

22. The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

During the period under review, the Security Council held 26 meetings and adopted three decisions under the item entitled “The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question”. A total of 15 of the meetings were held in the format of briefings, four were convened as open debates and six were held for the adoption of a decision.⁷⁴⁶ For the first time since 2012, the Council also held a private meeting under this item.⁷⁴⁷ Besides formal meetings, Council members held informal consultations of the whole in connection with this item throughout the year.⁷⁴⁸ More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

(i) Procedural overview

In 2023, the Council adopted a presidential statement on 20 February⁷⁴⁹ and resolutions [2712 \(2023\)](#) and [2720 \(2023\)](#) under this item, respectively, concerning the announcement by Israel of the expansion and “legalization” of settlement outposts in the West Bank, calling for urgent and extended humanitarian pauses and corridors through the Gaza Strip and the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages held by Hamas and other groups; and calling for the protection of civilians and enabling of immediate humanitarian assistance in Gaza.

As described below, the Council also failed to adopt five draft resolutions in relation to the situation in Gaza.⁷⁵⁰ Under this item, Council members also considered developments in Lebanon, the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen and the Middle East region.⁷⁵¹

Consistent with previous practice, the Council continued to hold quarterly open debates

⁷⁴⁶ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

⁷⁴⁷ See [S/PV.9486](#).

⁷⁴⁸ See [A/78/2](#), part II, chap. 2.A.

⁷⁴⁹ See [S/PRST/2023/1](#)

⁷⁵⁰ See [S/PV.9439](#), [S/PV.9442](#), [S/PV.9453](#) and [S/PV.9499](#). See also [S/2023/772](#), [S/2023/773](#), [S/2023/792](#), [S/2023/795](#) and [S/2023/970](#).

⁷⁵¹ See also sect. 21 above.

and monthly briefings, with the latter format also used to report on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) on a quarterly basis. In addition to the regularly scheduled meetings, the Council also held emergency meetings in response to the developments in the region.

During the reporting period, Council members heard regular briefings by the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Personal Representative of the Secretary-General. The Council also heard briefings by the Secretary-General, as well as other representatives of the Secretariat, including the Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Director of the Humanitarian Financing and Resource Mobilization Division and the Director of Coordination in the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs. Other briefers included the Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory, the Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), his Deputy and the Director of the UNRWA Office in New York, the Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the Executive Director of UN-Women, the Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), the Director-General of the World Health Organization (WHO) and the Head of Mission and Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO). Civil society representatives also briefed the Council, including the Director-General of the Palestine Red Crescent Society, the President of the Arab American Institute, the Vice-President for Studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and former Deputy Prime Minister of Jordan, the Special Advisor and Senior Humanitarian Law and Policy Consultant at the Norwegian Refugee Council and the Executive Director of Gisha, a non-for-profit organization.

(ii) Periodic briefings

In 2023, the Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process continued updating

the Council periodically during the monthly briefings held under this item,⁷⁵² as well as during the quarterly open debates.⁷⁵³ His statements focused on critical developments in the occupied Palestinian territory, including the situations in Gaza and the West Bank, as well as the Golan and Lebanon. He informed the Council of the alarming increase in violence across northern and central occupied West Bank that led to numerous Palestinian and Israeli casualties.⁷⁵⁴ He also expressed concern about the Israeli military operations, including airstrikes in the West Bank, as well as settler-related violence reported during the reporting period.⁷⁵⁵ He noted that the lack of progress towards a political horizon that addressed the core issues driving the conflict had left a dangerous and volatile vacuum, which had been filled by extremists on all sides.⁷⁵⁶ The Special Coordinator highlighted the severe financial and economic crisis threatening the stability of the Palestinian Authority.⁷⁵⁷ He also took note of the report of the OCHA that showed that 1,105 Palestinians had been displaced from their communities since 2022 and added that the increasing settler violence in the occupied Palestinian territories rendered them at risk of forcible transfer.⁷⁵⁸

In his briefings reporting on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) held in March, June, September and December, the Special Coordinator underscored the lack of progress in the implementation of the main provisions of the resolution, namely, those relating to the settlement activities of Israel, violence against civilians, including acts of terror, incitement, provocation and inflammatory rhetoric, steps and efforts to advance the peace process and the need for all States to distinguish in their relevant dealings between the territory of the State of Israel and the territories occupied since 1967.⁷⁵⁹ Consistent with prior practice, in 2023, the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution [2334 \(2016\)](#) were submitted in writing twice, the twenty-sixth report in June and the twenty-eight report in December.⁷⁶⁰

⁷⁵² See [S/PV.9263](#), [S/PV.9290](#), [S/PV.9328](#), [S/PV.9361](#), [S/PV.9400](#), [S/PV.9425](#), [S/PV.9489](#) and [S/PV.9513](#).

⁷⁵³ See [S/PV.9246](#), [S/PV.9309](#), [S/PV.9387](#) and [S/PV.9451](#).

