



Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council

18th Supplement

2012-2013

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

Part II

Provisional rules of procedure and related procedural developments

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Introductory note

Part II of the *Repertoire* 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 special applications of the rules in the proceedings of the Council, rather than on the standard applications of the rules.

Part II is divided into ten sections. The sections 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;¹

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

* * *

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

During the period under review, the Council held a total of 199 meetings in 2012, and 193 meetings in 2013, of which 15 and 21, respectively for 2012 and 2013, were private meetings. In 2012, the Council considered 47 agenda items, out of which 25 dealt with country-specific and regional situations, and 22 with general and thematic and other issues; and in 2013, the Council considered at its meetings a total of 46 agenda items out of which 25 dealt with country-specific and regional situations, and 21 with general and thematic and other issues. The Council also added one new item to its agenda entitled “The situation in Mali”² in 2012, and in 2013 re-introduced the item entitled “Small arms”³, which had been deleted from the seizure list in 2012.⁴ A total of 100 resolutions and 51 presidential statements were adopted during the period under review. Also, the Council continued its practice of adopting most of its resolutions unanimously, with 93 out of 100 resolutions adopted in this manner. Three draft resolutions taken to a vote were not adopted during the reporting period: two draft resolutions were not adopted due to the negative vote of a permanent member and one draft resolution failed to be adopted because it did not obtain the required number of affirmative votes.⁵

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/2010/507](#))”. Also, in 2013, the Council revived its practice of conducting wrap-up sessions at the end of the month.

² [S/2012/961](#).

³ [S/PV.7036](#).

⁴ In accordance with rule 11 and the 26 July 2010 note by the President ([S/2010/507](#)), the Council reviews, in January, the list of matters of which the Council is seized, in order to identify the agenda items which have not been considered at a Council meeting in the preceding 3 years. These items are deleted unless a Member State notifies the Secretary-General of its wish to have the item retained on the list by the end of February. In that case, such item will remain on the list for one year and be subject to the above-mentioned deletion procedure in the following year.

⁵ [S/2013/660](#). Also see [S/PV.7060](#).

I. Meetings and records

Note

The present section covers the practice of the Security 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

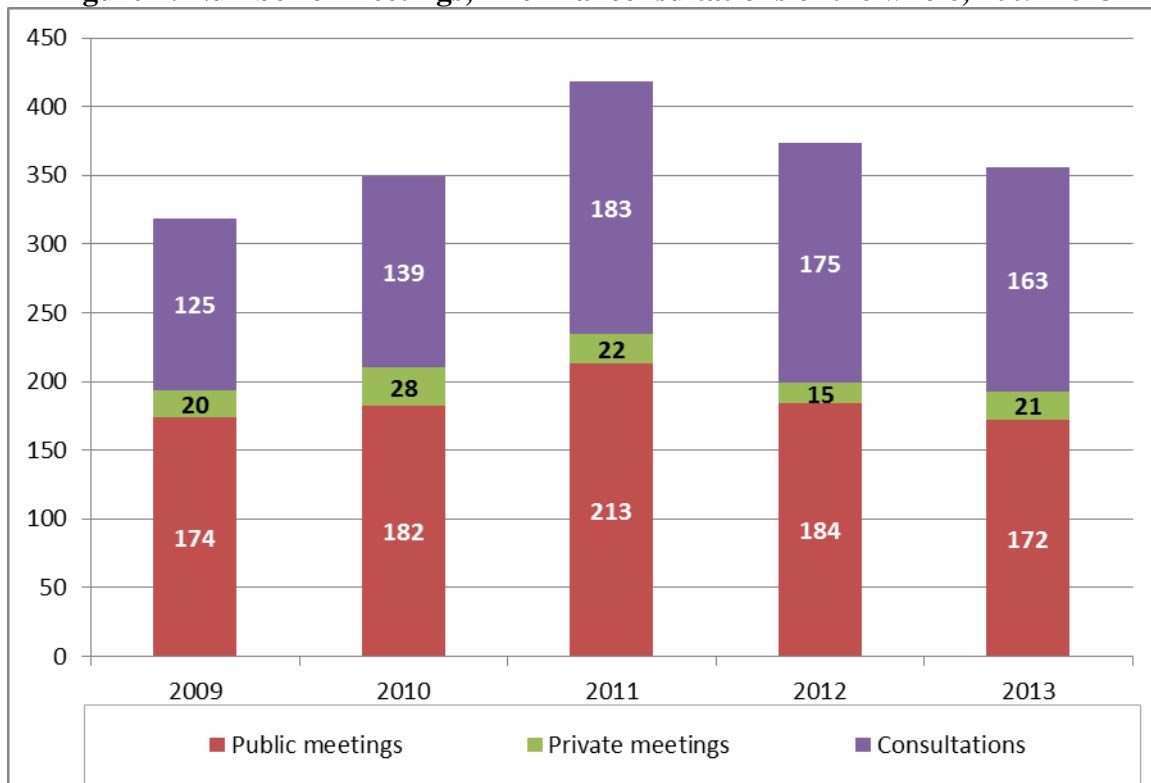
The Secretary-General shall, once each year, submit to the Security Council a list of the records and documents which up to that time have been considered confidential. The Security Council shall decide which of these shall be made available to other Members of the United Nations, which shall be made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

This section is organized into four sub-sections: A. Convening of meetings in relation to rules 1 to 5, high-level meetings and format of meetings in relation to rule 48; B. Informal consultations of the whole; C. Informal gatherings of members of the Council; and D. Records, maintained in accordance with rules 49 to 57.

In 2012 and 2013, the Council held a total of 392 meetings⁶ and 338 informal consultations of the whole (consultations). In 2012, the Council held a total of 199 meetings and 175 consultations; and in 2013, 193 meetings and 163 consultations. Council members also continued to meet in other informal gatherings such as informal interactive dialogues and Arria formula meetings, following past practice. In the note by the President of 28 August 2013, Council members committed to enhance interaction and dialogue with non-Council members and bodies, through a range of measures, including making more effective use of public meetings, informal interactive dialogues and Arria-formula meetings.⁷ Also, in 2013, the Council revived the practice of holding “wrap-up” discussions on its work at the end of the month.

Figure 1 shows the total number of meetings and informal consultations of the whole held during the five-year period, between 2009 and 2013.

Figure 1: Number of meetings, informal consultations of the whole, 2009-2013



⁶ Resumptions of meetings are not considered as separate meetings.

⁷ [S/2013/515](#).

A. Meetings

1. Application of rules related to meetings

In the note by the President of the Council of 5 June 2012,⁸ in the context of the optimum use of conference resources, Council members agreed that while ensuring the capacity to hold Council meetings at any time and at short notice, in accordance with rules 1 and 2 of its provisional rules of procedure, the members of the Security Council, during their respective presidencies, should ordinarily request the Secretariat to plan not more than four days per week of Council business, reserving Fridays normally to facilitate the work of the subsidiary organs of the Council. No discussion took place concerning the interpretation of rules 1 to 5 either.

Intervals between meetings

During the period under review, there were two instances where the intervals between the meetings of the Council exceeded 14 days, deviating from the provision of rule 1: in one instance, the interval between two meetings was 19 days;⁹ and in another instance, the interval was 21 days.¹⁰ The Council also continued its practice of convening, on occasion, more than one meeting a day. For example, on both 19 December 2012 and 25 April 2013, the Council held five meetings.¹¹

Meetings requested in accordance with rules 2 or 3

During the reporting period, there were no communications from Member States requesting the Council to convene a meeting which explicitly cited rule 2 or 3 as the basis of the request. However, there were a few communications in which Member States made explicit references to Article 35 of the Charter, pursuant to which the President should call a Council meeting if a dispute or situation was brought to the attention of the Council when requesting the Council to convene a meeting, in connection with rule 3¹² (see table 1).

⁸ [S/2012/402](#), para. 2.

⁹ Between the 6699th meeting on 22 December 2011 and the 6700th meeting on 11 January 2012.

¹⁰ Between the 6898th meeting on 20 December 2012 and the 6899th meeting on 11 January 2013.

¹¹ On 19 December 2012, the 6892nd, 6893rd, 6894th, 6895th and 6896th meetings; and on 25 April 2013, the 6950th, 6951st, 6952nd, 6953rd and 6954th meetings.

¹² For details on referrals of situations to the Security Council within the framework of the Charter, see part VI, section I.

Table 1

Sample letters from Member States requesting a meeting in accordance with rule 3 and Article 35 in 2012 and 2013

<i>Letter addressed to the President of the Council</i>	<i>Explicit reference to rule or Article</i>	<i>Summary of meeting request</i>	<i>Meeting convened on basis of the request (agenda item and date)</i>
Letter dated 14 November 2012 from the representative of Egypt (S/2012/840)	Article 35	In accordance with Article 35 of the Charter, requested an urgent meeting of the Security Council to consider the ongoing unlawful Israeli military operation against the Palestinian people, and to assume its responsibilities in maintaining international peace and security by taking all necessary measures to stop this aggression immediately.	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question 6863rd (closed), 14 November 2012
Letter dated 19 November 2012 from the representative of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2012/857)		Requested the Security Council to convene an urgent open meeting to consider the question of the situation in Goma, which had been subjected to continuing attacks by troops of the Rwandan regular army.	The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo 6866th , 20 November 2012
Letter dated 20 November 2012 from the representative of Morocco (S/2012/859)		On behalf of the Arab group, requested an urgent open debate of the Security Council on 20 November 2012 to examine the grave consequences of the ongoing Israeli military attacks against the Palestinian people in Gaza.	No meeting was convened
Letter dated 25 April 2013 from the representative of Jordan (S/2013/247)	Article 35	Recalling...the grave humanitarian “situation” facing Jordan as a result of the influx of Syrian refugees, and invoking Article 35 (1)... requested formally that: The Security Council make a determination that this “situation” constitutes a threat to international peace and security if left unchecked and in the absence of the financial assistance required to enable Jordan to cope; and Jordan be invited to participate in a private meeting of the Security Council;	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question 6957th (closed), 30 April 2013
Letter dated 29 August 2013 from the representative of Democratic Republic of the Congo (S/2013/517)		In light of a the escalation of violence in the North Kivu province of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including the death of a Tanzanian peacekeeper who was part of the MONUSCO Intervention Brigade, calls for an emergency meeting of the Security Council.	No meeting was convened

Periodic meetings and meetings away from headquarters

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.

2. Format

Public meetings

The Council continued to convene public or 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 thematic issues under its consideration; (ii) holding debates on particular agenda items; and (iii) adopting decisions. During the period under review, there were a total of 356 public meetings: 184 in 2012 and 172 in 2013.¹³

High-level meetings

During the review period, the Council held 16 high-level meetings in which five or more Council members were represented at the ministerial or higher levels, 5 on thematic agenda items, and 11 on regional and country-specific agenda items (see table 2).

