</sup> , 18 February 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6520 <sup>th</sup> , 21 April 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

<sup>120</sup> For example the 6337<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 11 June 2010, under the item entitled “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan”, Mr. Luis Moreno-Ocampo, the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, was invited “pursuant to the decision taken at the 6336<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council” ([S/PV.6337](#), p. 1).

<sup>121</sup> [S/PV.6408](#), p. 1.

<sup>a/</sup> The representatives were at the level of its President, Minister for Foreign Affairs or Permanent Observer.

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>
	6590 <sup>th</sup> , 26 July 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question
	6636 <sup>th</sup> , 24 October 2011	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

#### **D. Discussions relating to participation**

During the period under review, there were no formal discussions concerning invitations of Member States or individuals to meetings. The question of the participation of non-members in its meetings, in particular that of Member States directly involved or specially affected by situations under consideration by the Council, was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 6).

#### **Case 6**

##### **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)<sup>122</sup>**

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507),<sup>123</sup> the question of the participation of Member States which were directly involved or specially affected by situations under consideration by the Council was raised by several speakers, with some explicitly citing Article 31 of the Charter,<sup>124</sup> while others called for increased participation in more general terms.<sup>125</sup> The representative of Cuba said that the State concerned should be allowed to participate in Council discussions on topics that affected it directly, in accordance with Article 31 of the Charter.<sup>126</sup> Similarly, the representative of Colombia said that efforts should be made to reduce the number of closed meetings that limited access by Member States, and to guarantee the participation of non-Council members in the discussion of matters that affected them directly.<sup>127</sup> The representative of Ecuador, while recognizing the important role of closed consultations, said that

<sup>122</sup> The note by the President of the Council (S/2006/507) was updated and issued as a separate document (S/2010/507) on 26 July 2010. Therefore, the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 30 November 2011, was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507).

<sup>123</sup> S/2006/507.

<sup>124</sup> S/PV.6300, p. 15 (Brazil); p. 22 (Egypt, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement); p. 28 (Sierra Leone); and p. 35 (Slovenia); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1) p. 9 (Cuba); p. 10 (India); pp. 13-14 (Iran (Islamic Republic of)); p. 20 (Namibia); p. 24 (Ecuador); and p. 27 (Pakistan).

<sup>125</sup> S/PV.6300, p. 3 (Turkey); p. 6 (China); p. 7 (Austria); p. 21 (Liechtenstein); p. 34 (South Africa); and p. 38 (Switzerland); S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 2 (Philippines); p. 5 (New Zealand); p. 7 (Costa Rica); p. 9 (Cuba); p. 11 (Uruguay); p. 15 (Singapore); p. 22 (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)); and p. 28 (Republic of Korea).

<sup>126</sup> S/PV.6300 (Resumption 1), p. 9.

<sup>127</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 18.

priority should be given to incorporating the opinions of other Member States, in respect for the provisions of Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter.<sup>128</sup> The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran said that the refusal to allow non-members of the Council to participate in discussions on matters affecting them and their interests, the denial of their right to brief the Council on their positions on issues having a direct effect on their national interests, as well as the denial of their right of reply to countries against which allegations were raised during certain formats of the meetings of the Council, were in total disregard of Article 31 of the Charter.<sup>129</sup> Similarly, the representative of Namibia said that the practice of the Council discussing issues without giving Member States an opportunity to participate in any meaningful way was contrary to the provisions of Article 31 of the Charter.<sup>130</sup>

At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011, under the same item, the representative of India said that Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter must be fully implemented, by consulting with non-members of the Council on a regular basis, especially those Member States with a special interest in the substantive matter under consideration by the Council.<sup>131</sup>

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<sup>128</sup> Ibid., p. 24.

<sup>129</sup> Ibid., p. 14.

<sup>130</sup> Ibid., p. 20.

<sup>131</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 13.



## **Section VIII. Decision-making and voting**

### **Note**

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning decision-making, including voting, in relation to the provisions of Article 27 of the Charter and rule 40 of the provisional rules of procedure. The section also covers rules 31 and 32, 34 to 36 and 38 that govern the various aspects of voting on draft resolutions, amendments and substantive motions.

Article 27, along with rule 40, governs voting in the Council, defining that decisions on procedural matters require an affirmative vote of nine out of fifteen Council members and that decisions on substantive matters are made by an affirmative vote of nine Council members including all the permanent members. Rules 31 and 32, 34 to 36 and 38 deal with the conduct of business in the context of voting: Rule 31 concerns the introduction of proposed resolutions, amendments and substantive motions, and rules 32, 34 to 36, and 38 specify the voting procedures such as the order in which draft resolutions and amendments are put to a vote, separate voting on parts of a draft resolution or motion, seconding a draft resolution or motions, sponsorship by non-members of the Council, and the withdrawal of draft resolutions.

### *Article 27*

- 1. Each member of the Security Council shall have one vote.*
- 2. Decisions of the Security Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members.*
- 3. Decisions of the Security Council on all other matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine members including the concurring votes of the permanent members; provided that, in decisions under Chapter VI, and under paragraph 3 of Article 52, a party to a dispute shall abstain from voting.*

### *Rule 31*

*Proposed resolutions, amendments and substantive motions shall normally be placed before the representatives in writing.*

*Rule 32*

*Principal motions and draft resolutions shall have precedence in the order of their submission.*

*Parts of a motion or of a draft resolution shall be voted on separately at the request of any representative, unless the original mover objects.*

*Rule 34*

*It shall not be necessary for any motion or draft resolution proposed by a representative on the Security Council to be seconded before being put to a vote.*

*Rule 35*

*A motion or draft resolution can at any time be withdrawn so long as no vote has been taken with respect to it.*

*If the motion or draft resolution has been seconded, the representative on the Security Council who has seconded it may require that it be put to the vote as his motion or draft resolution with the same right of precedence as if the original mover had not withdrawn it.*