⁷⁵⁴ See [S/PV.9400](#).

⁷⁵⁵ See [S/PV.9328](#), [S/PV.9361](#) and [S/PV.9400](#).

⁷⁵⁶ See [S/PV.9400](#).

⁷⁵⁷ See [S/PV.9263](#), [S/PV.9328](#), [S/PV.9361](#) and [S/PV.9400](#).

⁷⁵⁸ See [S/PV.9425](#).

⁷⁵⁹ See [S/PV.9290](#), [S/PV.9361](#), [S/PV.9425](#) and [S/PV.9513](#).

⁷⁶⁰ See [S/2023/458](#) and [S/2023/988](#).

In their discussions following the briefings, Council members noted the necessity of restoring a credible political horizon, expressing concern over the escalation of violence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory.⁷⁶¹ Several representatives noted with concern the information provided by the OCHA, which highlighted increasing displacements resulting from settler violence and on Palestinian and Israeli casualties.⁷⁶² Council members stressed the need to de-escalate tensions in the region and return to negotiations and put an end to the settlement expansion, urging Israel to stop the building of new settlements and the demolition of Palestinian-owned structures.⁷⁶³ Several Council members reiterated the calls urging the international community to provide more assistance for Palestine, in particular the need to provide early, predictable and sufficient funding to UNRWA.⁷⁶⁴ Discussions also focused on tensions around holy sites in Jerusalem, with members reaffirming the need to maintain the status quo, including the custodial role of Jordan.⁷⁶⁵ Many Council members reaffirmed their commitment to the peace process and a two-State solution, emphasizing the need to return to dialogue.⁷⁶⁶ In addition, several Council members stressed the need for the Palestinian Authority and the Government of Israel to restore security cooperation.⁷⁶⁷

(ii) Developments in 2023

On 5 January, the Council convened an emergency meeting following the visit to the holy sites in Jerusalem by the Israeli Minister for National Security.⁷⁶⁸ In his briefing, the Assistant-Secretary-General for Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations underscored that the visit, while not

⁷⁶¹ See, for example, [S/PV.9246](#) (Albania, United Arab Emirates, Ecuador, France and Switzerland); [S/PV.9400](#) (France, Switzerland, Malta and Albania); and [S/PV.9489](#) (Ghana, Malta and France).

⁷⁶² [S/PV.9400](#).

⁷⁶³ See [S/PV.9246](#), [S/PV.9290](#), [S/PV.9309](#), [S/PV.9361](#), [S/PV.9387](#) and [S/PV.9425](#).

⁷⁶⁴ See [S/PV.9246](#) (United States, Brazil, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Malta and Japan). [S/PV.9309](#) (Ghana, United States, Mozambique and Brazil); and [S/PV.9387](#) (Gabon, Ecuador, Malta, China, Ghana, Japan, United Arab Emirates, Mozambique and United Kingdom).

⁷⁶⁵ See [S/PV.9246](#), [S/PV.9309](#) and [S/PV.9387](#).

⁷⁶⁶ See, for example, [S/PV.9290](#), [S/PV.9513](#), [S/PV.9361](#) and [S/PV.9387](#).

⁷⁶⁷ See [S/PV.9263](#) (Ghana, United Kingdom, Albania and Malta); [S/PV.9290](#) (United Kingdom and Ghana); and [S/PV.9387](#) (Switzerland and Ghana).

⁷⁶⁸ See [S/PV.9236](#).

accompanied or followed by violence, was considered particularly inflammatory given the Minister's previous calls for change to the status quo. Noting that the Palestinian Authority and the international community condemned the visit as a provocation that risked sparking further tensions, the Assistant Secretary-General warned that incidents and tensions at the holy sites could spill over and cause violence throughout the occupied Palestinian territory, in Israel and elsewhere in the region. He further reiterated the call of the Secretary-General for all parties to refrain from escalation and uphold the status quo, in line with the special role of Jordan.

During the meeting, Council members expressed concerns over escalating tensions, including the unilateral actions that could further exacerbate the violence, stressed the need for restraint and resumption of negotiations for a two-State Solution, and underscored the importance of respect for the established arrangements regarding the holy sites.⁷⁶⁹

On 20 February, the Council adopted a presidential statement in which it reaffirmed its unwavering commitment to the vision of the two-State solution where two democratic States, Israel and Palestine, would live side by side in peace within secure and recognized borders, consistent with international law and relevant United Nations resolutions.⁷⁷⁰ The Council expressed deep concern and dismay with Israel's announcement on 12 February 2023 regarding the further construction and expansion of settlements and the "legalization" of settlement outputs and reiterated that continuing Israeli settlement activities were dangerously imperiling the viability of the two-State solution based on the 1967 lines.⁷⁷¹ The Council also underscored the need for the parties to meet their international obligations and to refrain from provocative actions, incitement and inflammatory rhetoric, condemned all acts of violence against civilians, including acts of terrorism, and called for upholding the historic status quo at the holy sites in Jerusalem.⁷⁷² Briefing the Council following the adoption of the presidential statement, the Special Coordinator explained that the situation in the occupied Palestinian territories was marked by a significant surge in violence, including some of the deadliest incidents in nearly 20 years. He also raised concerns about the authorization of several illegal outposts in the West Bank by Israel and the increasing number of demolitions of Palestinian-owned structures. The

⁷⁶⁹ See [S/PV.9236](#).