Table 2
High-level meetings in 2012 and 2013

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>
6702nd , 12 January 2012	Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security	Heads of State and Government (1): South Africa (President) Ministerial level (9): Azerbaijan (Minister for Foreign Affairs), China (Special Envoy for African Affairs); Colombia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister of State responsible for French nationals abroad), Germany (Minister of State), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Portugal (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Togo (Minister, Special Adviser to the President), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Member of the President’s Cabinet)
6710th , 31 January 2012	The situation in the Middle East	Ministerial level (7): France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Minister of State), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Portugal (Minister of State and Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom (Member of Parliament, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)

¹³ For a complete list and records of the Security Council public meetings, see <http://www.un.org/en/sc/meetings/>

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>
6717th , 21 February 2012	Peace and security in Africa	<p>Heads of State and Government (1): Togo (President)</p> <p>Ministerial level (4): France (Minister of State responsible for French nationals abroad), Morocco (Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Russian Federation (Special Envoy of the President on countering terrorism and organized crime), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Member of the President’s Cabinet)</p>
6733rd , 12 March 2012	The situation in Libya	<p>Ministerial level (6) France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Portugal (Minister of State and Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom, (Member of Parliament, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), South Africa (Minister for International Relations and Cooperation)</p>
6734th , 12 March 2012	The situation in the Middle East	<p>Ministerial level (7) France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Portugal (Minister of State and Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), United Kingdom (Member of Parliament, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)</p>
6765th , 4 May 2012	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	<p>Heads of State and Government (1): Azerbaijan (President)</p> <p>Ministerial level (6) Colombia (Vice Minister of Multilateral Affairs), Germany (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Russian Federation (Special Envoy of the President on countering terrorism and organized crime), Togo (Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Member of the President’s Cabinet)</p>
6826th , 30 August 2012	The situation in the Middle East	<p>Ministerial level (6) Colombia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Togo (Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Member of Parliament, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Member of the President’s Cabinet)</p>
6841st , 26 September 2012	The situation in the Middle East	<p>Ministerial level (14) Azerbaijan (Minister for Foreign Affairs), China (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Colombia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Germany (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), India (Minister of State for External Affairs), Morocco (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Pakistan (Foreign Secretary), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), South Africa (Minister for International Relations and Cooperation), Togo (Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Member of Parliament, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)</p>

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>
6882nd , 10 December 2012	Peace and security in Africa	Ministerial level (6) Azerbaijan (Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs), Colombia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Togo (Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Member of Parliament, Special Envoy of the United Kingdom for the Sahel), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Member of the President’s Cabinet)
6900th , 15 January 2013	Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts	Ministerial level (11) Argentina (Under-Secretary for Foreign Affairs), Azerbaijan (Ambassador-at-Large of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs), China (Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs), Luxembourg (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Pakistan (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Special Representative of the President for international cooperation in the fight against terrorism and transnational organized crime), Rwanda (Minister of State in Charge of Cooperation and Permanent Representative to the United Nations), Togo (Minister, Senior Adviser to the President for diplomatic matters and cooperation), United Kingdom (Senior Minister of State), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Member of the President’s Cabinet)
6965th , 13 May 2013	Peace and security in Africa	Heads of State and Government (1): Togo (President) Ministerial level (5) Argentina (Secretary for Foreign Affairs), Luxembourg (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Republic of Korea (Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs), United States (Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Member of the President’s Cabinet)
6984th , 24 June 2013	Women and peace and security	Ministerial level (5) France (Minister for Women’s Rights and Government Spokesperson), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Rwanda (Minister of State in Charge of Cooperation and Permanent Representative to the United Nations), United Kingdom (Member of Parliament, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs)
7011th , 25 July 2013	The situation in the Great Lakes region	Ministerial level (6) France (Deputy Minister for Development), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Luxembourg (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Rwanda (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Togo (Minister, Senior Adviser to the President for diplomatic matters and cooperation), United States (Secretary of State)
7036th , 26 September 2013	Small Arms	Heads of State and Government (1): Guatemala (President) Ministerial level (10): Australia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Azerbaijan (Minister for Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Luxembourg (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Pakistan (Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security), Republic of Korea (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Rwanda (Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), United Kingdom (Deputy Prime Minister), United States (Permanent Representative and Member of the President’s Cabinet)

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>High-level participation</i>
7037th , 27 September 2013	The situation in the Middle East	Ministerial level (10): Argentina (Secretary of Foreign Affairs), Australia (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Azerbaijan (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Luxembourg (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Pakistan (Minister of State, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister on Foreign Affairs), Republic of Korea (Deputy Minister for Multilateral and Global Affairs), United Kingdom (Parliamentary Under Secretary of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office), United States (Permanent Representative and Member of the President's Cabinet)
7038th , 27 September 2013	The situation in the Middle East	Ministerial level (13): Argentina (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Worship), Azerbaijan (Minister for Foreign Affairs), China (Minister of Foreign Affairs), France (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Guatemala (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Luxembourg (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs), Morocco (Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation), Pakistan (Adviser to the Prime Minister on National Security), Republic of Korea (Minister of Foreign Affairs), Russian Federation (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Rwanda (Minister of State in Charge of Cooperation and Permanent Representative to the United Nations), United Kingdom (Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs), United States (Secretary of State)

Private meetings

During the period under review, the Council continued to meet in private, in accordance with rule 48. There were a total of 36 private meetings, or approximately 10% of the total number of meetings. Twenty-seven of the private meetings (or 75%) were meetings with troop-and-police contributing countries, six (17%) were wrap-up sessions, two (5%) considered country-specific situations; and one (3%) consisted of a briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) (see figure 2 and table 3).

Figure 2: Private meetings held in 2012 and 2013

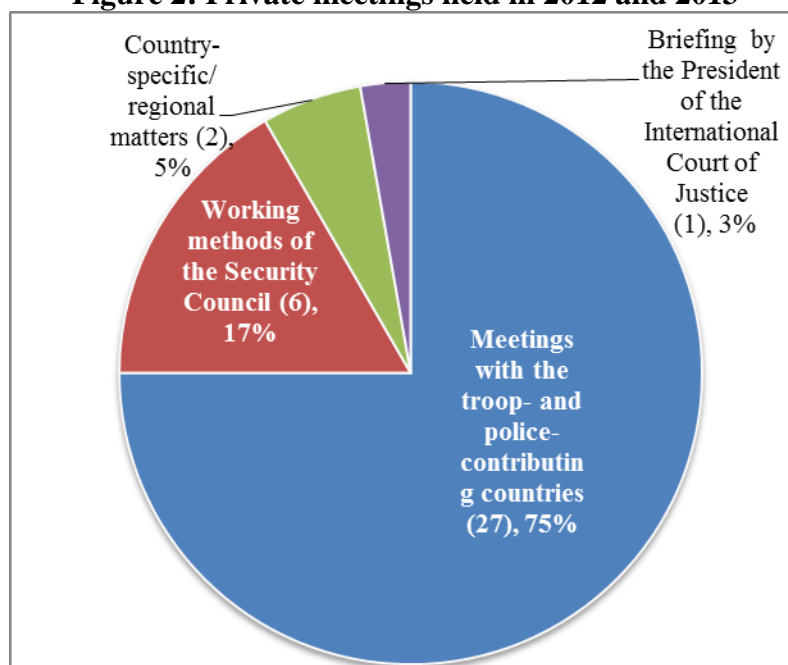


Table 3
Private meetings in 2012 and 2013

<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>
Meetings with troop-and police-contributing countries (27 meetings)	
Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001) , annex II, sections A and B	6714 th , 9 February 2012; 6750 th , 12 April 2012; 6779 th , 6 June 2012; 6787 th , 14 June 2012; 6797 th , 29 June 2012; 6801 st , 5 July 2012; 6802 nd and 6803 rd , 10 July 2012; 6806 th , 18 July 2012; 6821 st , 9 August 2012; 6823 rd , 21 August 2012; 6828 th , 6 September 2012; 6833 rd , 12 September 2012; 6883 rd , 12 December 2012; 6901 st , 16 January 2013; 6923 rd , 21 February 2013; 6931 st , 6 March 2013; 6945 th , 11 April 2013; 6978 th , 13 June 2013; 6989 th , 27 June 2013; 6996 th and 6997 th , 10 July 2013; 7005 th , 18 July 2013; 7018 th , 14 August 2013; 7021 st , 22 August 2013; 7023 rd , 26 August 2013; 7079 th , 10 December 2013
Working methods of the Security Council (six meetings)	
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)	6914 th , 31 January 2013; 6927 th , 28 February 2013; 6958 th , 30 April 2013; 6972 nd , 30 May 2013; 6992 nd , 27 June 2013; 7027 th , 29 August 2013
Country-specific or regional situations (two meetings)	
The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	6863 rd , 14 November 2012
The situation in the Middle East	6957 th , 30 April 2013
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice (one meeting)	
Briefing by the President of the International Court of Justice	7051 st , 28 October 2013

In January 2013, the presidency (Pakistan) of the Council revived the practice of holding “wrap-up” sessions,¹⁴ after a lapse of nearly eight years.¹⁵ Five other Council presidencies continued the practice throughout the year.¹⁶ In 2013, the Council held six such sessions in private under the agenda item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2006/507](#)).” These sessions had previously been held under the agenda item entitled “Wrap-up discussion on the work of the Security Council for the current month.”

¹⁴ [S/PV.6914](#).

¹⁵ Prior to 2013, the last wrap-up session was held at the 5156th meeting (S/PV.5156) of 30 March 2005 under the agenda item titled “Wrap-up discussion on the work of the Security Council for the current month”. Brazil held the presidency of the Council. Also see [S/2005/188](#).

¹⁶ See [S/PV.6927](#), [S/PV.6958](#), [S/PV.6972](#), [S/PV.6992](#) and [S/PV.7027](#).

Discussions on wrap-up sessions took place at the 7052nd meeting on 29 October 2013 (see case 1).

Case 1

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 7052nd meeting on 29 October 2013, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, many speakers welcomed the revival of the practice of the President convening a wrap-up session at the end of their presidency.¹⁷

The representative of Guatemala highlighted that mechanisms such as the wrap-up sessions contributed to the transparency of the work of the Council.¹⁸ The representative of Australia stated that these practices should be institutionalized.¹⁹ Several speakers added that wrap-up sessions should become more interactive, allowing non-Council members to participate.²⁰ The representative of Portugal suggested that these sessions would benefit from being more future-oriented, more concise or else focused on specific issues of relevance and timeliness in the Council;²¹ while the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, speaking on behalf of NAM, argued that they should be limited to the items and issues discussed within the programme of work.²² The representative of Spain opined that these sessions were “like a two – faced Janus, focusing the attention of the Council on the recent past in order to draw lessons for the immediate future”.²³ The representative of Egypt added that wrap-up sessions complemented the briefing by the presidency on the programme of work to the wider membership at the beginning of the month,²⁴ a practice that was also welcomed by several speakers.²⁵

¹⁷ [S/PV.7052](#), p. 2-3 (Argentina); p. 5 (United Kingdom); p. 7 (Guatemala); p. 11 (Rwanda); pp. 11-12 (Republic of Korea); p. 17 (Australia); p. 20 (Switzerland, on behalf of ACT); p. 21 (Portugal); p. 23 -(Brazil); p. 26 (Sweden); p. 28 (Egypt); p. 30 (Estonia); [S/PV.7052 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 5 (Bosnia and Herzegovina); p. 9 (Netherlands and Belgium); p. 10 (Turkey); p. 12 (Spain); p. 18 (Germany); and p. 20 (Maldives).

¹⁸ [S/PV.7052](#), p. 7.

¹⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 17.

²⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 21 (Portugal); p. 23 (Brazil); and p. 26 (Sweden).

²¹ *Ibid.*, p. 21.

²² [S/PV.7052 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 13.

²³ *Ibid.*, p. 12.

²⁴ [S/PV.7052](#), p.28.

²⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 30 (Estonia); p. 12 (Spain); p. 14 (Italy) and p.20 (Maldives).

B. Informal consultations of the whole

Informal consultations of the whole are not official 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: 175 times in 2012 and 163 times in 2013 (see figure 1).

On 5 June 2012, the President of the Security Council issued a note²⁶ encouraging the President of the Council, with the assistance of the Secretariat, to actively promote additional appropriate measures to increase interactivity and efficiency in briefings during informal consultations, including: the use of video teleconferencing for briefing the Council while preserving a balanced approach between video teleconferencing and briefings in person; encouraging briefers to be succinct and inviting the Secretariat to circulate the briefing texts at briefings, in particular, where statements contained extensive or complicated factual information encouraging briefers to circulate written summaries of such information in advance when possible, to allow for a more focused discussions during informal consultations; and minimizing to the extent possible the reading out of lengthy pre-prepared statements in informal consultations of the whole. In the note by the President, Council members encouraged the use of such measures to make it feasible to hold informal consultations on two issues in a three hour session, promoting efficiency in the work of the Council. In the same note, the Council reiterated that Council Members and the Secretariat would continue to use the “any other business” agenda item during informal consultations to raise issues of concern.

Pursuant to the previous practice, no official records of informal consultations were made, and non-Council members were not invited. However, in several instances, press statements were issued by the President of the Council following informal consultations.²⁷

²⁶ [S/2012/402](#), paras. 4-9.

²⁷ For a complete list of press statements issued during the review period, see: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/press/2012.shtml> and <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/press/2013.shtml>

C. Informal gatherings of members of the Security Council

During the period under review, the Council continued to utilize informal interactive dialogues and Arria formula meetings. In practice, informal interactive 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. Informal interactive dialogues and Arria formula meetings are convened at the initiative of a member, or members, of the Council, but neither is considered a meeting of the Council, and no official records are made.