*Rule 36*

*If two or more amendments to a motion or draft resolution are proposed, the President shall rule on the order in which they are to be voted upon. Ordinarily, the Security Council shall first vote on the amendment furthest removed in substance from the original proposal and then on the amendment next furthest removed until all amendments have been put to the vote, but when an amendment adds to or deletes from the text of a motion or draft resolution, that amendment shall be voted on first.*

*Rule 38*

*Any Member of the United Nations invited in accordance with the preceding rule, or in application of Article 32 of the Charter, to participate in the discussions of the Security Council may submit proposals and draft resolutions. These proposals and draft resolutions may be put to a vote only at the request of a representative on the Security Council.*

*Rule 40*

*Voting in the Security Council shall be in accordance with the relevant Articles of the Charter and of the Statute of the International Court of Justice.*

This section is organized into four sub-sections:

- A. Decisions of the Council;
- B. Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38;
- C. Decision-making by voting;
- D. Decision-making without a vote;
- E. Discussions concerning the decision-making process.

During the period under review, rule 31 was routinely applied in the meetings of the Council. As there were no instances of motions or amendments requiring voting, submission of competing draft resolutions, withdrawal of draft resolutions, or requests for separate voting on parts of a draft resolution, there were no instances where rules 32, and 34 to 36 were invoked.

**A. Decisions of the Council**

During the period under review, the Council continued to adopt, at its meetings, resolutions and statements by the President, in addition to procedural decisions. Decisions of the

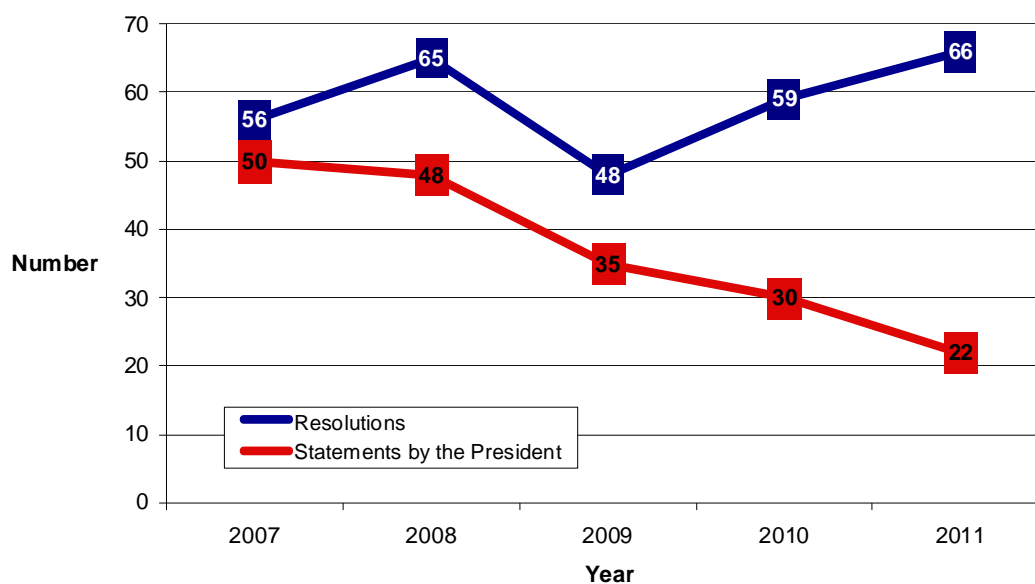
Council also took the form of notes or letters by the President, which were issued as official documents of the Council.<sup>132</sup>

#### *Number of resolutions and statements by the President*

During the period under review, the Council adopted 125 resolutions and 52 statements by the President.

Chart 6 shows the total number of resolutions and statements by the President during the five-year period between 2007 and 2011.

**Chart 6: Number of resolutions and statements by the President, 2007 to 2011**



#### *Multiple decisions in one meeting*

While the standard practice of the Council was to adopt a single decision in a meeting, during the period there were several instances where the Council adopted more than one decision at a single meeting. Of these, two instances were in connection with the extension of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), where the Council adopted a statement by the President immediately following the adoption of the resolution.<sup>133</sup> The other instances were in connection with the situation in Sierra Leone, the situation concerning Iraq,

<sup>132</sup> For the text of all resolutions, statements, procedural decisions taken at Council meetings, as well as notes or letters issued by the President during the period under review, see the United Nations publication “Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council” ([S/INF/63](#), [S/INF/64](#) and [S/INF/65](#)).

<sup>133</sup> [S/PV.6352](#) and [S/PV.6462](#).

and threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts. In four instances, a statement by the President was issued immediately following the adoption of one or more resolutions, while in two instances, two resolutions were adopted at the same meeting (see table 11).

Table 11  
**Meetings where more than one decision was taken in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decisions</i>
6352 <sup>nd</sup> , 30 June 2010	The situation in the Middle East	<a href="#">Resolution 1934 (2010)</a> , <a href="#">S/PRST/2010/12</a>
6392 <sup>nd</sup> , 29 September 2010	The situation in Sierra Leone	<a href="#">Resolution 1940 (2010)</a> , <a href="#">Resolution 1941 (2010)</a>
6450 <sup>th</sup> , 15 December 2010	The situation concerning Iraq	<a href="#">Resolution 1956 (2010)</a> , <a href="#">Resolution 1957 (2010)</a> , <a href="#">Resolution 1958 (2010)</a> , <a href="#">S/PRST/2010/27</a>
6462 <sup>nd</sup> , 22 December 2010	The situation in the Middle East	<a href="#">Resolution 1965 (2010)</a> , <a href="#">S/PRST/2010/30</a>
6557 <sup>th</sup> , 17 June 2011	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	<a href="#">Resolution 1988 (2011)</a> , <a href="#">Resolution 1989 (2011)</a>
6582 <sup>nd</sup> , 13 July 2011	Admission of new Members	<a href="#">Resolution 1999 (2011)</a> <a href="#">S/PRST/2011/14</a>

## **B. Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38**

A draft resolution may be submitted by any member of the Council. According to rule 38 of the provisional rules of procedure, a member of the United Nations, which is not a member of the Council, may also submit a proposal, but it can be put to the vote only at the request of a Council member. Those Member States which submit a draft resolution become sponsors of the draft resolution. A draft resolution can become a presidential text if all the Council members agree.

