

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq stressed that the cooperation of his Government with the Commission and the Council was a successful model of multilateral action that reinforced confidence in international mechanisms and measures to resolve crises confronting the world. He added that the fulfilment by Iraq of its obligations to the international community and to Kuwait was a major development that would strengthen its relations with the region and the world, as well as its historical ties with Kuwait. He clarified that, following the fulfilment by Iraq of its obligations, the international community and the United Nations now had a legal and moral obligation towards Iraq that included ending the application of measures under Chapter VII of the Charter against Iraq; preserving the rights, assets and international legal privileges of Iraq; and shielding Iraq from any future claims, in line with United Nations-led international efforts and in accordance with the Charter and the norms of international law ensuring justice and fairness. The representative of Kuwait welcomed the unanimous adoption of resolution 2621 (2022) and underscored that the fulfilment by mechanisms and subsidiary organs established by the Council of their tasks and responsibilities and the readiness to follow up on their implementation to achieve the desired outcomes of the relevant resolutions enhanced the credibility and effectiveness of the Council. He praised the Council on the historic achievement in its work on the issue of compensation and congratulated Iraq on fully meeting its obligations related to the issue of compensation and on ceasing to be subject to its most important obligations under Chapter VII. The representative of Kuwait reiterated his country's commitment to working and cooperating with the Government of Iraq to finalize the outstanding issues and obligations relating to missing Kuwaitis and third-country nationals and the return of property, including the national archives, as stipulated in resolution 2107 (2013).

**Meeting: the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, 2022**

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.8972</a> 22 February	Letter dated 10 February 2022 from the President of the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2022/104</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2022/136</a> )	Iraq, Kuwait	President of the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	Resolution 2621 (2022) 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)

<sup>a</sup> Iraq was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

## Thematic issues

### 24. United Nations peacekeeping operations

During the period under review, the Council held four meetings and adopted one resolution and one presidential statement under the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”. Two of the meetings took the form of briefings, one took the form of an open debate, and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.<sup>941</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is provided in the table below.<sup>942</sup>

<sup>941</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

<sup>942</sup> See also [A/77/2](#), part II, chap. 4.

In 2022, the Council continued to hold the annual briefings on the Action for Peacekeeping initiative and its implementation strategy, Action for Peacekeeping Plus, pursuant to resolution 2378 (2017) and on the work of United Nations police components. The Council also held a high-level open debate on the importance of strategic communications for efficient peacekeeping, during which it adopted a presidential statement and resolution 2668 (2022) concerning mental health and psychosocial support for United Nations peace operations personnel. During those meetings, the Council heard two briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations and one briefing each by the Secretary-General, the Force Commander of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), the police commissioners of MONUSCO and the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), the Director of Research at the International Peace Institute and a representative of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre.<sup>943</sup>

On 12 July, at the initiative of Brazil, which held the presidency of the Council for the month,<sup>944</sup> the Council held a high-level open debate on the role of strategic communications in efficient peacekeeping.<sup>945</sup> Opening the meeting, the Secretary-General stated that strategic communications were critical across the mandates of peacekeeping operations, including the mandates to protect civilians and prevent violence, to secure ceasefires and safeguard political settlements, to investigate and report on human rights abuses and violations, to advance the women and peace and security agenda and promote the role of women as peacekeepers, peacemakers and peace leaders, and to ensure the safety and security of personnel and the communities they served.<sup>946</sup> The Secretary-General noted that disinformation was not just misleading but also dangerous and potentially deadly, fuelling open violence against United Nations personnel and their partners. The best and most cost-effective instruments for countering that threat, according to the Secretary-General, were credible, accurate and human-centred strategic communications, which not only defused harmful lies but also enabled tailored two-way communication that built trust and political and public support. Such communication could strengthen understanding among local populations of United Nations missions and mandates and in return strengthen the understanding of peacekeepers of the concerns, grievances, expectations and hopes of those populations.