Informal interactive dialogues

During the reporting period, the Council held 16 informal interactive dialogues whereby Council members exchanged views with concerned States and interested parties on situations that affected them directly. Most of the informal interactive dialogues held in 2012 and 2013 concerned country-specific or regional situations. For more details, see table 4.

Table 4
Informal interactive dialogues in 2012 and 2013

<i>Subject and date</i>	<i>Other participants (including non-Council members)</i>	<i>Source</i>
Sudan and South Sudan, 27 February 2012	Former President of South Africa (as Chair of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP); Former President of Burundi and Former President of Nigeria (as members of the AUHIP); Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan (via videoconference); Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Togo dated 6 September 2012 (S/2012/341 , p. 3).
Sudan and South Sudan 17 April 2012	Former President of South Africa (as Chair of the AUHIP (via videoconference); Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan	United Nations Department of Public Information website
Guinea-Bissau 7 May 2012	Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau; Minister of Foreign Affairs of Angola (as Chair of the Community of Portuguese Language Speaking Countries (CPLP)); Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS); President of the Peacebuilding Commission Configuration for Guinea-Bissau; Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)	Council press statement dated 8 May 2012 (SC/10640); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2011-31 July 2012 (A/67/2 , p. 8)

Guinea-Bissau 5 June 2012	Former Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau; Angola (as Chair of the CPLP); Brazil (as Chair of the Guinea-Bissau Configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission); Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of ECOWAS); Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs; Permanent Observer of the African Union (AU) to the United Nations	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of China dated 29 August 2012 (S/2012/628, p. 14); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2011-31 July 2012 (A/67/2 , p. 47)
Syria 7 June 2012	Secretary-General of the League of Arab States; Joint AU-UN Special Envoy; Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of China dated 29 August 2012 (S/2012/628, p. 14); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2011-31 July 2012 (A/67/2 , p. 47)
Mali 15 June 2012	Ministers of Foreign Affairs of Benin and Burkina Faso; Minister of Defence of Côte d'Ivoire; Minister Delegate of Foreign Affairs of Nigeria; Mali; Niger; President of the ECOWAS Commission	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of China dated 29 August 2012 (S/2012/628, p. 14); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2011-31 July 2012 (A/67/2 , p. 47)
Post-conflict peacebuilding 13 July 2012	Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC); Under Secretary-General for Political Affairs; Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; Luxembourg (as Chair of Guinea Configuration); Canada (Chair of Sierra Leone Configuration); Sweden (as Chair of Liberia Configuration); Brazil (as Chair of Guinea Bissau Configuration); Switzerland (as Chair of Burundi Configuration); Japan (as Chair of the Working group on Lessons Learned), Guinea; Officer-in-Charge of the Peacebuilding Support Office	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Colombia dated 17 October 2012 (S/2012/629, pp. 15-16); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2011-31 July 2012 (A/67/2 , p. 48)
Sudan and South Sudan 9 August 2012	Former President of South Africa and Chairperson of the AUHIP (via videoconference); Special Envoy for the Sudan and South Sudan (via videoconference)	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the Presidency of France dated 19 December 2012 (S/2012/953, p. 4); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2012-31 July 2013 (A/68/2 , p. 29)
Democratic Republic of the Congo 29 August 2012	Minister of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Rwanda	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the Presidency of France dated 19 December 2012 (S/2012/953, p. 3); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2012-31 July 2013 (A/68/2, p. 15)
Democratic Republic of the Congo 29 August 2012	Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the Presidency of France dated 19 December 2012 (S/2012/953, p. 3); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2012-31 July 2013 (A/68/2, p. 15)

Afghanistan 26 November 2012	Chairman of the High Peace Council of Afghanistan	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of India dated 20 December 2012 (S/2012/957, p. 14)
Sudan and South Sudan 27 March 2013	Former President of South Africa (as Chair of the AUHIP); Former President of Nigeria (as member of the AUHIP)	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of the Russian Federation (S/2013/380, p. 6); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2012-31 July 2013 (A/68/2, p. 33)
Post-conflict peacebuilding 26 April 2013	Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission; Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support; Switzerland (as Chair of Burundi Configuration); Brazil (as Chair of Guinea-Bissau Configuration); Luxembourg (as Chair of Guinea Configuration); Japan (as Chair of the PBC Working Group on Lessons Learned); Canada (as Chair of Sierra Leone Guinea Configuration); Sweden (as Chair of Liberia Configuration); Liberia	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Rwanda (S/2013/382, p. 21); Annual Report of the Security Council to the General Assembly, 1 August 2012-31 July 2013 (A/68/2, p. 63)
Libya/International Criminal Court (ICC) 7 May 2013	Prosecutor of the ICC; Head of Jurisdiction, Complementary and Cooperation; International Cooperation Adviser in the ICC Office of the Prosecutor	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Togo (S/2013/481, p. 4)
Kenya/ICC 23 May 2013	Kenya	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Togo (S/2013/481, p. 20)
Kenya/ICC 31 October 2013	Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ethiopia (as Chair of the Executive Council of the African Union, on behalf of the Contact Group on the ICC); Ministers for Foreign Affairs of Kenya, Senegal and Uganda; Minister of Presidential Affairs of Namibia; Burundi; Mauritania; African Union (Deputy Legal Council)	Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of Azerbaijan (S/2013/770, p. 22)

“Arria formula” meetings

In accordance with note [S/2010/507](#), “Arria formula” meetings are a flexible and informal forum utilized by Council members to enhance their deliberations and their contact with civil society and non-governmental organizations. Council members may invite on an informal basis any Member State, relevant organization or individual to participate in “Arria formula” informal meetings. Lacking official records, see examples of “Arria formula” meetings held during the reporting period in table 5.

Table 5
Samples of Arria formula meetings in 2012 and 2013

<i>Date</i>	<i>Subject</i>	<i>Organiser(s)</i>	<i>Other participants (including non-Council members)</i>
8 March 2012	Women’s role in mediation and conflict resolution	Portugal; United Kingdom	State Minister for Water Resources of Uganda; United Nations Special Adviser on Yemen; President of the Aceh Women’s League

30 May 2012	Peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution: Mediation, judicial settlement and justice	Azerbaijan	Malcolm Shaw, Senior Fellow at Lauterpacht Centre for International Law at University of Cambridge; Elise Keppeler, Senior Counsel for International Justice Program of the Human Rights Watch
22 June 2012	Lord's Resistance Army	Portugal; United Kingdom	SRSG and Head of the United Nations Office for Central Africa; Angélique Namaika, Mama Bongisa Center for Reintegration and Development (CRAD), Dundo, DRC; Benoit Kinalegu, Dundo-Doruma Diocesan Commission for Justice and peace (CDJP), Dundo, DRC; and Michael Poffenberger, Executive Director, Resolve.
9 July 2012	Children and armed conflict, with a focus on accountability for persistent perpetrators	France; Germany	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict; Cecile Aptel, Professor at Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy; Bijaya Sainju, representative of NGO from Nepal
12 October 2012	Syria	Portugal	Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights; Paulo Pinheiro, Chair, and Karen AbuZayd of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on Syria established by the Human Rights Council;
17 May 2013	Women and peace and security: gender practitioners deployed with United Nations peacekeeping operations	Australia; Guatemala	Under Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; UNMISS gender protection adviser; MONUSCO senior gender adviser; MINUSTAH police adviser
26 July 2013	The situation in the Middle East: Syrian National Coalition (SNC)	United Kingdom	Ahmad Jarba, head of the SNC; Najid Ghadbian, SNC representative to the United States; and other SNC representatives
1 November 2013	The situation in the Central African Republic : human rights and humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic	France; Rwanda	Special Adviser of the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide; UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; ASG for Human Rights; Brigitte Balipou, legal expert from the Central African Republic

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.²⁸

Discussions relating to format of meetings and informal gatherings of members of the Council took place during the two debates on the working methods of the Council.²⁹ Case 2

²⁸ The meetings were held on 13 June 2012 (New York) and on 8 October 2013 (Addis Ababa).

²⁹ The 6870th meeting on 26 November 2012 ([S/PV.6870](#)) and 7052nd meeting on 29 October 2013 ([S/PV.7052](#)).

features discussions held on the format of meetings and informal gatherings during one of these debates.

Case 2

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 6870th meeting, held on 26 November 2012 under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, meetings and other informal gatherings of members of the Council were discussed.

Many speakers welcomed the increase in public meetings, including open debates.³⁰ The representative of the United States highlighted that in 2012, less than 10 per cent of the meetings of the Council were private meetings compared with almost 30 per cent in 2002.³¹ The representative of Egypt stated that public meetings, including briefings and debates, should take into account the contributions of non-Council members, particularly those directly affected by the decisions of the Council.³² Some speakers were of the opinion that the use of private meetings and consultations should be minimized.³³ The representative of Pakistan explicitly cited rule 48 when stating that closed consultations should be kept to a minimum,³⁴ while the representative of the Russian Federation underlined the importance of consultations.³⁵

Many speakers also welcomed the increase in the use of Arria formula meetings³⁶ and informal interactive dialogues.³⁷ The representative of South Africa noted that the use of the

³⁰ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 5 (Colombia); p. 6 (Russian Federation); p. 7 (Azerbaijan); p. 7 (Germany); p. 9 (United Kingdom); p. 10 (Pakistan); p. 12 (Togo); p. 14 (Morocco); p. 16 (South Africa); p. 18 (Guatemala); p. 32 (Iran, Islamic Republic of, on behalf of NAM); [S/PV.6870, \(Resumption 1\)](#) p. 6 (Netherlands, also on behalf of Belgium); and p. 12 (Cuba).

³¹ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 19.

³² *Ibid.*, p. 29.

³³ *Ibid.*, p. 29 (Egypt); [S/PV.6870, \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 12 (Cuba).

³⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 11.

³⁵ *Ibid.*, p. 6.

³⁶ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 3 (Portugal); p. 6 (Russian Federation); p. 7 (Azerbaijan); p. 7 (Germany); p. 9 (United Kingdom); p. 10 (China); p. 11 (Pakistan); p. 13 (Togo); p. 15 (France); p. 19 (United States); p. 24 (New Zealand); p. 25 (Argentina); p. 25 (Luxembourg); p. 32 (Iran (Islamic Republic of) on behalf of NAM); [S/PV.6870, \(Resumption 1\)](#) p. 4 (Republic of Korea); p. 6 (Netherlands, also on behalf of Belgium); and p. 8 (Slovenia).

³⁷ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 3 (Portugal); p. 7 (Azerbaijan); p. 9 (United Kingdom); p. 10 (China); p. 11 (Pakistan); p. 13 (Togo); p. 16 (South Africa); p. 21 (Brazil); p. 24 (New Zealand); p. 25 (Luxembourg); p. 26 (Japan); [S/PV.6870, \(Resumption 1\)](#) p. 3 (Republic of Korea); p. 6 (Netherlands, also on behalf of Belgium); and p. 9 (Senegal).

informal interactive dialogue format had allowed the Council to interact informally with individual Member States, the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and subregional and regional organizations.³⁸ The representative of Luxembourg opined that such dialogues were useful insofar as adequate follow-up was ensured, and hoped that non-Council members that were in a position to bring added value would be invited to participate in consultations of the Council.³⁹

Regarding Arria formula meetings, the representative of the United States highlighted their importance as a tool for the Council to hear the views of interested Member States and of civil society.⁴⁰ The representative of Luxembourg underscored that the insights and field experience from civil society and NGOs could be relevant for the deliberations of the Council.⁴¹ The representative of New Zealand added that their use should be commonplace.⁴²

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. However, at the 6870th meeting on 26 November 2012, the representative of Egypt indicated that private meetings and informal consultations should have written records, which in turn, should be publicly available, at least after a certain period of time, for the sake of transparency and as a historical record for the benefit of future generations.⁴³

³⁸ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 16.

³⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 25-26.

⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 19.

⁴¹ *Ibid.*, p. 25.

⁴² *Ibid.*, p. 25.

⁴³ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 29.

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

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 and 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, no materials were found relating to rules 6, 7, 8 and 12.

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.