During the period, a total of 126 draft resolutions were considered by the Council, of which 119 were sponsored texts, while seven were presidential texts.<sup>134</sup> 21 draft resolutions were sponsored by non-Council members (see table 12).

<sup>134</sup> [S/2010/29](#), [S/2010/141](#), [S/2010/271](#), [S/2010/346](#), [S/2010/557](#), [S/2011/417](#) and [S/2011/421](#).

Table 12  
**Draft resolutions sponsored by non-members of the Council in 2010-2011**

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-Council member sponsors</i>
<a href="#">S/2010/29</a>	The question concerning Haiti	6261 <sup>st</sup> , 19 January 2010	<a href="#">1908 (2010)</a>	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Peru, Uruguay
<a href="#">S/2010/95</a>	The situation in Timor-Leste	6278 <sup>th</sup> , 26 February 2010	<a href="#">1912 (2010)</a>	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Australia, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines, Portugal, South Africa
<a href="#">S/2010/216</a>	The situation concerning Western Sahara	6305 <sup>th</sup> , 30 April 2010	<a href="#">1920 (2010)</a>	France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Spain
<a href="#">S/2010/277</a>	The question concerning Haiti	6330 <sup>th</sup> , 4 June 2010	<a href="#">1927 (2010)</a>	Austria, Brazil, France, Japan, Mexico, United States	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Peru, Spain, Uruguay
<a href="#">S/2010/283</a>	Non-proliferation	6335 <sup>th</sup> , 9 June 2010	<a href="#">1929 (2010)</a>	France, United Kingdom, United States	Germany
<a href="#">S/2010/454</a>	The situation in the Middle East	6375 <sup>th</sup> , 30 August 2010	<a href="#">1937 (2010)</a>	France, United States	Belgium, Italy, Spain
<a href="#">S/2010/519</a>	The question concerning Haiti	6399 <sup>th</sup> , 14 October 2010	<a href="#">1944 (2010)</a>	Brazil, France, Japan, Mexico, United States	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Ecuador, Guatemala, Peru, Spain, Uruguay
<a href="#">S/2010/582</a>	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	6426 <sup>th</sup> , 18 November 2010	<a href="#">1948 (2010)</a>	Austria, France, Russian Federation, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States	Germany, Italy
<a href="#">S/2010/592</a>	The situation in Somalia	6429 <sup>th</sup> , 23 November 2010	<a href="#">1950 (2010)</a>	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Canada, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Norway, Somalia, Ukraine
<a href="#">S/2010/641</a>	Women and peace and security	6453 <sup>rd</sup> , 16 December 2010	<a href="#">1960 (2010)</a>	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, France,	Albania, Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria,

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-Council member sponsors</i>
				Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Burkina Faso, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Congo (Democratic Republic of), Denmark, Djibouti, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Portugal, Romania, Rwanda, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Ukraine
<a href="#">S/2010/644</a>	The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	6458 <sup>th</sup> , 20 December 2010	<a href="#">1962 (2010)</a>	Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Gabon, Nigeria, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom, United States	Germany
<a href="#">S/2011/24</a>	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	6484 <sup>th</sup> , 18 February 2011	(draft resolution was not adopted due to the negative vote of a permanent member)	Gabon, India, Lebanon, Portugal, South Africa	Afghanistan, Algeria, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Brazil, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brunei Darussalam, Chile, Comoros, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Korea (Democratic People's

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-Council member sponsors</i>
					Republic of), Djibouti, Ecuador, Egypt, Finland, Greece, Grenada, Guatemala, Guinea, Guyana, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jordan, Kuwait, Laos, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Papua New Guinea, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Slovenia, Somalia, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Tunisia, Turkey, Turkmenistan, United Arab Emirates, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zimbabwe
<a href="#">S/2011/86</a>	The situation in Timor-Leste	6487 <sup>th</sup> , 24 February 2011	<a href="#">1969 (2011)</a>	Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, China, Colombia, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, United Kingdom and United States	Australia, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, the Philippines
<a href="#">S/2011/228</a>	The situation in Somalia	6512 <sup>th</sup> , 11 April 2011	<a href="#">1976 (2011)</a>	Colombia, France, Gabon, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation	Denmark, Italy, Spain, Ukraine



<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Council member sponsors</i>	<i>Non-Council member sponsors</i>
<a href="#">S/2011/268</a>	The situation concerning Western Sahara	6523 <sup>rd</sup> , 27 April 2011	<a href="#">1979 (2011)</a>	France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Spain
<a href="#">S/2011/425</a>	Children and armed conflict	6581 <sup>st</sup> , 12 July 2011	<a href="#">1998 (2011)</a>	Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Gabon, Germany, Nigeria, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States	Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, Canada, Chad, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, New Zealand, Norway, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine
<a href="#">S/2011/545</a>	The situation in the Middle East	6605 <sup>th</sup> , 30 August 2011	<a href="#">2004 (2011)</a>	France, Germany, United States	Italy, Spain
<a href="#">S/2011/637</a>	The question concerning Haiti	6631 <sup>st</sup> , 14 October 2011	<a href="#">2012 (2011)</a>	Brazil, Colombia, France, United States	Argentina, Canada, Chile, Guatemala, Peru, Spain, Uruguay
<a href="#">S/2011/650</a>	The situation in Somalia	6635 <sup>th</sup> , 24 October 2011	<a href="#">2015 (2011)</a>	France, Gabon, Germany, India, Lebanon, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Denmark, Greece, Italy, Norway, Spain, Ukraine
<a href="#">S/2011/713</a>	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	6661 <sup>st</sup> , 16 November 2011	<a href="#">2019 (2011)</a>	France, Germany, Nigeria, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Italy, Spain
<a href="#">S/2011/725</a>	The situation in Somalia	6663 <sup>rd</sup> , 22 November 2011	<a href="#">2020 (2011)</a>	France, Germany, India, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Norway

