



## *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

### **33. Items relating to briefings**

#### **Overview**

During the period under review, the Council heard a number of briefings which were not explicitly connected to any specific item on the agenda of the Council, but included under various unique agenda items.

#### **Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council**

During the period under review, the Council held six meetings under the agenda item “Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council” at which the Chairmen of various sanctions and counter-terrorism committees and working groups provided an overview of the work of their organs to the Council.<sup>1</sup>

The tables at the end of the section lists the meetings at which these items were considered, and give information on, inter alia, invitees and speakers.

#### **Other briefings**

During the period under review, the Council also heard two briefings by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, and

---

<sup>1</sup> For more information on subsidiary organs of the Security Council Committees and other bodies, see part IX.

one briefing held in closed session by the President of the International Court of Justice (ICJ).

### **Briefing by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe**

At the 6715<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 9 February 2012, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland, speaking as Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), briefed the Council on the main priorities of Ireland's OSCE chairmanship, including areas of cooperation between the United Nations and OSCE. Noting that Ireland would adopt a pragmatic and fair-minded approach during its chairmanship, he outlined a set of priorities that would ensure a balanced and coherent approach across three dimensions of security: politico-military, economic and environmental, and human. The priorities of OSCE for 2012 under these dimensions included: internet freedom, freedom of association and assembly, freedom of religion and belief, trafficking in human beings, racism and intolerance in sport, election observation activities, arms control, conflict prevention and transnational threats which posed challenges to societies. In addition, he stated that OSCE would also focus on the promotion of security and stability through good governance, measures to counter corruption and promote the implementation of resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) and other resolutions related to gender security. He further stressed the importance of a close and effective cooperation between OSCE and the United Nations in tackling complex transnational threats such as organized crime, cyber threats, including cybercrime, drugs, terrorism and human trafficking.

Turning to conflict situations in the OSCE area, especially in relation to the conflicts in Moldova regarding the territory of Transdniestria; in Georgia regarding the territories of Abkhazia and South Ossetia, and the Nagorno Karabakh conflict; he noted that in supporting these efforts, Ireland would draw from its own experience of conflict

resolution in seeking ways to make progress towards lasting settlements and addressing these complex conflicts.<sup>2</sup>

Members of the Council welcomed the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland and congratulated him on the assumption of the OSCE Chairmanship. They commented on the role of OSCE in the maintenance of international peace and security and expressed their support for the priorities defined by the OSCE Chairmanship. Furthermore, they stressed the importance of close cooperation of OSCE with other regional organizations, including the United Nations.

At the 6961<sup>st</sup> meeting, on 7 May 2013, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine briefed the Council in his capacity as Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE. He stated that the Ukrainian chairmanship would facilitate the “Helsinki+40 dialogue” which was focused on overcoming divergences and clarifying the role and goals of OSCE in the modern security architecture. Elaborating on a number of priorities for 2013 across the three dimensions of security, he indicated that the Ukrainian chairmanship intended to modernize the politico-military instruments of OSCE and would continue to contribute to finding a sustainable, long-term solution to protracted conflicts in OSCE areas. In addition, he stated that the Ukrainian chairmanship would improve the environmental footprint of energy-related activities aimed at increasing stability and security, strengthen the freedom of the media and pursue disarmament initiatives including the fight against human trafficking.

He further touched upon a host of other priorities and pledged to seek progress in areas such as the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination through youth education, the freedom of association and assembly, free movement of people, and inter-religious dialogue in promoting freedom of religion or belief, in addition to democratic elections and election observation. Finally, he emphasized the value of cooperation between OSCE and the United Nations, especially with regards to early warning and early action in preventing violent conflicts, including building a safer and more secure world and

---

<sup>2</sup> [S/PV.6715](#), pp. 2-4.

supporting nations in transition. He advocated for OSCE-United Nations cooperation to become more pragmatic, effective and results-oriented.<sup>3</sup>

Members of the Council commended OSCE for its valuable contribution and efforts aimed at settling protracted conflicts, notably in Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo and Nagorno Karabakh, and welcomed the priorities and initiatives of the Ukrainian chairmanship in this regard. They encouraged OSCE and the United Nations to strengthen their coordination and cooperation by complementing each other's efforts in the maintenance of international peace and security. Some members shared the view that other regional organizations would benefit from the expertise of OSCE in areas such as arms control, counter-terrorism, conflict prevention and post-conflict resolution, electoral and democratization processes, confidence-building measures, as well as the strengthening of security and the fight against terrorism.<sup>4</sup>

---

<sup>3</sup> [S/PV.6961](#), pp. 2-4.

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*, p. 5 (Australia); p. 10 (Republic of Korea); p. 10 (United States); and p.14 (United Kingdom).

**Table 1**  
**Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
<a href="#">6767</a> 10 May 2012	Armenia, Australia, Austria, Israel, Japan, Spain, Syrian Arab Republic	Mr. Thomas Mayr-Harting, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">1267 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1989 (2011)</a> concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1373 (2001)</a> concerning counter-terrorism; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1540 (2004)</a>
<a href="#">6862</a> 14 November 2012	Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Poland, Spain, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic	Mr. Thomas Mayr-Harting, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup> , Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">1267 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1989 (2011)</a> concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1373 (2001)</a> concerning counter-terrorism; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1540 (2004)</a>
<a href="#">6881</a> 7 December 2012			Chairman of the Security Council Committees established pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">751 (1992)</a> and <a href="#">1907 (2009)</a> concerning Somalia and Eritrea; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">1267 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1989 (2011)</a> concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities, of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1988 (2011)</a> and of the Working Group on Children and Arms Conflict; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1591 (2005)</a> concerning the Sudan, and of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1737 (2006)</a> ; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1718 (2006)</a> , of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1970 (2011)</a> concerning Libya and of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions; Chairman of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa
<a href="#">6964</a> 10 May 2013	Israel, Japan, Liechtenstein, Portugal, Syrian Arab Republic	Mr. Thomas Mayr-Harting, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to <a href="#">1267 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1989 (2011)</a> concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1373 (2001)</a> concerning counter-terrorism; Chairman of the Committee

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
<a href="#">7071</a> 27 November 2013	Austria, Croatia, Israel, Japan, Syrian Arab Republic	Mr. Gilles Marhic, Head of the Legal Section of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1540 (2004)</a> . All Council members, all invitees, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">1267 (1999)</a> and <a href="#">1989 (2011)</a> concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1373 (2001)</a> concerning counter-terrorism; Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1540 (2004)</a>
<a href="#">7076</a> 9 December 2013			Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1521 (2003)</a> concerning Liberia and of the Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations; Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1533 (2004)</a> concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo; Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1572 (2004)</a> concerning Côte d'Ivoire and of the Informal Working Group on International Tribunals; Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">2048 (2012)</a> concerning Guinea- Bissau

<sup>a</sup> Although the Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations was invited under rule 39, the statement on behalf of the European Union was made by the Deputy Head of the Delegation.

**Table 2**  
**Briefings by the Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE and the President of ICJ**

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
<a href="#">6715</a> 9 February 2012	Mr. Eamon Gilmore, Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Ireland	All Council members and invitee under rule 39
<a href="#">6961</a> 7 May 2013	Mr. Leonid Kozhara, Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine	All Council members and invitee under rule 39
<a href="#">7051</a> (closed) 28 October 2013	Judge Peter Tomka, President of the International Court of Justice	Council members and invitee under rule 39