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

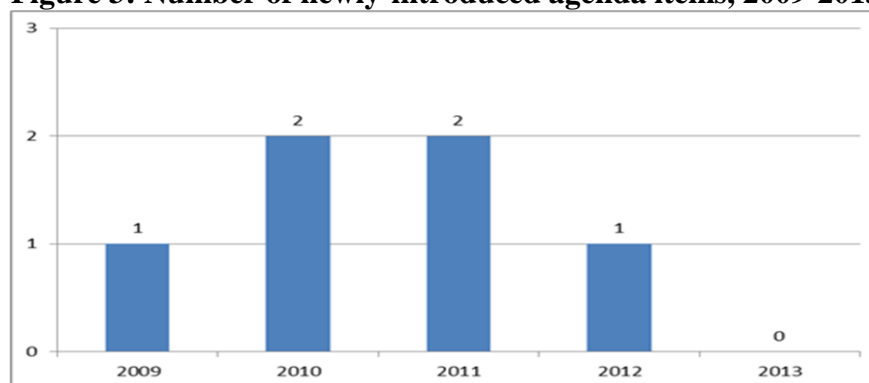
motions raised, or discussions held, on the substance of items inscribed on the provisional agenda.

Newly introduced agenda items

During the period under review, the Council added one new item to its agenda. At the 6898th meeting on 20 December 2012, “The situation in Mali” was introduced to the agenda of the Council.⁴⁴ The earlier consideration by the Council of issues pertaining to Mali was under the agenda item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”.

Since 2008-2009, the number of newly-introduced agenda items continued to be extremely small, remaining at a minimum of 0 and a maximum of 2 new items per year (see figure 3); whereas in the decade between 1997 and 2007, the Council had added a minimum of 8 and a maximum of 23 new agenda items each year. The decline in new agenda items could partly be explained by the modification of existing regional/country-specific agenda items and the use of new sub-items.

Figure 3: Number of newly-introduced agenda items, 2009-2013



Modification of agenda item

Pursuant to the note by the President of the Security Council dated 11 November 2013,⁴⁵ as from that date, the wording of the item “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan” was revised to read “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”. From 11 November 2013 onwards, the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur

⁴⁴ [S/PV.6898](#). See also, [S/2012/961](#).

⁴⁵ [S/2013/657](#).

(UNAMID), the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA), the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and Council resolution [2046 \(2012\)](#) would be considered under the agenda item entitled “Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan.” The 7062nd meeting, on 18 November 2013, was the first meeting under the item.⁴⁶

Utilization of existing regional items for country-specific discussions

During the period under review, the Council continued the practice of utilizing agenda items of a regional nature to discuss several evolving country-specific situations. For example, as of the 6723rd meeting of 27 February 2012, the Council considered the issue of piracy in the Gulf of Guinea under the item entitled “Peace consolidation in West Africa”,⁴⁷ while also continuing to utilize the item to discuss the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA). Similarly, during the reporting period, the Council continued to consider the situations in Syria and Yemen under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East”.

Utilization of existing items with addition of new sub-items

During the period under review, the Council continued its recent practice of utilizing existing agenda items, at times with the addition of new sub-items, to discuss evolving general and cross-border threats to peace and security. For example, under the existing thematic item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”, in two different instances new sub-items were added, as reflected in table 6.

Table 6
New sub-items added in 2012-2013

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>New sub-item</i>
25 April 2012	Threats to international peace and security	Securing borders against illicit cross-border trafficking and movement
19 November 2012	Maintenance of international peace and security	Piracy
10 December 2012	Peace and security in Africa	The Sahel: Towards a more comprehensive and coordinated approach
13 May 2013	Peace and security in Africa	The challenges of the fight against terrorism in Africa in the context of maintaining international peace and security

⁴⁶ [S/PV.7062](#).

⁴⁷ [S/PV.6723](#).

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

During the period under review, pursuant to rule 11 of the provisional rules of procedure and in accordance with the note by the President dated 26 July 2010,⁴⁸ 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.

In 2012, the Council considered at its meetings a total of 47 agenda items, 25 dealing with country-specific and regional situations; and 22 with thematic and other issues. In 2013, the Council considered at its meetings a total of 46 agenda items, 25 dealing with country-specific and regional situations; and 21 with thematic and other issues.⁴⁹ In 2012 and 2013, following deletion of several items, the Council remained seized of 80 agenda items and 77 agenda items respectively.⁵⁰ For the breakdown of items by year, see table 7.

⁴⁸ [S/2010/507](#).

⁴⁹ [S/2013/10](#); [S/2014/10](#); [S/INF/67](#); [S/INF/68](#); [S/INF/69](#).

⁵⁰ Seven agenda items were deleted in 2012 ([S/2012/10/Add.9](#)) and 4 agenda items in 2013 ([S/2013/10/Add.9](#)) from the seizure list. For additional details, see table 8.

Table 7
Agenda items considered at meetings in 2012 and 2013

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	
	2012	2013
Country-specific and regional situations		
Africa		
Central African region	•	•
Peace and security in Africa	•	•
Peace consolidation in West Africa	•	•
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	•	
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan		•
The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	•	•
The situation concerning Western Sahara	•	•
The situation in Burundi	•	•
The situation in Côte d'Ivoire	•	•
The situation in Guinea-Bissau	•	•
The situation in Liberia	•	•
The situation in Libya	•	•
The situation in Mali	•	•
The situation in Sierra Leone	•	•
The situation in Somalia	•	•
The situation in the Central African Republic	•	•
The situation in the Great Lakes region		•
Americas		
The question concerning Haiti	•	•
Asia		
The situation in Afghanistan	•	•
The situation in Timor-Leste	•	
Europe		
Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998) , 1199 (1998) , 1203 (1998) , 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)	•	•
The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	•	•
The situation in Cyprus	•	•
Middle East		
The situation concerning Iraq	•	•
The situation between Iraq and Kuwait		•
The situation in the Middle East	•	•
The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	•	•
<i>Total agenda items concerning country-specific and regional situations</i>	25 items	25 items
Thematic and other issues		
Briefing by the Chairman-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe	•	•
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	•	•

<i>Item</i>	<i>Year</i>	
	<i>2012</i>	<i>2013</i>
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		
Maintenance of international peace and security	•	•
Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001) , annex II, sections A and B	•	•
Non-proliferation	•	•
Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea	•	•
Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction	•	
Post-conflict peacebuilding	•	•
Protection of civilians in armed conflict	•	•
Security Council mission	•	•
Small arms		•
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 thematic issues</i>	20 items	19 items
Other matters		
Consideration of the draft report of the Security Council to the General Assembly	•	•
Election of members of the International Court of Justice ⁵¹	•	
Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)	•	•
<i>Subtotal</i>	2 items	2 items
<i>Total agenda items discussed per year</i>	47 items	46 items

Deletion and retention of the agenda

In accordance with rule 11 and the note by the President of 26 July 2010,⁵² the Council continued the practice of reviewing the summary statement in January of each year in order to identify items which had not been considered in the preceding three years for deletion. These items are deleted unless a Member State notifies the Secretary-General of its wish to have the item retained on the list by the end of February. In that case, such item would remain on the list for one year and be subject to the above-mentioned deletion procedure in the following year.

⁵¹ 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.

⁵² [S/2010/507](#).

In 2012, seven out of 31 items that had been identified for deletion in January were deleted in March, while the remaining items were retained for one additional year at the request of Member States.⁵³ In 2013, four out of 29 items which had been identified for deletion in January were deleted through the same procedure in March, while the remaining items were retained for one additional year at the request of Member States (see table 8).⁵⁴

However, the deletion of an item does not imply that such an item cannot be taken up by the Security Council as and when it deems necessary in the future. For example, at its 7036th meeting on 26 September 2013, the Council re-introduced the agenda item entitled “Small arms” which had been deleted from the summary statement in 2012.

⁵³ [S/2012/10/Add.9.](#)

⁵⁴ [S/2013/10/Add.9.](#)

Table 8
Items proposed for deletion from the summary statement in 2012 and 2013

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2012</i>	<i>Status in March 2012</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2013</i>	<i>Status in March 2013</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 Sudan	21 February 1958; 21 February 1958	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 11 July 1960 from Cuba	18 July 1960; 5 January 1961	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 31 December 1960 from Cuba	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 Algeria, Iraq, the Libyan Arab Republic and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen	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 Tunisia	2 October 1985; 4 October 1985	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 4 February 1986 from the Syrian Arab Republic	4 February 1986; 6 February 1986	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 15 April 1986 from the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	15 April 1986; 24 April 1986	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 15 April 1986 Burkina Faso					
Letter dated 15 April 1986 the Syrian Arab Republic					
Letter dated 15 April 1986 Oman					
Letter dated 19 April 1988 from Tunisia	21 April 1988; 25 April 1988	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 2 February 1990 from Cuba	9 February 1990; 9 February 1990	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation between Iraq and Kuwait	2 August 1990; 11 April 2005	●	Retained	●	Retained
The situation in Georgia	8 October 1992; 15 June 2009	-	-	●	Retained
Complaint by Ukraine regarding the decree of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation concerning Sevastopol	20 July 1993; 20 July 1993	●	Retained	●	Deleted
The situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia	26 June 1998; 30 July 2008	●	Deleted		
Small arms	24 September 1999; 30 April 2008	●	Deleted		

<i>Item</i>	<i>Date of first and last consideration</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2012</i>	<i>Status in March 2012</i>	<i>Proposed for deletion in 2013</i>	<i>Status in March 2013</i>
Protection of United Nations personnel, associated personnel and humanitarian personnel in conflict zones	9 February 2000; 26 August 2003	●	Retained	●	Deleted
General issues relating to sanctions	17 April 2000; 21 December 2006	●	Retained	●	Retained
Kimberley Process Certification Scheme	28 January 2003; 28 January 2003	●	Deleted		
Briefing by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	10 November 2000; 8 January 2009	-	-	●	Retained
Letter dated 5 October 2003 from the Syrian Arab Republic (S/2003/939)	5 October 2003; 5 October 2003	●	Retained	●	Retained
Letter dated 5 October 2003 from Lebanon (S/2003/943)					
The situation in Chad and the Sudan	25 April 2006; 3 December 2008	●	Deleted		
Briefing by the Chairman of the African Union	31 May 2006; 31 May 2006	●	Deleted		
Letter dated 5 April 2007 from the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (S/2007/186)	17 April 2007; 17 April 2007	●	Deleted		
Briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	6 December 2007; 25 February 2008	●	Deleted		
The situation in Myanmar	15 September 2006; 13 July 2009			●	Retained
Maintenance of international peace and security: role of the Security Council in supporting security sector reform	20 February 2007; 12 May 2008			●	Deleted
Letter dated 22 September 2009 from Brazil (S/2009/487)	25 September 2009; 25 September 2009			●	Deleted

C. Discussions concerning the agenda

Discussions relating to the agenda, in particular on matters of which the Security Council is seized, took place during the two debates on the working methods of the Council.⁵⁵ Case study 3 features the discussions held on the introduction of new items on the formal agenda of the Council during one of these debates. Also, during the period under review, in one instance, at the 6757th meeting on 23 April 2012 on the agenda item entitled ‘The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question’, the Council discussed the question of Syria in the context of a briefing by the Secretariat and the ensuing debate. The subsequent case study (case 4) features the discussions held on the deviation from the agenda at hand.

Case 3

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 6870th meeting, on 26 November 2012 under the agenda item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, the representative of the United Kingdom indicated that not a single new item had been introduced on the formal agenda in the past 18 months and added that it was “bizarre” that the list of items of which the Council was seized included one regional issue that had not been discussed since 1949 but that the list did not include Syria or Yemen, both of which had been major Council preoccupations during 2012.⁵⁶ The representative of India opined that the Council should amend its procedures so that items did not permanently remain on its agenda.⁵⁷

Case 4

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

At the 6757th meeting, on 23 April 2012, under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”, the representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran, acknowledging that the situation in Syria was not relevant to the agenda item at hand, noted

⁵⁵ The 6870th meeting on 26 November 2012 ([S/PV.6870](#)), and the 7052nd meeting on 29 October 2013 ([S/PV.7052](#)).

⁵⁶ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 9.