### **C. Decision-making by voting**

According to Article 27 (2) and 27 (3) of the Charter, decisions of the Council on procedural matters shall be made by an affirmative vote of nine Council members, while an affirmative vote of nine Council members, including the concurring votes of the permanent members, is required for decisions on all other matters, i.e., substantive or non-procedural matters. However, the result of a vote in the Council does not in itself indicate whether the Council considers the matter voted upon as a procedural or substantive or non-procedural matter. For example, whether a vote is procedural or substantive or non-procedural cannot be determined when a proposal is: (a) adopted by a unanimous vote; (b) adopted with an affirmative vote of all permanent members; or (c) not adopted without having obtained the necessary nine affirmative votes. However, instances where a proposal is adopted, having obtained nine or more affirmative votes, with one or more permanent members casting a negative vote, indicate that the vote is considered procedural. Conversely, if the proposal is not adopted, the vote is considered substantive or non-procedural. On certain occasions, in its early years, the Council has found it necessary to decide, by vote, the question of whether or not the matter under consideration was procedural within the meaning of Article 27 (2). This procedure is known as the “preliminary question”, after the language used in the San Francisco Statement on Voting Procedure. In recent years, however, there have not been any instances where the Council had decided to examine the preliminary question. Furthermore, procedural motions such as the adoption of the agenda, the extension of invitations, and the suspension or adjournment of a meeting have generally been decided upon by the Council without a vote. When such motions were voted upon, the vote was considered procedural. During the period under review, there were no changes to this established practice, with no instances of where a vote was considered procedural.

#### *Adoption of resolutions*

During the period under review, the majority of resolutions (113 out of 125) were adopted unanimously. Nine resolutions were adopted without a unanimous vote (see table 13).

Table 13  
**Resolutions adopted without a unanimous vote in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against-abstain)</i>	<i>Negative vote by</i>	<i>Abstention by</i>
<a href="#">1929 (2010)</a>	Non-proliferation	6335 <sup>th</sup> , 9 June 2010	12-2-1	Brazil, Turkey	Lebanon
<a href="#">1930 (2010)</a>	The situation in Cyprus	6339 <sup>th</sup> , 15 June 2010	14-1-0	Turkey	
<a href="#">1945 (2010)</a>	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	6401 <sup>st</sup> , 14 October 2010	14-0-1		China
<a href="#">1953 (2010)</a>	The situation in Cyprus	6445 <sup>th</sup> , 14 December 2010	14-1-0	Turkey	
<a href="#">1958 (2010)</a>	The situation concerning Iraq	6450 <sup>th</sup> , 15 December 2010	14-0-1		France
<a href="#">1966 (2010)</a>	International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991--International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994	6463 <sup>rd</sup> , 22 December 2010	14-0-1		Russian Federation
<a href="#">1973 (2011)</a>	The situation in Libya	6498 <sup>th</sup> , 17 March 2011	10-0-5		Brazil, China, Germany, India, Russian Federation, Lebanon
<a href="#">1984 (2011)</a>	Non-proliferation	6552 <sup>nd</sup> , 9 June 2011	14-0-1		Lebanon
<a href="#">2023 (2011)</a>	Peace and security in Africa	6674 <sup>th</sup> , 5 December 2011	13-0-2		China, Russian Federation

*Non-adoption of draft resolutions*

According to Article 27 (3) of the Charter, a draft resolution on non-procedural matters is not adopted when it fails to obtain the necessary nine votes in favour, or when a negative vote is exercised by a permanent member. During the period under review, while there were no instances of rejection of draft resolutions due to the lack of nine affirmative votes, two draft resolutions were rejected due to a veto (see table 14).

At the 6389<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 23 September 2010, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”, the Minister of External Relations of Brazil said that imaginative formulas to make the use of veto more difficult while encouraging self-restraint were necessary.<sup>135</sup> At the 6404<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 10 October 2010, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela said that the right of the veto in the Council should be eliminated, and binding force be granted to the decisions of the General Assembly.<sup>136</sup>

During the period under review, the question of the veto was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 7).

Table 14

**Draft resolutions not adopted due to a veto in 2010 and 2011**

<i>Draft resolution</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against - abstain)</i>	<i>Permanent member(s) casting a negative vote</i>
<a href="#">S/2011/24</a>	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	6484 <sup>th</sup> , 18 February 2011	14-1-0	United States
<a href="#">S/2011/612</a>	The situation in the Middle East	6627 <sup>th</sup> , 4 October 2011	9-2-4	China, Russian Federation

**Case 7**

**Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)<sup>137</sup>**

<sup>135</sup> [S/PV.6389](#), p. 16.

<sup>136</sup> [S/PV.6404 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 22.

<sup>137</sup> The note by the President of the Council ([S/2006/507](#)) was updated and issued as a separate document ([S/2010/507](#)) on 26 July 2010. Therefore, the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011 was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”.