The Secretary-General observed that, to be effective, strategic communications must be grounded in evidence, based on verified data, open to dialogue, rooted in storytelling and delivered by credible messengers. He noted that, as a means of improving strategic communications in peacekeeping, the United Nations was adopting a whole-of-mission communications approach, holding mission leaders accountable to own and lead those efforts, providing guidance and training to missions, working with technology and media companies and Member States, monitoring and evaluating the efficacy of information campaigns, and deploying communications to strengthen accountability and to end misconduct by personnel and partners, including sexual exploitation and abuse. The Secretary-General concluded by emphasizing that the United Nations must take a deliberate stand as a trusted information actor in conflict environments by providing engaging and factual content, facilitating inclusive dialogue, demanding the removal of harmful speech, holding leaders to account and promoting peace and unity.

Following the Secretary-General, the Force Commander of MONUSCO shared his perspective on the utility of strategic communications in countering the overall poor perception among the population in the Democratic Republic of the Congo of the relevance of the Mission in improving the security situation. The Force Commander noted that one part of the Mission's strategy was to communicate in person with stakeholders, from the village chief to the media and up to the national and regional armed forces leadership, all of whom played a critical role in countering the criticism of the Mission, explaining the aim and the limits of the mandate and acknowledging the validity of the human rights due diligence policy on United Nations support to non-United Nations security forces. In terms of challenges, he highlighted the need for more female translators, better predeployment training for units, qualified public information and information operation staff officers and a specialized military psychological operational unit. Furthermore, he stressed the need for synergy between the military campaign plan and the strategic communications plan, noting that strategic communication was a command duty and a mission leadership endeavour.

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<sup>943</sup> See S/PV.9090, S/PV.9090 (Resumption 1), S/PV.9123 and S/PV.9189.

<sup>944</sup> A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 5 July (S/2022/539).

<sup>945</sup> See S/PV.9090 and S/PV.9090 (Resumption 1). For more information on high-level meetings, see part II.

<sup>946</sup> See S/PV.9090.

In her remarks, the Director of Research of the International Peace Institute discussed the role of strategic communications in enhancing the protection of civilians, how to ensure that communication was not only gender sensitive but also gender transformative, and the importance of active listening in order to place the experiences of communities in peacekeeping at the forefront. With respect to the protection of civilians, she stated that strategic communications were not limited to managing expectations by communicating the limitations of a mission's protection work but also included messaging on how to improve the access of populations to the protection interventions that were available. Strategic communications could also be used to counter hate speech and misinformation or disinformation that was used to incite violence, inflame identity-based divisions or mobilize individuals to join armed groups. The Director of Research explained that gender-transformative communications used narratives and storytelling to promote gender equality and combat harmful stereotypes and behaviours by, for example, highlighting stories and images that expanded traditional understandings of gender roles, addressing harmful gender practices and using information to increase women's access to power and resources. Finally, she emphasized that strategic communications should move beyond a unidirectional flow of relaying information to a dynamic dialogue between missions and communities. In that regard, she suggested using, in addition to data and analytics, storytelling as a means of persuading people and inspiring them to act for the sake of peace.

In their discussion, members and participating non-members of the Council highlighted the importance of strategic communications for the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations in the face of increasingly complex and hostile operating environments and a significant increase in the dissemination of misinformation, disinformation and hate speech through digital technologies. They pointed out the role of effective strategic communications in implementing protection of civilians mandates and ensuring the safety and security of peacekeeping personnel. In terms of practical steps, speakers recommended implementing communications strategies across all missions and all their respective components, ensuring the ownership of such strategies by mission leadership, improving communication capabilities through the deployment of specialized personnel, training and the use of technology, and ensuring two-way communication between peacekeepers, communities, host Governments and other stakeholders on the ground. Many speakers also emphasized the utility of strategic communications in advancing the women and peace and security agenda.