⁵⁷ *Ibid.*, p. 20. The representative of India made the same point at the 7052nd meeting ([S/PV.7052](#), p. 23).

that since some delegations had touched upon the issue, he would also speak of the developments in Syria.⁵⁸

The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic addressed the treatment of the agenda item stating that the representative of the Secretariat did not understand “the very essence” of the item on the agenda of that day, given that the latter had begun his briefing referring to the situation in Syria under the agenda item intended to deal with the Palestinian question. The representative of the Syrian Arab Republic further stated his concern over the deliberate attempts made by a number of delegations to divert the general discussion of the situation in the Middle East from the original aim for which the agenda item was first established. He regretted that the Under-Secretary-General had also chosen to begin his briefing by referring to the situation in Syria instead of the actual agenda item “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question” and further regretted that a number of Arab delegations had also “fallen into the trap” of addressing other issues, thus taking part in the altering and undermining of the agenda item.⁵⁹

⁵⁸ [S/PV.6757, \(Resumption 1\)](#), p.21.

⁵⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 24.

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 reports were transmitted to the Council when there were changes in the representation of members of the Council,⁶⁰ as well as when representatives of the newly elected non-permanent members of the Council were designated prior to the beginning of each term.⁶¹ No discussions or special cases arose during the period under review regarding the interpretation and application of rules 13 to 17.

⁶⁰ See for example, [S/2012/152](#), [S/2012/290](#), [S/2012/602](#), [S/2013/235](#), [S/2013/504](#), and [S/2013/584](#).

⁶¹ 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 2012 to 2013 and 2013 to 2014, see [S/2011/777](#) and [S/2012/951](#), respectively.

IV. Presidency

Note

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning the monthly rotation of the presidency, role of the President, and temporary cessation of the chair by the President during the consideration of a particular question with which the Member State 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.

Role of the President of the Security Council (rules 18 and 19)

During the period under review, in accordance with rule 18, the presidency of the Council was held in turn by the members of the Council in the English alphabetical order, on a monthly basis. The President of the Council, in addition to presiding over meetings of the Council, informal consultations of the whole and informal interactive dialogues, continued to perform several functions under the authority of the Council, in accordance with rule 19. These included: (i) briefing non-Council members and the media 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;⁶² and (iii) delivering statements or remarks to the press, following informal consultations of the whole or whenever Council members reached an agreement on the text. Representatives of Council members, in their national capacities, continued to submit monthly assessments⁶³ providing as much information as possible on the main aspects of the work of the Council during their respective presidencies, following their completion.⁶⁴

Increasingly, during their respective presidency, Council members have taken the initiative to bring to the attention of the Council emerging general and cross-border threats to peace and security, at times adding new sub-items to existing thematic agenda items with a view to refining the approach. In several such instances, to frame the discussion, concept papers prepared by the presidency have been circulated in advance of the meetings, with relatively high-level participation.⁶⁵

Following previous practice, in accordance with the note by the President of 26 July 2010,⁶⁶ Council members that held the presidency during the months of July 2012 and July 2013 continued to prepare the introduction to the annual report of the Council to the General

⁶² For example, at the 56th plenary meeting of the 68th session of the General Assembly, on 21 November 2013, the President of the Council for the month of November (China) introduced the annual report of the Council to the General Assembly covering the period from 1 August 2012 to 31 July 2013 ([A/68/2](#)).

⁶³ [S/2012/922](#), paras. 13-15; [S/2013/515](#), para 2 (i).

⁶⁴ 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/67/2](#), p. 104; [A/68/2](#), p. 117; and [A/69/2](#), p. 123).

⁶⁵ For example, see the records of the 6717th meeting on 21 February 2012 ([S/PV.6717](#)) and of the 7036th meeting on 26 September 2013 ([S/PV.7036](#)).

⁶⁶ [S/2010/507](#), para. 71 (a).

Assembly. To this end, the presidency for the two months continued the practice and convened informal meetings with Member States to exchange views on the annual report, a practice initiated in 2008.⁶⁷

⁶⁷ For details, see [S/PV.6856](#) and [S/PV.7053](#).

V. Secretariat

Note

The present section covers the practice of the Security Council concerning the 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.⁶⁸

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

⁶⁸ 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.

urgent circumstances, distribute them at least forty-eight hours in advance of the meeting at which they are to be considered.

Functions of the Secretariat in connection with meetings (rules 21 to 26)

During the period under review, the Secretary-General and senior officials of the Secretariat continued to attend Council meetings and to provide briefings to the Council as requested. The Secretariat also assisted in the organization of Council meetings and informal consultations, including the preparation and dissemination of documents. Also, on 4 October 2012, the Secretariat launched a re-designed and improved Security Council website, simplifying public access to information about the Council and its work (see case 5).

Several notes by the President of the Council, adopted during the reporting period, covered various aspects of the administrative functions of the Secretariat. For example, the note by the President of the Council of 5 June 2012⁶⁹ stated that Council members should ordinarily request the Secretariat to plan not more than four days per week of Council business, with Fridays normally being reallocated to facilitate the work of the subsidiary organs of the Council. By the same note, the Council invited the Secretariat to follow the practice of circulating the texts of briefings and, in particular, where their statements contained extensive or complicated information, whenever possible in advance, to allow for a more focused discussion during informal consultations. Also, on matter of consultations between the Council and troop- and police- contributing countries, by the note by the President of the Council of 28 October 2013,⁷⁰ Council members encouraged the Secretariat to make the broadest possible call for contributions prior to the constitution of a peacekeeping operation, and to provide potential contributors with all necessary information in order to facilitate their decision-making regarding participation in the operation.

The question of the various aspects of the functions of the Secretariat, including those concerning briefings by the Secretariat at meetings, was raised at the debates concerning the working methods of the Council (case 6).

⁶⁹ [S/2012/402](#), paras. 2 and 6.

⁷⁰ [S/2013/630](#), para. 1.

Case 5

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 6870th meeting on 26 November 2012, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, many speakers commended the work of the Secretariat in revamping the website of the Council and in increasing the availability of information and updated documents.⁷¹ The representative of China cited the revamped official website of the Security Council as an example of how, with the assistance of the Secretariat, various information and communication technologies had been extensively applied to the work of the Council.⁷² The representative of Pakistan also praised the efforts by the Secretariat to enhance the availability of information and data, including through the website of the Council.⁷³ The representatives of Morocco and France also noted with satisfaction the efforts of the Secretariat, in particular, with regard to setting up the Council website in the six official languages.⁷⁴

Case 6

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 7052nd meeting on 29 October 2013, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, the representative of Egypt stated that issues to be covered at any briefing by the Secretariat should be determined in coordination with the concerned State and after the approval by all members of the Security Council.⁷⁵

On the topic of “horizon-scanning” briefings provided by the Department of Political Affairs in informal consultations on situations of emerging concern, the representative of

⁷¹ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 15 (France); p. 16 (South Africa); p. 22 (Brazil); p. 26 (Japan);

⁷² *Ibid.*, p. 10.

⁷³ *Ibid.*, p. 11.

⁷⁴ *Ibid.*, p. 14 (Morocco); p. 15 (France).

⁷⁵ [S/PV.7052](#), p. 28.

Luxembourg expressed her conviction that greater recourse to such briefings provided by the Department of Political Affairs would make it possible for the Council to more resolutely take a preventive approach.⁷⁶ Several other speakers welcomed “horizon-scanning” briefings.⁷⁷ The representative of the United Kingdom added that the Council should take full advantage of mechanisms such as “horizon-scanning” briefings to exercise a preventative function.⁷⁸ The representative of Australia added that he saw great benefit in the Council receiving “horizon-scanning” briefings from the Department of Political Affairs, while regretting that the one held under the presidency of Australia in September 2013 was only the second one that had taken place that year.⁷⁹ The representative of Belgium encouraged the Council to hold “horizon-scanning” meetings on a regular basis, as an integral part of efforts with regard to preventive diplomacy.⁸⁰ The representative of Turkey also welcomed the “horizon-scanning” briefings by the Secretariat and expressed his hope to see such meetings in all upcoming programmes of work of the Council.⁸¹ However, the representative of the Russian Federation warned against confusing “horizon-scanning” briefings leading to the consideration by the Council of topical questions not on its agenda that concerned specific members. Adding that “horizon-scanning” had evolved into provisional discussions of issues that Council members planned to discuss at a later time or that were beyond the purview of the Council, he noted that when the programme of work of the Council was extremely busy, “horizon-scanning” briefings became unnecessary.⁸²

⁷⁶ [Ibid.](#), p. 4.

⁷⁷ [Ibid.](#), p. 5 (United Kingdom); p.20 (Switzerland, on behalf of ACT); [S/PV.7052 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 12 (Spain).

⁷⁸ [S/PV.7052](#), p. 6.

⁷⁹ [Ibid.](#), p. 16.

⁸⁰ [S/PV.7052 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 9.

⁸¹ [Ibid.](#), p. 10.

⁸² [S/PV.7052](#), p. 14

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. There was no material related to rules 30 and 33 during the review period.

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.

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 and work. For example, in accordance with the note by the President dated 19 July 2006,⁸³ the President frequently requested speakers to limit their statements usually to four minutes, to circulate the full text of their statements in the Council chamber and to deliver a condensed version when speaking in the Council chamber.⁸⁴ For instance, at the 6983rd meeting on 20 June 2013, under the item entitled “The situation in Afghanistan”, following a request by the President to all speakers to limit their statements to no more than four minutes, the representative of Canada distributed the full statement and limited his speech to a few key points of the statement.⁸⁵ In other meetings too, speakers delivered a brief version of their statements without a request by the President.⁸⁶

With regards to open debates, the note by the President dated 12 December 2012⁸⁷ stated that it was the understanding of Council members that open debates could benefit from the contributions of both Council members and the wider membership; and decided that the dates of open debates should be announced with sufficient time to allow for adequate preparation by all participants.

With regards to ensuring more efficient use of meeting time and allowing more time for consideration of emerging situations that were not on its agenda, the Council made progress with clustering similar issues together and spreading out more evenly mandate renewals and reporting requirements.⁸⁸ More specifically, with regards to efficient use of time in briefings, the note by

⁸³ [S/2006/507](#), para. 27.

⁸⁴ For example, see the statement by the President at the 6705th meeting, on 19 January 2012 ([S/PV.6705](#), p. 22).

⁸⁵ [S/PV.6983](#), p. 29

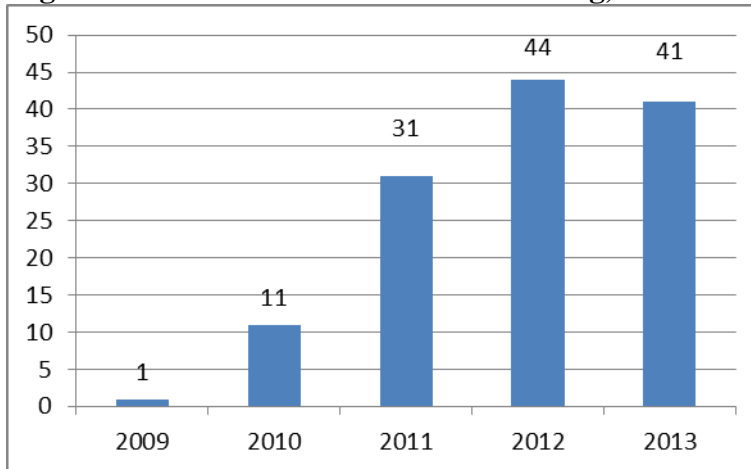
⁸⁶ For example, at the 6767th meeting on 10 May 2012 and 6862nd, meeting on 14 November 2012, under the item entitled “Briefings by Chairman of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council”, respectively, several speakers distributed the full statement to the members of the Council, and delivered a summarized version: [S/PV.6767](#), p. 2 (Germany, on behalf of the Chairs of the three subsidiary bodies of the Security Council established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004)); p. 3 (Chair of the Al-Qaida Sanctions Committee); [S/PV. 6862](#), p. 2 (President, on behalf of the Chairs of three subsidiary bodies of the Security Council established pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011), 1373 (2001) and 1540 (2004)); p. 8 (Chair of the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011)).

⁸⁷ [S/2012/922](#), paras. 3 and 4.