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#))”, the question of the veto was raised by several speakers, with some suggesting ways in which its use could be restricted.<sup>138</sup> The representative of Egypt said that the working methods of the Council would not be improved unless the misuse of the veto right, or the threat of use of the veto, was addressed. He suggested that the use of the veto could be rationalized and restricted to cases where severe violations of human rights were being committed, as well as to the cessation of hostilities between belligerent parties, and the election of the Secretary-General.<sup>139</sup> Similarly, the representative of Colombia said that the use of the veto be limited to situations under Chapter VII of the Charter, and only in situations calling for the use of force or the imposition of sanctions. He further suggested that consideration should be given to increasing the required number of negative votes by permanent members for a draft resolution to not be adopted.<sup>140</sup> The representative of Cuba said it was important as a first step to consider various options for limiting the use of the veto, such as limiting the use of the veto to votes on measures adopted by the Council under Chapter VII of the Charter; allowing for the possible annulment of the veto through an affirmative vote by an agreed number of Council members in line with the number of members of an expanded Council; or allowing for a possible annulment of the veto by a two-thirds majority in the General Assembly.<sup>141</sup>

At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, the question of the restriction of the veto was again discussed by the Council.<sup>142</sup> Several speakers said that permanent members should refrain voluntarily from the use or threat of use of the veto altogether in situations where there were serious allegations of genocide, crimes against humanity and grave breaches of international humanitarian law.<sup>143</sup> Others suggested some new measures to restrict the use of the veto. The representative of Liechtenstein suggested that a new practice of allowing a permanent member to cast a negative vote without giving it the effect of a veto could be established, which would enable any permanent member to take a clear position on the substance of a text, while making it clear that it did not intend to block the adoption of a proposal.<sup>144</sup> The representative of Spain said that measures to limit the use of the veto would be, at the least, an obligation of

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<sup>138</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 22 (Egypt); and p. 36 (Slovenia); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9 (Cuba); p. 14 (Islamic Republic of Iran); p. 18 (Colombia); and p. 25 (Qatar).

<sup>139</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), pp. 22-23.

<sup>140</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 18.

<sup>141</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 9-10.

<sup>142</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 4 (Russian Federation); p. 10 (Lebanon); pp. 21-23 (Jordan); p. 24 (Egypt, on behalf of Non-Aligned Movement); and p. 26 (Liechtenstein); [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 4 (Slovenia); p. 10 (Spain); p. 18 (New Zealand); and p. 20 (Portugal).

<sup>143</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 23 (Jordan); [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 4 (Slovenia) and p. 10 (Spain).

<sup>144</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 26.

conduct.<sup>145</sup> Similarly, the representative of New Zealand said that agreement on an informal code guiding the use of the veto would be a welcome initiative.<sup>146</sup>

#### *Abstention, non-participation or absence*

In accordance with Article 27 (3), a party to a dispute under the scrutiny of the Council shall abstain from voting in decisions under Chapter VI of the Charter. Such an abstention is defined as an obligatory abstention, while an abstention that does not fall under Article 27 (3) is defined as a voluntary abstention.

During the period under review, there were no obligatory abstentions. As listed in table 14 above, there were seven instances of voluntary abstentions by Council members. Among these, in five instances a permanent member voluntarily abstained from voting. It should be noted, however, that abstention by a permanent member did not affect the adoption of these draft resolutions.

There were no instances of non-participation by any Council members. There were also no instances where votes were taken in the absence of a Council member.

#### **D. Decision-making without a vote**

Most procedural motions in the Council, such as questions relating to the agenda, the suspension or adjournment of meetings, are adopted without a vote. Certain motions of substance can also be adopted without a vote.

During the period under review, there were four instances where a decision was adopted without a vote. Two instances concerned the date of the election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice, while one instance concerned the question of the appointment of Secretary-General, and one instance concerned the question of the admission of new members (see table 15).

During the period under review, following previous Council practice, votes were not taken on decisions that took the form of statements by the President, which continued to be adopted by consensus. A total of 52 statements by the President were adopted during the period. Also following previous Council practice, most of the statements by the President were read out at meetings. However several statements were adopted at the meeting without the text being read out, with the President announcing only that the statement would be issued as a document of the Council.<sup>147</sup>

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<sup>145</sup> [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 10.

<sup>146</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 18.

<sup>147</sup> For example, [S/PRST/2010/22](#) was not read out at the 6411<sup>th</sup> meeting of 26 October 2010; [S/PRST/2010/25](#) was not read out at the 6427<sup>th</sup> meeting of 22 November 2010.

While a statement by the President is usually discussed and agreed upon by the Council members in prior consultations, there was one instance during the period where a Council member announced its intention to disassociate itself from the statement by the President. At the 6598<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3 August 2011, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”, the Council adopted a statement by the President concerning the Syrian Arab Republic.<sup>148</sup> Immediately following the adoption, the representative of Lebanon disassociated himself from the statement, stating that, in his view, the adopted statement did not help to address the situation in the country.<sup>149</sup>

Regarding the notes or letters by the President issued during the period under review, no votes were taken on them, and many were simply issued as official documents of the Council.<sup>150</sup> In accordance with past practice, there were two instances during the period under review where the issuance of the notes was announced at a formal meeting. On both occasions, through its notes by the President, the Council announced that its draft report to the General Assembly had been adopted without a vote (see table 16).

Table 15  
**Resolutions adopted without a vote**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Decision</i>
6285 <sup>th</sup> , 18 March 2010	Date of election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice ( <a href="#">S/2010/136</a> )	<a href="#">Resolution 1914 (2010)</a>
6327 <sup>th</sup> , 2 June 2010	Date of election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice ( <a href="#">S/2010/255</a> )	<a href="#">Resolution 1926 (2010)</a>
6556 <sup>th</sup> , 17 June 2011	Recommendation for the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations	<a href="#">Resolution 1987 (2011)</a>
6582 <sup>nd</sup> , 13 July 2011	Admission of new Members	<a href="#">Resolution 1999 (2011)</a>

Table 16  
**Notes by the President of the Security Council adopted at a formal meeting**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Symbol</i>
6413 <sup>th</sup> , 28 October 2010	Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly	<a href="#">S/2010/552</a>
6641 <sup>st</sup> , 27 October 2011	Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly	<a href="#">S/2011/664</a>

<sup>148</sup> [S/PRST/2011/16](#).