In the presidential statement adopted during the meeting, the Council underscored the importance of strategic communications to the implementation of the mandates of United Nations peacekeeping operations and to the safety and security of peacekeepers.<sup>947</sup> The Council recognized that strategic communications and the provision of accurate content helped to strengthen the understanding of peacekeeping mandates, managed the expectations of and garnered trust and support among relevant stakeholders, notably host Governments and local communities, and contributed to countering disinformation and misinformation.<sup>948</sup> Moreover, the Council stressed the need to improve the culture of strategic communications across all mission components and called upon peacekeeping operations, in the implementation of protection of civilians mandates, to enhance community engagement and awareness about the protection needs and capacities of local communities.<sup>949</sup> Finally, the Council requested the Secretary-General to provide, no later than 15 April 2023, a strategic review of strategic communications across all peacekeeping operations and to ensure that his regular reports on individual peacekeeping operations included, as applicable, information on the actions and impact of strategic communications for mandated activities.<sup>950</sup>

On 6 September, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations gave a briefing to the Council on the implementation of resolution 2378 (2017) and the progress and challenges in the implementation of the Action for Peacekeeping initiative and the Action for Peacekeeping Plus strategy.<sup>951</sup> Noting the increasingly complex geopolitical environment, the Under-Secretary-General stressed the need to do everything possible to preserve space for United Nations peacekeeping operations, which continued to

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<sup>947</sup> S/PRST/2022/5, fifth paragraph.

<sup>948</sup> Ibid.

<sup>949</sup> Ibid., sixth and seventh paragraphs.

<sup>950</sup> Ibid., sixteenth and seventeenth paragraphs.

<sup>951</sup> See S/PV.9123.

visibly manifest a multilateral system in action on the ground. He provided an overview of the implementation of some of the priorities of Action for Peacekeeping Plus. With regard to the second priority, on strategic and operational integration, the Under-Secretary-General reported that 11 out of 12 missions had developed either integrated mission plans or results frameworks for the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System, most of which took into account gender considerations and the women and peace and security agenda. Noting that missions could fulfil their mandates only if they had the appropriate capacities at the right time, he called for the support of Council members to fill the critical capacity gaps, especially in utility and armed helicopters. With regard to the fourth priority, on safety and security, the Under-Secretary-General expressed his regret over the doubling of peacekeeper deaths in 2021 compared with 2020 and noted that the trend had continued in 2022, in particular with attacks using explosive ordnance and improvised explosive devices.

On the sixth priority, the Under-Secretary-General stated that missions were working to fully integrate strategic communications into planning and decision-making and were proactively communicating on the tangible impact of peacekeeping in a compelling, human-centred way through social media and United Nations-operated radio networks. Regarding the participation of women in peacekeeping, he noted that, except in relation to military contingents, most of the targets set in the uniformed gender parity strategy 2018–2028 had been met and surpassed. The Under-Secretary-General stated that efforts to create more gender-responsive working and living environments continued and that gender analysis was being used to inform decision-making. Nevertheless, he highlighted constraints related to inadequate resources and personnel, including a shortage of gender advisers. While acknowledging that notable progress had been made in addressing the priorities outlined in Action for Peacekeeping Plus, the Under-Secretary-General called for stronger and more united support from the Council for advancing the political efforts of peacekeeping operations, and for ongoing support from the Council for missions that were facing undue restrictions and obstacles from the parties to the conflict, including violations of status-of-forces agreements.

In their exchanges following the briefing, Council members widely recognized the improvements made in the performance of peacekeeping operations since the launch of the Action for Peacekeeping initiative, but also outlined a number of challenges. Most Council members stressed that effective mandate implementation required tailored, realistic and properly resourced mandates that formed part of an overall strategy to achieve a political solution to the conflict. Several Council members<sup>952</sup> expressed concern over the increasingly broad nature of mandates and stressed that focus should remain on supporting political processes. Several speakers<sup>953</sup> raised the need to engage and improve relations with host Governments. Some Council members<sup>954</sup> urged host Governments to avoid imposing restrictions on missions and to abide by their obligations under status-of-forces agreements. A number of Council members<sup>955</sup> pointed to the increasing tensions between some missions and local communities and called for greater use of strategic communications to rebuild and maintain trust. In terms of other priorities for improving peacekeeping performance, speakers highlighted the importance of partnerships with regional organizations and regional missions on the ground, additional resources and capacities to ensure the safety and security of peacekeeping personnel, the use of data and technology, the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda, and the creation of conditions conducive to the participation of women in missions.