⁸⁸ [S/2012/625](#), p. 14.

the President dated 5 June 2012⁸⁹ encouraged briefers to be succinct, focus on key themes and circulate written summaries of complicated factual information. Expressing its intention to resort more often to the use of video teleconferencing (VTC) for briefings from the field while maintaining a balance between VTC and live briefings, the Council significantly increased its use of VTC from one in 2009 to 44 and 41 times in 2012 and 2013, respectively.

Figure 4: Number of video teleconferencing, 2009-2013



⁸⁹ S/2012/402, paras. 4-6.

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, the Council continued to invite non-members to participate in its meetings. These invitations were extended by the President at the beginning or during Council meetings either under the “relevant provisions” of the Charter without an explicit reference to a specific Article or 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.

While Member States requested invitations in letters addressed to the President of the Council, in most cases these were not issued as official documents of the Council.

This section is divided into four sub-sections: A. Invitations extended under rule 37; B. Invitations extended under rule 39; 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);⁹⁰ (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. On 12 December 2012, the Council adopted a note by the President in which members of the Council committed to, by consensus on a case-by-case basis and when they considered it appropriate, for certain open debates, to invite non-members to alternate their interventions with those of Council

⁹⁰ For more details on referral of a dispute or situation to the Council by States, see part VI, section I.

members. In such situations, those Council members who wished to do so would give up their slot on the speakers' list to non-members.⁹¹

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.⁹²

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.

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.⁹³

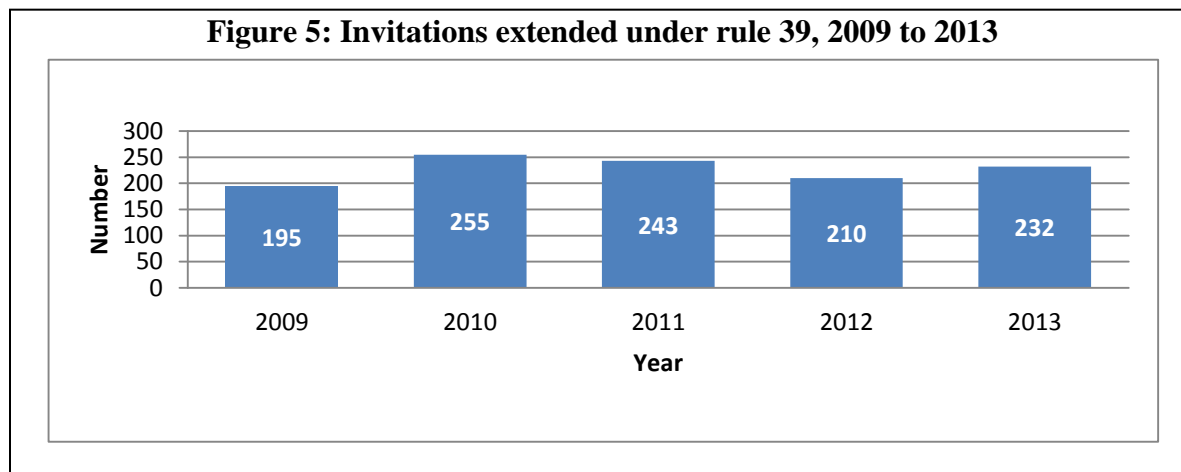
Invitations under rule 39

During the period under review, a total of 442 invitations were extended under rule 39, with 210 in 2012 and 232 in 2013 (see figure 5).

⁹¹ [S/2012/922](#), para. 5.

⁹² For example, at the 6706th meeting, on 24 January 2012, the representative of Egypt, invited under rule 37, spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement ([S/PV.6706](#), p. 29). At the 6917th meeting, on 12 February 2013, the representative of Switzerland spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of the Protection of Civilians ([S/PV.6917 \(Resumption 1\)](#), pp. 11-13).

⁹³ For example, at the 6954th meeting on 25 April 2013, the representative of Bangladesh and former Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission and the representative of Croatia and Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission and were invited under rule 39 ([S/PV.6954](#), p. 2).



Invitations under rule 39 can be grouped into the following five categories: (a) the Secretariat and subsidiary bodies of the Council⁹⁴; (b) other organs of the United Nations, subsidiary bodies or agencies⁹⁵; (c) regional and other intergovernmental organizations⁹⁶; (d) other persons⁹⁷; and (e) persons holding joint appointments by the United Nations and the African Union⁹⁸ (see figure 6 for a breakdown of rule 39 invitations during the period).

In 2012, the number of rule 39 invitations extended under category (a) decreased from 154 in 2011 to 119 in 2012, and then increased again to 125 in 2013. On the other hand, invitations extended under category (c) increased from 55 in 2011 to 63 in 2012; and further to

⁹⁴ For example, at the [6703rd](#) meeting on 16 January 2012, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa was invited under rule 39. Also, at the [6947th](#) meeting on 16 April 2013, the Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations was invited under rule 39.

⁹⁵ For example, at the [6707th](#) meeting on 25 January 2012, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights was invited under rule 39. Also, at the [7090th](#) meeting on 18 December 2013, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime was invited under rule 39.

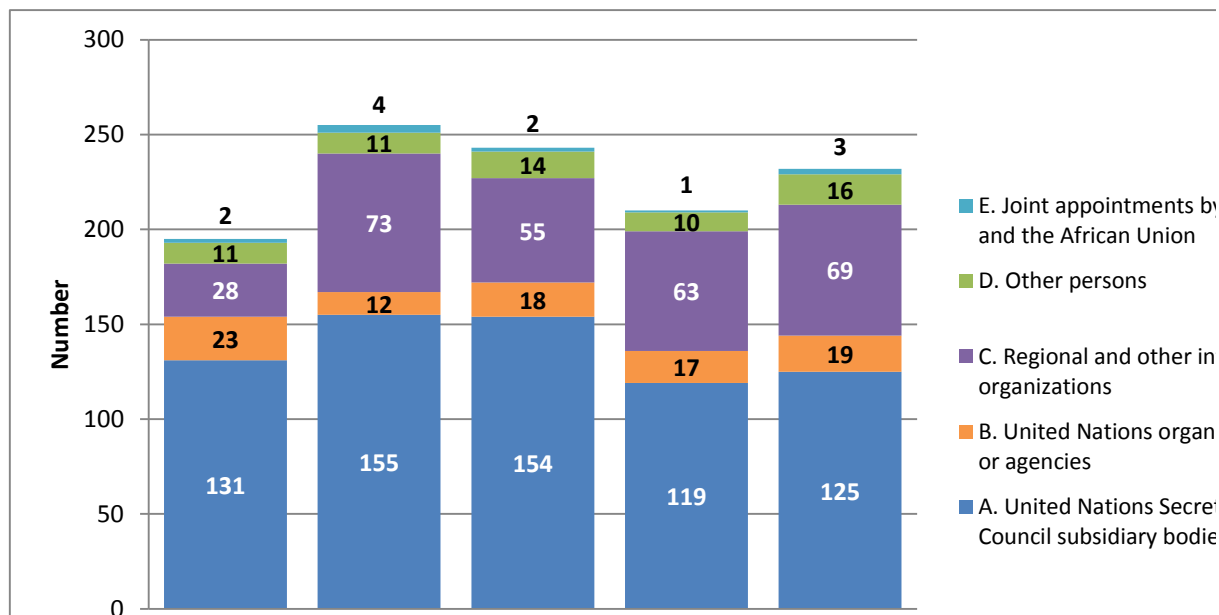
⁹⁶ For example, at the [6766th](#) meeting on 7 May 2012, the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security of the Economic Community of West African States was invited under rule 39. Also, at the [6983th](#) meeting on 20 June 2013, the Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations was invited under rule 39.

⁹⁷ For example, at the [6838th](#) meeting on 19 September 2012, the President of the International Center for Transitional Justice was invited under rule 39. At the [6948th](#) meeting on 17 April 2013, the representative of the NGO Working Group on Women was invited under rule 39.

⁹⁸ For example, at the [6813th](#) meeting on 24 July 2012, the Joint African Union-United Nations Special Representative for Darfur was invited under rule 39.

69 in 2013. During the review period, invitations under rule 39 were most frequently extended to representatives of the United Nations Secretariat and Security Council subsidiary bodies.

Figure 6: Breakdown of rule 39 invitees by category 2012 to 2013



Videoconferencing

During the period under review, videoconferencing continued to be utilized at meetings of the Council. Generally, videoconferencing was used for briefings by the representatives of the Secretary-General and other personnel located in the field, on the issue under consideration by the Council.⁹⁹ The Council was briefed via videoconferencing at meetings and consultations 44 times in 2012 and 41 times in 2013.

⁹⁹ For example, at the 6728th meeting on 29 February 2012, on the situation in Libya, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya briefed from Tripoli ([S/PV.6728](#), pp. 2-7). At the 6848th meeting on 16 October 2012 on the situation in Somalia, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia briefed from Mogadishu ([S/PV.6848](#), pp. 2-4). At the 7019th meeting on 19 August 2013, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs briefed via videoconferencing from Geneva and Rio de Janeiro, respectively ([S/PV.7019](#), pp. 4-6; and pp. 6-7).

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 9).

Invitations to representatives of the Holy See and 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”. In the case of Palestine, subsequent to the General Assembly decision to grant Palestine non-Member Observer State status on 29 November 2012,¹⁰⁰ while the basis of the invitation remained the same, the formulation of the invitation was slightly changed from “I propose, with the consent of the Council, to invite the Permanent Observer of Palestine to participate in this meeting” to “I propose that the Council invite the Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine” to participate in this meeting “in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure and previous practice in this regard.”

Table 9
Invitations not expressly extended under rule 37 or rule 39 in 2012-2013

<i>Invitee</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>
Palestine	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	6706th , 24 January 2012; 6757th , 23 April 2012 6816th , 25 July 2012; 6847th , 15 October 2012; 6863nd (closed), 14 November 2012; 6906th , 23 January 2013; 6950th , 24 April 2013; 7007th , 23 July 2013; 7047th , 22 October 2013
	Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)	6958th (closed), 30 April 2013; 7027th (closed), 29 August 2013
Holy See	The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question	6906th , 23 January 2013; 7007th , 23 July 2013; 7047th , 22 October 2013
	Women and peace and security	6948th , 17 April 2013; 6984th , 24 June 2013
	Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)	6958th (closed), 30 April 2013; 6972nd (closed), 30 May 2013; 6992nd (closed), 27 June 2013; 7027th (closed), 29 August 2013

¹⁰⁰ [A/RES/67/19](#).

D. Discussions relating to participation

During the period under review, when non-Council members were invited to participate in a meeting, Council members generally spoke before Member States invited under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure and before those not expressly invited under any rule, except in some instances when parties directly involved in the matter under consideration took the floor before Council members.¹⁰¹ For example, at the 7080th meeting on 11 December 2013, under the item entitled “Report of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan”, the representative of the Sudan, invited under rule 37, spoke immediately after the briefing by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, invited under rule 39, and before Council members.¹⁰²

Also, there was one instance, at the 6842th meeting of 3 October 2012, on the item entitled “The situation concerning Haiti”, when the President of the Council decided to deviate from the practice of delivering his statement in his national capacity after all other Council members, arguing that presiding over that meeting was a historic event for his country, given it was the first time since the founding of the United Nations that Guatemala had assumed the presidency of the Security Council.¹⁰³

Discussion on the question of the participation of non-Council members in Council meetings, in particular that of Member States directly involved or specially affected by situations under consideration by the Council, took place during two debates on the working methods of the Council.¹⁰⁴ For example, at the 7052nd meeting, on 29 October 2013, the representative of Pakistan cited Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter, in indicating that additional efforts should be made to increase the number of public meetings as compared to closed consultations, in order to

¹⁰¹ For example, at the 6735th meeting, on 20 March 2012, on the situation in Afghanistan, following the briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNAMA, the representative of Afghanistan spoke before Council members ([S/PV.6735](#), pp. 5-7). At the 7007th meeting, on 23 July 2013, concerning the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, following the briefing by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General, the Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine and the representative of Israel spoke before Council members and other Member States invited under rule 37 ([S/PV.7007](#), pp. 6-12).

¹⁰² [S/PV.7080](#), pp. 4-5.

¹⁰³ [S/PV.6842](#), p.6.