<sup>149</sup> [S/PV.6598](#), pp. 2-3.

<sup>150</sup> For the complete list of notes by the President of the Security Council issued in 2010 and 2011, see part I, section XIV of the report of the Security Council to the 65<sup>th</sup>, 66<sup>th</sup> and 67<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly ([A/65/2](#), [A/66/2](#), [A/67/2](#), A/68/2), respectively. For the complete list of letters from the President of the Council issued in 2010 and 2011, see appendix IV, *ibid*.

## **E. Discussions concerning the decision-making process**

During the period under review, the question of the incorporation of inputs from non-Council members into the outcome documents of Council meetings was raised at several meetings. At the 6427<sup>th</sup> meeting on 22 November 2010, under the item entitled “Protection of civilians in armed conflicts”, the representative of Peru said that he believed it very important that before the adoption of statements by the President, the opinions of Member States on the issue at hand should be listened to and considered.<sup>151</sup> Similarly, at the 6587<sup>th</sup> meeting on 20 July 2011, under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”, the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela said that the statement by the President had been read out before the debate had ended and before the statements of several delegations had been delivered. He stated that the procedure was inconsiderate and another example of the exclusive nature of the decision-making of the Council.<sup>152</sup>

During the period under review, the question of the decision-making process of the Council was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 8).

### **Case 8**

#### **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)<sup>153</sup>**

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#))”, speakers discussed the question of the involvement of Member States in the decision-making process of the Council, including the role of elected Council members, the circulation of draft resolutions, interaction of the Council with police and troop-contributing countries as well as other bodies such as the Peacebuilding Commission.

The role of elected members of the Council in its decision-making process was raised by several speakers. The representative of Turkey, regarding the involvement of all Council members in the work of the Council, said that the fact that the Council often acted as a quasi-judicial body whose decisions, such as sanctions, affected international law as well, meant that

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<sup>151</sup> [S/PV.6427 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 16.

<sup>152</sup> [S/PV.6587 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 35.

<sup>153</sup> The note by the President of the Council ([S/2006/507](#)) was updated and issued as a separate document ([S/2010/507](#)) on 26 July 2010. Therefore, the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting, on 30 November 2011, was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”.



involving every Council member fully in decision-shaping and decision-making processes was of even further significance in that respect.<sup>154</sup> The representative of Portugal said that the Council and its members must continuously strive to preserve the adequate involvement of all Council members, improve information exchange and promote participation and initiative in its internal decision-making process.<sup>155</sup> Similarly, the representative of South Africa said that there was a need for improvement in the decision-making process of the Council. For example, the deliberations of the Council on draft resolutions should be open for genuine deliberations amongst all of its members, including the elected ten, and should not be the exclusive domain of a few.<sup>156</sup>

Several speakers referred to the process of drafting resolutions.<sup>157</sup> The representative of Colombia suggested that advance circulation of or access to draft resolutions among Member States would be a step towards greater transparency in the work and decision-making of the Council.<sup>158</sup> The representative of South Africa said that the deliberations of the Council on draft resolutions should be open to all of its members, including the elected ten.<sup>159</sup> The representative of Namibia noted that, at times, elected members of the Council experienced difficulties in participating effectively, particularly when draft resolutions had been negotiated behind the scenes among the five permanent members. In this regard, he said that sufficient time should be allotted for all members of the Council to be consulted as well as for their consideration of drafts prior to any action by the Council on specific items.<sup>160</sup>

The question of the involvement of troop- and police-contributing countries as part of the decision-making process of the Council was raised by several speakers, together with specific proposals for improvement.<sup>161</sup> The representative of Brazil said that consultations should be held as soon as possible in the negotiation of mandate renewals for peacekeeping missions so that the views of troop- and police-contributing countries could be considered by the Council fully in a timely manner.<sup>162</sup> Similarly, the representative of Finland said that troop- and police-contributing

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<sup>154</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 4.

<sup>155</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 33.

<sup>156</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 34.

<sup>157</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 15 (Brazil); p. 24 (Finland); p. 34 (South Africa); and p. 36 (Slovenia); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 5 (New Zealand); p. 6 (Australia); p. 7 (Costa Rica); p. 10 (India); p. 13 (Iran (Islamic Republic of)); p. 17 (Germany); p. 18 (Colombia); p. 20 (Namibia); and p. 23 (Malaysia).

<sup>158</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 18 (Colombia).

<sup>159</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 34 (South Africa).

<sup>160</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 20.

<sup>161</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 3 (Turkey); p. 5 (Russian Federation); p. 6 (China); p. 7 (Austria); p. 8 (United Kingdom); p. 11 (Nigeria); p. 13 (France); p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 15 (Brazil); p. 25 (Finland); p. 30 (Italy); and p. 32 (Jordan); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 3 (Canada); p. 4 (New Zealand); p. 6 (Australia); p. 7 (Costa Rica); p. 10 (India); p. 11 (Uruguay); p. 16 (Ukraine); p. 17 (Germany); p. 20 (Namibia); p. 21 (Czech Republic); p. 23 (Malaysia); p. 24 (Ecuador); p. 27 (Pakistan); and p. 28 (Republic of Korea).