On 14 November, the Council held its annual briefing with selected police commissioners of United Nations peacekeeping operations.<sup>956</sup> In his introductory remarks, the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations provided an overview and examples of the work of the Secretariat and United Nations police personnel in support of political transitions, including work to increase the links between long-term strategic planning and operational decision-making, align predeployment training with in-mission training, conduct performance assessments, develop police-related impact indicators within the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System, employ strategic communications and improve cooperation with host

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<sup>952</sup> Ghana, China and Russian Federation.

<sup>953</sup> China, Gabon, Russian Federation, Kenya, India and France.

<sup>954</sup> Ghana, United Kingdom, United States and France.

<sup>955</sup> Norway, United Arab Emirates, Kenya, Albania and Brazil.

<sup>956</sup> See [S/PV.9189](#).

countries during transitions. The Under-Secretary-General stated that gender-responsive policing efforts ensured that the different security needs of women, men, girls and boys were considered, including through a robust network of gender advisers and police gender focal points. He added that the gender parity targets for United Nations police for 2025 had already been achieved, with women comprising almost one in five police officers and heading five out of nine police components.

In their remarks, the police commissioners of UNMISS and MONUSCO described the work of their police components to protect civilians and improve performance. The Police Commissioner of UNMISS noted that, as part of its mandate, the police component participated in whole-of-mission efforts to foster protection through dialogue and engagement, participated in integrated civilian-military-police patrols and deployments to temporary operating bases near conflict hotspots, and contributed to the creation of a protective environment through its support to rule of law institutions. As a means of improving performance, he highlighted the need for a more enabling environment for the participation of women, additional capacity for joint and integrated planning, proactive and resourceful police officers with a good education and predeployment training, and additional formed police units. The Police Commissioner of MONUSCO noted that efforts had been made to improve the performance of the Mission's police component, in particular through communication with police-contributing countries on the quality of formed police units and specialized teams, training, the use of monitoring and measurement systems, such as the Comprehensive Planning and Performance Assessment System, and the implementation of an annual workplan as a monitoring and assessment mechanism. He also referred to the deployment of police teams to measure and help to improve the performance of the Congolese National Police in combating urban and organized crime.

Following the Police Commissioners, a representative of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre spoke about the influence of decisions, norms, ideas and policies implemented at the multilateral level of United Nations peacekeeping on the decision-making of peacekeeping stakeholders at the national level. Specifically, she expressed the view that peacekeeping had a democratizing effect on the security sector in host communities and troop-contributing countries and strengthened the legitimacy and effectiveness of domestic security relations. She noted that police in peacekeeping brought mutually reinforcing benefits to the women and peace and security agenda in peacekeeping theatres and at the domestic level. While noting the critical contribution of police components to the Action for Peacekeeping priorities, she highlighted the need for improvements in innovation, adaptability, operational readiness, strategic and operational integration and accountability for peacekeepers in missions of which fragile States were often the beneficiaries. She added that police-contributing countries had maximized their participation in peacekeeping beyond fragile host countries in order to benefit their own societies and strengthen the legitimacy and effectiveness of domestic security relations.

In their statements following the briefings, Council members recognized the important work of police components, in particular in conflict prevention and early warning, the protection of civilians, peacekeeping transitions, capacity-building, the implementation of the women and peace and security agenda and strategic communications. Council members<sup>957</sup> underscored that ensuring effective and accountable police components was a key requirement under the Action for Peacekeeping Plus strategy. While noting some improvements, Council members stressed the need to ensure that police officers were provided with specialized and tailored training relevant to their operational environment and had the right mindset and necessary equipment, including technology, to successfully perform their duties. Council members acknowledged the important role of women police officers, in particular in community engagement, and called for additional progress in increasing their participation in police components and improving their working conditions. As a key element of increasing the effectiveness of police, speakers called for stronger partnerships between police components and stakeholders such as local communities, host countries, United Nations country teams, civil society and regional organizations. Furthermore, some members<sup>958</sup> underscored the need for greater coordination among the Council, the Secretariat, police-contributing countries and host States, in particular with respect to planning, mandate design and exit strategies.