¹⁰⁴ The 6870th meeting on 26 November 2012 ([S/PV.6870](#)) and 7052nd meeting on 29 October 2013 ([S/PV.7052](#)).

enhance the participation by non-members in the work of the Council and its subsidiary bodies.¹⁰⁵ The following case study features the discussions held on the participation of the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) and non-members in Council meetings and consultations during one of these debates (see case 7).

Case 7

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 6870th meeting, on 26 November 2012, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, a few speakers expressed their view that the Chair of the PBC and the various country-specific configurations should be invited to participate in meetings of the Council, when situations in those countries were being considered.¹⁰⁶ The representative of the United States noted the importance of such interactions to help the Council mitigate and prevent the recurrence of the conflicts on its agenda and also to consider new threats.¹⁰⁷ The representative of South Africa welcomed the increased interaction between the Council and PBC, in particular, through the use of the informal interactive dialogue.¹⁰⁸ However, the representative of Luxembourg argued that such interactions were useful insofar as adequate follow-up was ensured, and expressed hope that Chairs of PBC country –specific configurations would be invited to join consultations of the Council.¹⁰⁹ The representative of Germany also opined that the Council should consider inviting the Chairpersons of PBC country-specific configurations to Council consultations, in order to ensure a broader peacebuilding perspective in the Council.¹¹⁰ Similarly, the representative of Morocco indicated that the Council should systematically invite the Peacebuilding Commission and its various country-specific configurations to participate in the work of the Council in order to take

¹⁰⁵ [S/PV.7052](#), p. 15.

¹⁰⁶ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 29 (Egypt); and [S/PV.6870, \(Resumption1\)](#), p. 7 (Sweden).

¹⁰⁷ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 19.

¹⁰⁸ *Ibid.*, p. 16.

¹⁰⁹ *Ibid.*, pp. 25-26.

¹¹⁰ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 8.

into full account their contributions and proposals.¹¹¹ The representative of New Zealand urged the Council to adapt the PBC model of country-specific configurations to extend participation to those with a real interest in the issues under discussion in the Council.¹¹²

On the participation of non-Members in Council briefings and debates, the representative of Colombia opined that the participation of non-members of the Council in open debates would illustrate and enrich the background on the basis of which Council members take decisions.¹¹³ The representative of Egypt indicated that when receiving briefings by the Secretariat, the Council should allow the parties concerned the opportunity to express their views.¹¹⁴ The representative of the Netherlands, speaking also on behalf of Belgium, pleaded to improve country-specific debates by inviting the country at stake in the discussion, and by arguing that countries that were being debated but were not members of the Council, should be given the opportunity to contribute to Council debates and a “fair and decent chance” to put their points of view forward. He added that, after hearing from the country in question, the Council should still discuss the issue in a restricted debate among Council members without the country concerned being present.¹¹⁵ The representative of Cuba, citing Articles 31 and 32 of the Charter, indicated that States concerned should be allowed to participate in the deliberations of the Council on questions affecting them directly.¹¹⁶ The representatives of India and Pakistan also cited Articles 31 and 32 in calling for improved access for non-Members to participate in the work of the Council.¹¹⁷

¹¹¹ Ibid., p. 14.

¹¹² Ibid., p. 24.

¹¹³ Ibid., p. 5.

¹¹⁴ Ibid., p. 29.

¹¹⁵ [S/PV.6870, \(Resumption1\)](#), p. 6.

¹¹⁶ Ibid., p. 12-13.

¹¹⁷ [S/PV.6870](#), p.11 (Pakistan); and p. 20 (India)

VIII. Decision-making and voting

Note

The present section covers the practice of the Council concerning decision-making, including voting. 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.

The section also covers rules 31, 32, 34 to 36 and 38 that govern the conduct of business in the context of voting on draft resolutions, amendments and substantive motions.

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 five 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 at the meetings of the Council. At the 6810th meeting, on 19 July 2012 on the item entitled “the situation in the Middle East”, the President of the Council invoked rule 32 at the beginning of the meeting when bringing the attention of the Council to two draft resolutions to be voted upon: one submitted by France, Germany, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States;¹¹⁸ and one submitted by the Russian Federation.¹¹⁹ The President stated that he would put the draft resolution submitted by France, Germany, Portugal, the United Kingdom and the United States to the vote first because, according to rule 32, principal motions and draft resolutions should have precedence in the order of their submission.¹²⁰ At the same meeting, the President announced that in view of a request by the Russian Federation, the Council would not take action on the second resolution, a practice consistent with rule 35.¹²¹ There were no instances where rules 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 taking procedural decisions. Decisions of the Council also took the form of notes or letters by the President, which were seldom adopted at meetings and mostly issued as official documents of the Council.¹²²

Number of resolutions and statements by the President

¹¹⁸ [S/2012/538](#).

¹¹⁹ [S/2012/547/Rev.2](#).

¹²⁰ [S/PV.6810](#), p. 2.

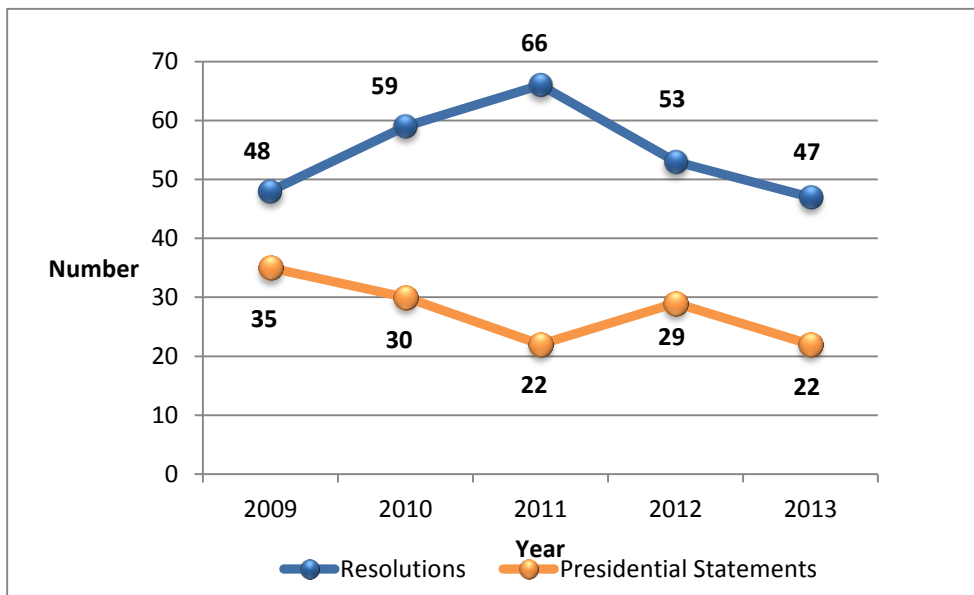
¹²¹ *Ibid.*, p.15.

¹²² 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 “Resolutions and Decisions of the Security Council” volumes ([S/INF/67](#), [S/INF/68](#) and [S/INF/69](#)). Also, for a complete list of resolutions for the review period, see <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/resolutions/> and for a complete list of presidential statements, see <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/statements/>.

During the two year period under review, the Council adopted a total of 100 resolutions and 51 statements by the President. In 2012, the Council adopted 53 resolutions and 29 statements by the President, and in 2013, the Council adopted 47 resolutions and 22 statements by the President.

Figure 7 shows the total number of resolutions adopted and statements by the President during the five-year period between 2009 and 2013.

Figure 7: Number of resolutions adopted and statements by the President, 2009 to 2013



Multiple decisions in one meeting

While the standard practice of the Council was to adopt a single decision in a meeting, during the period under review there was one instance where the Council adopted more than one decision at a single meeting. At the 6890th meeting on the agenda item “Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts” the Council adopted resolutions [2082 \(2012\)](#) and [2083 \(2012\)](#).¹²³

¹²³ [S/PV.6890](#).

B. Sponsorship in accordance with rule 38

According to rule 38 of the provisional rules of procedure, a member of the United Nations, which was not a member of the Council, could also submit a proposal, but it could be put to the vote only at the request of a Council member. A draft resolution may be directly submitted by any member of the Council, which becomes its sponsor. A draft resolution becomes a presidential text if all Council members agree to be co-sponsors.

During the period under review, a total of 103 draft resolutions were considered by the Council, 100 of which were sponsored texts, and three were presidential texts.¹²⁴ 22 draft resolutions were sponsored by non-Council members (see table 10).

Table 10
Draft resolutions sponsored by non-members of the Council in 2012 and 2013

<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>
S/2012/77	The situation in the Middle East	6711th , 4 February 2012	Not adopted owing to negative votes of China and Russian Federation	Colombia, France, Germany, Morocco, Portugal, Togo, United Kingdom, United States	11 Member States ^a
S/2012/106	The situation in Timor-Leste	6721th , 23 February 2012	2037 (2012)	France, Germany, Guatemala, Portugal, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States	Australia, Brazil, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand
S/2012/122	Peace consolidation in West Africa	6727th , 29 February 2012	2039 (2012)	Colombia, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Morocco, South Africa, Togo, United States	Benin
S/2012/249	The situation concerning Western Sahara	6758th , 24 April 2012	2044 (2012)	France, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Spain
S/2012/673	The situation in the Middle East	6825th , 30 August 2012	2064 (2012)	France, Germany, United Kingdom, United States	Italy, Spain
S/2012/708	The situation in Somalia	6837th , 18 September 2012	2067 (2012)	France, Germany, Morocco, Portugal, South Africa, United	Italy

¹²⁴ Resolutions [2034 \(2012\)](#), [2086 \(2013\)](#) and [2118 \(2013\)](#).

<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>
				Kingdom	
S/2012/713	Children and armed conflict	6838th , 19 September 2012	2068 (2012)	France, Germany, Portugal, United Kingdom, United States	25 Member States ^b
S/2012/743	The question concerning Haiti	6845th , 12 October 2012	2070 (2012)	Colombia, France, Guatemala, United States	Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Paraguay, Peru, Spain, Uruguay
S/2012/830	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	6861st , 14 November 2012	2074 (2012)	Azerbaijan, France, Germany, Portugal, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Italy
S/2012/861	The situation in Somalia	6867th , 21 November 2012	2077 (2012)	France, Germany, India, United States	Greece, Italy, Spain, Ukraine
S/2012/946	The situation in Mali	6898th , 20 December 2012	2085 (2012)	Colombia, France, Germany, Morocco, Portugal, South Africa, Togo, United Kingdom, United States	Luxembourg
S/2013/136	Non-proliferation/Democratic People's Republic of Korea	6932nd , 7 March 2013	2094 (2013)	Australia, France, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom, United States	Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Japan, Netherlands, Philippines
S/2013/243	The situation concerning Western Sahara	6951st , 25 April 2013	2099 (2013)	France, Russian Federation, United States	Spain
S/2013/368	Women and peace and security	6894th , 24 June 2013	2106 (2013)	Argentina, Australia, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, Togo, United Kingdom, United States	37 Member States ^c
S/2013/511	The situation in the Middle East	7025th , 29 August 2013	2115 (2013)	France	Spain
S/2013/570	Small arms	7036th , 26 September 2013	2117 (2012)	11 Member States ^d	15 Member States ^e
S/2013/597	The question concerning Haiti	7040th , 10 October 2013	2119 (2013)	Argentina, France, Guatemala, Morocco, Rwanda, Togo, United States	Brazil, Canada, Chile, Peru, and Uruguay

<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>
S/2013/614	Women and peace and security	7044th , 18 October 2013	2122 (2013)	Argentina, Australia, France, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States	39 Member States ^f
S/2013/652	The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina	7055th , 12 November 2013	2123 (2013)	Azerbaijan, France, Luxembourg, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States	Germany, Italy
S/2013/660	Peace and security in Africa	7060th , 15 November 2013	Not adopted having failed to obtain required number of votes	Azerbaijan, Morocco, Rwanda, Togo	Burundi, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Senegal, Uganda
S/2013/673	The situation in Somalia	7061st , 18 November 2013	2125 (2013)	Australia, France, Luxembourg, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom, United States	Spain
S/2013/717	The situation in the Central African Republic	7072nd , 5 December 2013	2127 (2013)	France, Luxembourg, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom, United States	Congo, Gabon

^a Bahrain, Egypt, Jordan, Kuwait, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, Turkey, United Arab Emirates.