<sup>162</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 15.

countries should be better engaged in all stages of decision-making regarding peacekeeping operations, starting with the planning of mandates.<sup>163</sup>

Several speakers emphasized the importance of expanding the involvement of the Peacebuilding Commission in the decision-making process of the Council.<sup>164</sup> The representative of Austria said that it would be beneficial for the Council to have all chairpersons of country-specific configurations participate in the relevant informal consultations of the Council independently of whether they represent Council members or not.<sup>165</sup> The representative of Germany said that the Council needed to consider ways to maximize the use of the advisory role of the Peacebuilding Commission, particularly with regard to early peacebuilding activities carried out by peacekeepers.<sup>166</sup> The representative of Pakistan said that the Council should have more structured interaction with the General Assembly, the Economic and Social Council and the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as troop- and police-contributing countries.<sup>167</sup>

The question of the contributions of Member States at open debates was also raised, with several speakers calling for them to be duly reflected in the outcome documents of the Council. The representative of Finland said that it welcomed an increased focus on how the thematic debates could become more action-oriented, and could feed into future decisions of the Council on the topic, with key provisions of the thematic resolutions being incorporated into country-specific resolutions.<sup>168</sup> The representative of Cuba said that opinions expressed by Member States in thematic open debates should be reflected in the decisions of the Council.<sup>169</sup> The representative of Costa Rica said that the adoption of decisions by the Council agreed upon before the debate seemed to indicate that the Council was not interested in hearing the points of view of the broader membership before making decisions.<sup>170</sup>

At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting on 30 November 2011, under the same item, the question of the decision-making process was again discussed.<sup>171</sup> The representative of Brazil said that the

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<sup>163</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 25.

<sup>164</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 7 (Austria); p. 9 (United Kingdom); p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 14 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 15 (Brazil) p. 23 (Luxembourg); p. 25 (Finland, on behalf of the Nordic countries); p. 29 (Slovakia); p. 34 (South Africa); and p. 38 (Switzerland); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 4 (Canada); p. 6 (Australia); p. 8 (Argentina); p. 12 (Malta); p. 17 (Germany); pp. 21-22 (Czech Republic); and p. 27 (Pakistan).

<sup>165</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 7.

<sup>166</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 17.

<sup>167</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 27 (Pakistan).

<sup>168</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 24 (Finland).

<sup>169</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9 (Cuba).

<sup>170</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 8.

<sup>171</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 3 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 4 (Russian Federation); p. 5 (France); p. 7 (Colombia); p. 8 (Nigeria); p. 9 (Germany); p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 11 (South Africa); p. 13 (India); p. 14 (United Kingdom); p. 16 (Brazil); p. 17 (United States of America); p. 18 (Guatemala); p. 20 (Switzerland); and p. 24 (Egypt); [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 2 (Mexico); p. 3 (Slovenia); p. 5 (Australia); p. 5 (Costa Rica); p. 6 (Luxembourg); p. 7 (Finland); p. 9 (Morocco); p. 11 (Sudan); pp. 12-13 (Malaysia); p. 13 (Singapore); p. 14 (Iran (Islamic Republic of)); pp. 15-16 (Belgium); p. 17 (New Zealand); and p. 20 (Portugal).

Council should grant non-Council members access to the subsidiary bodies of the Council, including the right to participate as appropriate.<sup>172</sup> Similarly, the representative of Mexico said that the sanctions committees should be encouraged to hear the views of Member States affected by sanctions and to include such views in their mandatory reports to the Council.<sup>173</sup>

Several speakers made suggestions concerning the process in which the outcome documents of the Council were produced. The representative of Singapore said that open debates in themselves did not necessarily enhance the accountability, transparency, inclusiveness or effectiveness of the Council, and given that their outcomes were often predetermined, it was difficult to see how open debates could give Member States insight into the deliberations of the Council, or enable the Council to benefit from the views of Member States on its work.<sup>174</sup> The representative of Slovenia said that consideration could be given to the order of speakers at open briefings and debates, while at the same time allowing some time between the meeting and the adoption of the possible outcome document, thus demonstrating that the Council is willing to reflect on the views presented by the wider membership before the final decision was taken.<sup>175</sup>

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<sup>172</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 16.

<sup>173</sup> [S/PV.6672 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 2.

<sup>174</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 13.

<sup>175</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 3.

## **Section IX. Languages**

### **Note**

The present section covers rules 41 to 47 of the provisional rules of procedure of the Security Council, in relation to the official and working languages of the Council, interpretation and the languages of meeting records and published resolutions and decisions.

#### *Rule 41*

*Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish shall be both the official and the working languages of the Security Council.*

#### *Rule 42*

*Speeches made in any of the six languages of the Security Council shall be interpreted into the other five languages.*

#### *Rule 43*

*[Deleted]*

#### *Rule 44*

*Any representative may make a speech in a language other than the languages of the Security Council. In this case, he shall himself provide for interpretation into one of those languages. Interpretation into the other languages of the Security Council by the interpreters of the Secretariat may be based on the interpretation given in the first such language.*

#### *Rule 45*

*Verbatim records of meetings of the Security Council shall be drawn up in the languages of the Council.*

#### *Rule 46*

*All resolutions and other documents shall be published in the languages of the Security Council.*

#### *Rule 47*

*Documents of the Security Council shall, if the Security Council so decides, be published in any language other than the languages of the Council.*

During the period under review, rules 41 to 47 were consistently applied. There were several meetings where speakers delivered their statements in a language other than the six official languages of the Security Council in accordance with rule 44.<sup>176</sup>

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<sup>176</sup> For example, at the 6341<sup>st</sup> meeting, on 16 June 2010, a former child soldier briefed the Council in Nepalese. An English text was provided by the speaker (see [S/PV.6341](#), p. 9). At the 6359<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 15 July 2010, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau delivered his statement in Portuguese. An English text was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6359](#), p.6). At the 6389<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 23 September 2010, the Prime Minister of Japan spoke in Japanese while the English translation of his statement was made available ([S/PV.6389](#)). At the 6411<sup>st</sup> meeting, held on 26 October 2010, the Parliamentary Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan spoke in Japanese, while her statement in English was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6411](#)). At the 6421<sup>st</sup> meeting, held on 11 November 2010, the Chairman of the Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina spoke in Bosnian. An English interpretation was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6421](#)). At the 6425<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 16 November 2010, the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs of Japan spoke in Japanese, while the interpretation was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6425](#)). At the 6650<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 9 November 2011, the President of the Council (Portugal) spoke in Portuguese. English interpretation was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6650](#), p. 2). At the 6664<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 22 November 2011, the Foreign Minister of Timor-Leste spoke in Portuguese; interpretation into English was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6664](#)).