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<sup>957</sup> Kenya, Ireland, United States, Mexico, United Kingdom and Ghana.

<sup>958</sup> China, India and Russian Federation.

On 21 December, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2668 \(2022\)](#), in which it recognized the need to raise awareness of the importance of mental health and psychosocial support to United Nations peace operations personnel.<sup>959</sup> The Council encouraged troop- and police-contributing countries, including Member States and the Secretariat, to provide mental health services to support personnel during predeployment training, to continue to foster a culture of well-being and care during deployment, and to continue to provide peace operations personnel at the post-deployment stage with adequate mental health and psychosocial support services.<sup>960</sup> Furthermore, the Council requested the Secretary-General to include information on the implementation of aspects of the 2018 United Nations System Mental Health and Well-being Strategy, as appropriate, in his comprehensive reports to the Council under resolution [2378 \(2017\)](#).<sup>961</sup>

Following the vote on the resolution, the representatives of India and the Russian Federation, while expressing their support for the resolution, questioned whether the Council was the appropriate forum to address the issue of mental health and psychosocial support for peacekeeping personnel.<sup>962</sup> Specifically, the representative of the Russian Federation stated that the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations of the General Assembly was the specialized platform bringing together all interested parties, including troop contributors and Secretariat experts, for a comprehensive review of all aspects of peacekeeping operations and added that the Council lacked the necessary competence, data and analysis to consider the mental health issues of peacekeeping personnel.<sup>963</sup> The representative of the Russian Federation expressed the view that personnel selection and performance issues in special political missions fell under the responsibility of the Secretariat and that mixing the notions of “peacekeeping operations” and “special political missions” under the single term “peace operations” introduced uncertainty regarding the responsibility for the appropriate selection of personnel, their mental health support, funding and the overall scope of the efforts needed. Similarly, the representative of India stressed that any serious deliberations on the issue should be premised on data and studies conducted in consultation with troop- and police-contributing countries and noted that the Special Committee was giving due consideration to the mental health of peacekeeping personnel, as a result of which there had been consistent improvement in recent years in the operating environment, living conditions, casualty evacuation and medical facilities, among other areas. As the penholder of the resolution, the representative of Mexico expressed the view that the Council should give due importance not only to the physical well-being of uniformed and civilian personnel, but also to their mental health before, during and after their deployment.

### Meetings: United Nations peacekeeping operations, 2022

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.9090</a> and <a href="#">S/PV.9090</a> (Resumption 1) 12 July	The key role of strategic communications for efficient peacekeeping  Letter dated 5 July 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2022/539</a> )		23 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Force Commander of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the	Secretary- General, all Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees <sup>c</sup>	<a href="#">S/PRST/2022/5</a>

<sup>959</sup> Resolution [2668 \(2022\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>960</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 2–4.

<sup>961</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5.

<sup>962</sup> See [S/PV.9229](#).

<sup>963</sup> For more information on the relations between the Council and the General Assembly, including its subsidiary organs, see part IV.

Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, 2022

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
				United Nations, Director of Research at the International Peace Institute		
<a href="#">S/PV.9123</a> 6 September				Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations	All Council members, invitee	
<a href="#">S/PV.9189</a> 14 November	Police Commissioners			Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations, Police Commissioner of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS), Police Commissioner of MONUSCO, representative of the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre	All Council members, invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.9229</a> 21 December		Draft resolution submitted by 52 Member States <sup>e</sup> ( <a href="#">S/2022/977</a> )	45 Member States <sup>f</sup>		Three Council members (India, Mexico, Russian Federation)	Resolution <a href="#">2668 (2022)</a> 15-0-0

<sup>a</sup> Algeria, Australia, Bangladesh, Belgium, Denmark, Ecuador, Egypt, Germany, Guatemala, Indonesia, Israel, Japan, Lithuania, Malta, Morocco, Philippines, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Slovakia, South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand and Uruguay.