^b Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Costa Rica, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Israel, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland.

^c Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Lithuania, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Ukraine.

^d Argentina, Australia, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom, United States.

^e Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Germany, Japan, Liberia, Lithuania, New Zealand, Norway, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, Switzerland, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago.

^f Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Montenegro, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Turkey, Uruguay, Viet Nam.

C. Decision-making by voting

According to Article 27 (2) and (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 often 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.

On the other hand, 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 had 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 were no instances where the Council 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 instances where a vote was considered procedural.

Adoption of resolutions

During the period under review, the majority of resolutions (92 out of 100) were adopted unanimously. Eight resolutions were adopted without a unanimous vote. In all these cases, no negative vote was cast; only abstentions were exercised (see table 11).

Table 11
Resolutions adopted without a unanimous vote in 2012 and 2013

<i>Resolution</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Vote (for-against- abstain)</i>	<i>Abstention by</i>
<u>2058</u> (2012)	The situation in Cyprus	<u>6809th</u> , 19 July 2012	13-0-2	Azerbaijan, Pakistan
<u>2063</u> (2012)	Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan	<u>6819th</u> , 31 July 2012	14-0-1	Azerbaijan
<u>2068</u> (2012)	Children and armed conflict	<u>6838th</u> , 19 September 2012	11-0-4	Azerbaijan, China, Pakistan, Russian Federation
<u>2081</u> (2012)	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	<u>6889th</u> , 17 December 2012	14-0-1	Russian Federation
<u>2089</u> (2013)	The situation in Cyprus	<u>6908th</u> , 24 January 2013	14-0-1	Azerbaijan
<u>2114</u> (2013)	The situation in Cyprus	<u>7014th</u> , 30 July 2013	13-0-2	Azerbaijan, Pakistan
<u>2117</u> (2013)	Small arms	<u>7036th</u> , 26 September 2013	14-0-1	Russian Federation
<u>2130</u> (2013)	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	<u>7088th</u> , 18 December 2013	14-0-1	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, there was one instance when a draft resolution under the agenda item entitled “Peace and security in Africa” was not adopted

due to the lack of the necessary nine affirmative votes,¹²⁵ and two instances when draft resolutions were rejected due to a negative vote by a permanent member (see table 12).

Table 12

Draft resolutions not adopted due to a veto or lack of requisite number of votes in 2012 and 2013

<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>
<u>S/2012/77</u>	The situation in the Middle East	<u>6711th</u> , 4 February 2012	13-2-0	China, Russian Federation
<u>S/2012/538</u>	The situation in the Middle East	<u>6810th</u> , 19 July 2012	11-2-2	China, Russian Federation
<u>S/2013/660</u>	Peace and Security in Africa	<u>7060th</u> , 15 November 2013	7-0-8	

D. Decision-making without a vote

At times, procedural motions as well as substantive motions in the Council are adopted without a vote or by consensus.

During the period under review, there was one instance, at the 6704th meeting on 19 January 2012 under the item entitled “Date of election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice”, where resolution 2034 (2012) concerning the date of the election to fill a vacancy in the International Court of Justice was adopted without a vote as per usual practice.¹²⁶

Statements by the President continued to be adopted by consensus. A total of 51 statements by the President were adopted during the period under review.¹²⁷ Also, most of the statements by the President adopted were read out at meetings, while some statements were adopted without the text being read out, with the President announcing only that the statement

¹²⁵ At the 7060th meeting of 15 November 2013 on the agenda item titled “Peace and security in Africa”, 8 Council members abstained to vote on draft resolution S/2013/660 (Argentina, Australia, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom and United States).

¹²⁶ [S/PV.6704](#).

¹²⁷ For a complete list of presidential statements adopted during the review period, see: <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/statements/2012.shtml> and <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/statements/2013.shtml>

would be issued as a document of the Council.¹²⁸ Also, in several instances, resolutions and statements by the President were adopted at other times than at the beginning or end of a meeting.¹²⁹

Similarly, notes and letters by the President of the Council were issued as official documents of the Council without a vote. During the reporting period, the Council issued 31 notes and 87 letters by the President.¹³⁰ There were two instances where the issuance of the notes was announced at a formal meeting. On both occasions, the Council announced that its draft report to the General Assembly had been adopted without a vote. Also, during the period under review, the Council adopted 5 notes on working methods building upon the provisions of the 26 July 2010 note by the President¹³¹ and covering various aspects of the working methods of the Council, including the format of meetings,¹³² the appointment of Chairpersons of subsidiary organs,¹³³ the annual report of the Security Council,¹³⁴ monthly assessments by the Presidents and informal briefing sessions on the monthly work,¹³⁵ the interaction between the Security Council, the Secretariat and troop- and police-contributing countries,¹³⁶ and enhancing interactivity and the use of available resources in the conduct of business of the Council.¹³⁷ These notes were not adopted at formal meetings of the Council, but during the course of the work of its Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions.

¹²⁸ For example, the presidential statement dated 21 February 2012 ([S/PRST/2012/2](#)) and the presidential statement dated 28 October 2013 ([S/PRST/2013/16](#)) were not read out at the 6717th meeting of 21 February 2012 and the 7050th meeting of 28 October 2013, respectively.

¹²⁹ For example, see [S/PV.6717](#); [S/PV.6760](#); [S/PV.6935](#); [S/PV.7036](#); and [S/PV.7090](#).

¹³⁰ For the complete list of notes by the President of the Security Council issued in 2012 and 2013, see part I, section XIV of the report of the Security Council to the 66th, 67th, 68th and 69th session of the General Assembly ([A/67/2](#), [A/68/2](#), [A/69/2](#)), respectively, or <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/notes/>. For the complete list of letters from the President of the Council issued in 2012 and 2013, see appendix IV of the above-mentioned reports or <http://www.un.org/en/sc/documents/letters/>.

¹³¹ [S/2010/507](#).

¹³² [S/2013/515](#).

¹³³ [S/2012/937](#).

¹³⁴ [S/2012/922](#).

¹³⁵ *Ibid.*

¹³⁶ [S/2013/630](#).

¹³⁷ [S/2012/402](#).

E. Discussions concerning the decision-making process

During the period under review, discussions relating to the question of the veto took place during the two thematic debates on the working methods of the Council.¹³⁸ The following case study features the discussion held on the veto during one of these debates.

Case 8

Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507)

At the 7052nd meeting, on 29 October 2013, under the item entitled “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))”, the representative of France spoke about the importance of creating a code of conduct that would establish guidelines for the use of the right of veto by the five permanent members of the Council. It would require them to collectively and voluntarily suspend their right of veto when a situation involving a crime on a massive scale was considered to have occurred as well as define the criteria and an alert mechanism or mechanisms that could trigger such self-management.¹³⁹ Many speakers welcomed, in principle, the French initiative.¹⁴⁰

The representative of Switzerland, speaking on behalf of Accountability, Coherence and Transparency (ACT), a cross-regional group of 22 states, noted his conviction that this initiative was an indication of the need to find new avenues to respond efficiently to crises and to live up to the responsibilities deposited in the hands of the Council.¹⁴¹

The representative of Egypt stated that the veto should be abolished, but as long as it continued to exist, it should be extended to all permanent members of a prospective enlarged

¹³⁸ The 6870th meeting on 26 November 2012 ([S/PV.6870](#)), and the 7052nd meeting on 29 October 2013 ([S/PV.7052](#)).

¹³⁹ [S/PV.7052](#), p. 13.

¹⁴⁰ *Ibid.*, p. 4 (Luxembourg); p. 10 (Rwanda); p. 17 (Australia); p. 20 (Switzerland, on behalf of ACT); p. 24 (Brazil); p. 27 (Mexico); p. 28 (Egypt); p. 29 (Hungary); p. 30 (Estonia); p. 33 (Slovenia); [S/PV.7052 \(Resumption I\)](#), p. 2 (Ukraine); p. 3 (Liechtenstein); p. 4 (Chile); p. 12 (Spain); p. 16 (Singapore); p. 18 (Germany); p. 19 (Ireland); and p. 20 (Maldives).

¹⁴¹ [S/PV.7052](#), p. 20.

Council.¹⁴² Several speakers expressed that the permanent members should explain the reasons for exercising a veto, when it occurred.¹⁴³

On the other hand, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that weakening the right of veto would not have the intended effect of improving the effectiveness of the Council; instead, the result would be the “rubber-stamping” of points of view reflecting the opinions of only one group of States, which was not why the United Nations was created.¹⁴⁴

Abstention, non-participation or absence

In accordance with Article 27 (3), a party to a dispute under the consideration 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 11, there were eight instances of voluntary abstentions by Council members. Among these, in four instances, at least one 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.

¹⁴² Ibid, p. 28.

¹⁴³ Ibid., p.31 (Indonesia); [S/PV.7052 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 12 (Spain); p. 16 (Singapore); and p. 20 (Maldives).

¹⁴⁴ [S/PV.7052](#), p. 14.

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 44.¹⁴⁵

¹⁴⁵ For example, at the [6720th](#) meeting, on 22 February 2012, the representative of Angola spoke in Portuguese, on behalf of the Community of Portuguese speaking Countries (CPLP), and the English text was provided by the delegation (S/PV.6720, pp. 23-24). At the [6754th](#) meeting, on 19 April 2012, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Guinea-Bissau delivered his statement in Portuguese. The English text was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6754](#), pp.4-6). At the [6822nd](#) meeting, held on 21 August 2012, and the [6979th](#) meeting, held on 14 June 2013, the Prime Minister of Serbia spoke in Serbian while Mr. Hashim Thaçi spoke in Albanian. The English translations of both statements were made available by the respective delegations. At the [6859th](#) meeting, held on 12 November 2012, the Permanent Representative of Portugal delivered his statement in Portuguese, while the text in English was provided by the delegation ([S/PV.6859](#), pp. 15-16).

X. Status of the provisional rules of procedure

Note

The present section covers the deliberations of the Council concerning the status of the provisional rules of procedure of the Council, last amended in 1982.¹⁴⁶ Article 30 of the Charter of the United Nations provides that the Council shall adopt its own rules of procedure. However, since their adoption by the Council at its first meeting held on 17 January 1946, the rules of procedure have remained provisional.

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 status 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.¹⁴⁷ For example, at the 6870th meeting on the item “Implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2010/507](#))” on 26 November 2012, several speakers opined that the provisional status of the rules of procedure should be ended and an agreement should be reached on them for the effective functioning of the Council.¹⁴⁸ The representative of Malaysia explicitly invoked Article 30 and noted that 30 years had passed since the provisional rules of procedure had last been amended. He argued that more positive changes could be made to the working methods of the Council if its members interpreted Article 30 of the Charter with a view to making the Council more

¹⁴⁶ The provisional rules of procedure of the Council were amended eleven times between 1946 and 1982: five times during its first year at its 31st, 41st, 42nd, 44th and 48th meetings on 9 April, 16 and 17 May, 6 and 24 June 1946; twice in its second year at the 138th and 222nd meetings, on 4 June and 9 December 1947; at its 468th meeting on 28 February 1950; 1463rd meeting, on 24 January 1969; 1761st meeting, on 17 January 1974; and 2410th 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](#).

¹⁴⁷ The 6870th meeting on 26 November 2012 ([S/PV.6870](#)), and the 7052nd meeting on 29 October 2013. ([S/PV.7052](#)).

¹⁴⁸ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 16 (South Africa); p. 28 (Egypt); p. 33 (Ireland); [S/PV.6870 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 10 (Senegal); p.13 (Cuba).

democratic and to further improve the efficiency of its work.¹⁴⁹ The representative of India argued that the Council had shown little interest in adopting transparent and inclusive rules of procedure, which remained provisional after six and a half decades of the existence of the Council.¹⁵⁰ On the other hand, the representative of the United States noted that the Council must be able to act quickly and with a high level of flexibility while remaining mindful that Article 30 of the Charter mandated the Council to adopt its own rules of procedure.¹⁵¹

¹⁴⁹ [S/PV.6870 \(Resumption 1\)](#), p. 2.

¹⁵⁰ [S/PV.6870](#), p. 20.

¹⁵¹ *Ibid.*, p. 19.