## **Section X. Status of the provisional rules of procedure**

### **Note**

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning the status of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council. Article 30 of the Charter of the United Nations provides that the Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure. However, since the adoption of the provisional rules of procedure at its first meeting held on 17 January 1946, the Council has continued to use its provisional rules of procedure, last amended in 1982.<sup>177</sup>

#### *Article 30*

*The Security Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure, including the method of selecting its President.*

During the period under review, the question of the provisional rules of procedure, including in connection with Article 30 of the Charter, was raised at the two open debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 9).

### **Case 9**

#### **Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2006/507)<sup>178</sup>**

At the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting on 22 April 2010, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council”, several speakers noted that the rules of procedure of the Council were still provisional, and called for the formal adoption of the rules of

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<sup>177</sup> The provisional rules of procedure of the Council were amended eleven times between 1946 and 1982: five times during its first year at its 31<sup>st</sup>, 41<sup>st</sup>, 42<sup>nd</sup>, 44<sup>th</sup> and 48<sup>th</sup> meetings on 9 April, 16 and 17 May, 6 and 24 June 1946; twice in its second year at the 138<sup>th</sup> and 222<sup>nd</sup> meetings, on 4 June and 9 December 1947; at its 468<sup>th</sup> meeting on 28 February 1950; 1463<sup>rd</sup> meeting, on 24 January 1969; 1761<sup>st</sup> meeting, on 17 January 1974; and 2410<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 21 December 1982. The provisional rules have been issued as documents S/96 and Rev.1 to 7, the latest version having been issued under the symbol [S/96/Rev.7](#).

<sup>178</sup> During the period, the note by the President of the Council of 19 July 2006 ([S/2006/507](#)) was revised. The revised note ([S/2010/507](#)) was issued on 26 July 2010. The agenda item for the 6300<sup>th</sup> meeting was, therefore, “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#))”, while the agenda item for the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting was “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”.

procedure.<sup>179</sup> The representative of Cuba said that the rules of procedure should be formalized to increase transparency, accountability and legitimacy.<sup>180</sup> The representative of Kenya said that new methods of work and practices that had already been agreed upon should be included in the finalized rules of procedure.<sup>181</sup>

Several speakers explicitly referred to Article 30 of the Charter.<sup>182</sup> The representative of the Russian Federation, emphasizing that Article 30 defined the prerogative of the Council to establish its own rules of procedure, said that in implementation of that role, the Council was striving methodically to improve its working methods in its Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions.<sup>183</sup> The representative of the United States, also citing Article 30, said that the Council understood the importance of making sure that other Member States were informed of and appropriately involved in its work.<sup>184</sup> Meanwhile, the representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, speaking on behalf of the 14 members of the Caribbean Community, said that the expansive reading that some States gave to Article 30 was questionable. He further said that it was impossible to read Article 30 in such a way as to make it immune from the explicit authority of the General Assembly to discuss and make recommendations on any matters within the scope of the Charter relating to the functions of any organ of the United Nations, including the Council itself. While the Council might have the responsibility of formally adopting its rules of procedure, he emphasized that the General Assembly was clearly empowered not only to discuss the working methods of the Council, but to make recommendations to the Council, whether or not those recommendations touched on and concerned the rules of procedure.<sup>185</sup> The representative of Qatar noted that Article 30 called upon the Council to adopt its rules of procedure, and outlined several proposals for the improvement of the working methods of the Council. He further said that the Council represented all Member States, and it should take their views into account when adopting its rules of procedure.<sup>186</sup>

At the 6672<sup>nd</sup> meeting, held on 30 November 2011, several speakers similarly pointed to the provisional status of rules of procedures and called for its formal adoption.<sup>187</sup> The representative of Switzerland said that Council was still working either under the provisional

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<sup>179</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 10 (Lebanon); p. 22 (Egypt); and p. 28 (Sierra Leone); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9 (Cuba); p. 18 (Colombia); p. 19 (Kenya); p. 20 (Namibia); and p. 22 (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)).

<sup>180</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9 (Cuba); p. 18 (Colombia); and p. 20 (Namibia).

<sup>181</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 19.

<sup>182</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 5. (Russian Federation); [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 11 (United States).

<sup>183</sup> [S/PV.6300](#), p. 5.

<sup>184</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 11.

<sup>185</sup> *Ibid.*, pp. 26-27.

<sup>186</sup> [S/PV.6300 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 25.

<sup>187</sup> [S/PV.6672](#), p. 11 (South Africa); p. 17 (United States); p. 19 (Switzerland); and p. 25 (Egypt, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement).

rules of procedure prepared in 1946, or was following informal traditions. He emphasized that the rules of procedure were neither adequate nor adapted to the needs of today.<sup>188</sup> The representative of Egypt, speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement, said that an initial and major concrete step towards improving the working methods of the Council would be to reach an agreement on permanent rules of procedure to replace the current provisional rules, which had been in force for more than sixty years.<sup>189</sup> The representative of the United States, citing Article 30, said that the Council recognized the need for other Member States to be informed of and appropriately involved in its work.<sup>190</sup>

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<sup>188</sup> [Ibid.](#), p. 19.

<sup>189</sup> [Ibid.](#), p. 25.

<sup>190</sup> [Ibid.](#), pp. 16-17.