<sup>b</sup> Brazil (President of the Council) was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Ghana was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration; India was represented by its Secretary (East) in the Ministry of External Affairs; and the United Arab Emirates was represented by its Permanent Representative to the United Nations and Assistant Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Political Affairs.

<sup>c</sup> The representative of Denmark spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries; and the representative of Indonesia spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends on the Safety and Security of United Nations Peacekeepers.

<sup>d</sup> The Police Commissioners of UNMISS and MONUSCO participated in the meeting by videoconference.

<sup>e</sup> Albania, Algeria, Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Türkiye and United Arab Emirates.

<sup>f</sup> Algeria, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, Israel, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, New Zealand, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand and Türkiye.

## 25. International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals

In 2022, the Council held four meetings related to the work of the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals.<sup>964</sup> Of the four meetings, two took the form of debates, and two were convened for the adoption of a decision.<sup>965</sup> The Council adopted one resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations in connection with the item. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.<sup>966</sup>

On 31 March, the Council adopted a presidential statement in which it requested the Mechanism to submit, by 14 April, a report on the progress of its work since June 2020, including detailed schedules for the ongoing proceedings and factors related to projected completion dates for the remaining cases.<sup>967</sup> In the presidential statement, the Council also requested the Informal Working Group on International Tribunals to carry out a thorough examination of the Mechanism's report and of the report on the evaluation of the methods and work of the Mechanism by the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS), which was due by 31 March.<sup>968</sup> The Council asked the Informal Working Group to present in its review its views and any findings or recommendations for the Council's consideration by 13 May.<sup>969</sup> Furthermore, the Council noted with concern that, despite reaching an earlier agreement, the Mechanism continued to face problems in the relocation of acquitted persons and convicted persons who had completed their sentences. The Council emphasized the importance of the successful relocation of such persons and stressed its ongoing determination to combat impunity for those responsible for serious violations of international humanitarian law and the necessity for all persons indicted by the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda, including the remaining fugitives, to be brought to justice.<sup>970</sup>

On 14 June, the Council held a meeting in which it heard the first semi-annual briefings by the President of the Mechanism and by its Prosecutor.<sup>971</sup> At the meeting, the President and the Prosecutor presented their latest reports on the work of the Mechanism, submitted pursuant to paragraph 16 of resolution 1966 (2010). Addressing the Council for the last time before stepping down as President of the Mechanism, Judge Carmel Agius expressed his satisfaction with the significant progress accomplished during the reporting period, noting that there were only three main cases left, which represented a markedly reduced judicial workload compared with early 2019, and that appeal case proceedings were on track for completion within the projected time frames. In addition, the President highlighted the advances in the tracking of fugitives of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda and their decisive impact on the Mechanism's operations and outlook. He said that, as a result of the efforts of the Prosecutor, only four fugitives were left, all of whom were expected to be tried in Rwanda. The President also highlighted progress in the enforcement of sentences and in the monitoring of cases referred to national jurisdictions, the number of which had been reduced from seven to two. The President noted that, parallel to the results, some setbacks had been experienced during the reporting period. In that connection, he reported that the binding agreement signed between the United Nations and the Niger to

<sup>964</sup> For more information on the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals, see previous supplements covering the period 2018 to 2021; for further information on issues considered under the item, see also previous supplements covering the period 1996 to 2007.

<sup>965</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

<sup>966</sup> See also [A/77/2](#), part II, chap. 10.

<sup>967</sup> [S/PRST/2022/2](#), fifth paragraph.

<sup>968</sup> *Ibid.*, sixth paragraph.

<sup>969</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>970</sup> *Ibid.*, ninth and tenth paragraphs.

<sup>971</sup> See [S/PV.9062](#).