⁷⁷⁰ See [S/PRST/2023/1](#).

⁷⁷¹ *Ibid.*, third paragraph.

⁷⁷² *Ibid.*, fifth, sixth, seventh and tenth paragraphs.

fragile ceasefire in Gaza had been interrupted by exchanges of fire between Palestinian militants and Israeli security forces. The Special Coordinator called for coordinated action during the upcoming holy periods of Ramadan, urging all parties to refrain from steps that could escalate tensions in and around the holy sites.⁷⁷³

Following the attacks by Hamas and other Palestinian armed groups in Israel on 7 October and the launch of the Israeli attacks on Gaza, the Council convened for informal consultations on 8 and 13 October.⁷⁷⁴ On 16 October, following consultations held on the same day, the Council convened a meeting to consider a draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation and co-sponsored by 25 Member States.⁷⁷⁵ Speaking before the vote, the representative of the Russian Federation condemned the events of 7 October and the deaths of Israeli civilians, as well as the deaths of civilians in the Gaza Strip. He described the draft resolution submitted by his delegation as a purely humanitarian text, which called for an immediate, lasting and fully respected humanitarian ceasefire. He also noted that the draft resolution would condemn all violence and all terrorist attacks and call for the opening of humanitarian corridors and the safe release of all hostages.⁷⁷⁶ The draft resolution was not adopted, having failed to obtain the required number of votes. In the subsequent discussion, several members expressed regret that the Council was not able to reach a consensus⁷⁷⁷ and noted that the draft resolution needed further engagement and negotiations to include crucial elements before being put into blue.⁷⁷⁸ The representative of the United States stated that the Council had a responsibility to help address the humanitarian crisis, unequivocally condemn Hamas and reaffirm Israel's inherent right to self-defense, stressing the Russian draft resolution was insufficient because it did not mention Hamas. Similarly, the representative of the United Kingdom, along with the representatives of Ecuador and Malta, stated that her country could not support a document that failed to condemn Hamas' attacks in Israel. The representatives of China, Ecuador and France encouraged Council members to continue their efforts to reach a

⁷⁷³ See [S/PV.9236](#).

⁷⁷⁴ See [A/78/2](#), part II, chap. 2.A and [S/2024/370](#).

⁷⁷⁵ See [S/PV.9439](#). See also [S/2023/772](#).

⁷⁷⁶ See [S/PV.9439](#).

⁷⁷⁷ *Ibid.*, (Russian Federation, China and Gabon).

⁷⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, (Japan, Malta, Ecuador, Switzerland, Albania and France).

consensus for a draft resolution negotiated Brazil, the President of the Council for the month of October.

On 18 October, the Council convened to consider a draft resolution submitted by Brazil.⁷⁷⁹ At the outset of the meeting, the Council also considered two written amendments submitted by the Russian Federation.⁷⁸⁰ The representative of the Russian Federation explained that the amendments introduced paragraphs that unequivocally condemned indiscriminate attacks on the civilian population and civilian objects in Gaza and called for an immediate, sustainable and respected humanitarian ceasefire. Neither amendment garnered a sufficient number of votes. The Council subsequently voted on the draft resolution, as submitted by Brazil, which was not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent member, the United States. Speaking after the vote, the representative of Brazil expressed regret that collective action was made impossible in the Council and the hope of his delegation that efforts by other actors would yield positive results. While acknowledging Brazil's desire to advance with the draft resolution, the representative of the United States underscored that diplomatic efforts should be allowed to unfold, especially given that the high-level engagements with regional actors were taking place. She also expressed her delegation's disappointment that the draft resolution made no mention of Israel's right of self-defense. Several Council members emphasized the urgent need for rapid humanitarian access in light of the dire conditions in Gaza⁷⁸¹ and called for Council action.

On the same day, the Council held a meeting to discuss the deteriorating humanitarian and security situation in Gaza, particularly in the aftermath of an attack on the Al Ahli Hospital in Gaza City.⁷⁸² In his statement, the Special Coordinator emphasized the need to achieve Hamas' immediate, unconditional release of all the hostages; unrestricted access of humanitarian aid for Palestinians in Gaza and a collective efforts to end the hostilities and prevent any further expansion of the conflict into the region.. Also briefing at the meeting, the

⁷⁷⁹ See [S/PV.9442](#). For the draft resolution, see [S/2023/773](#).

⁷⁸⁰ For the draft amendments, see [S/2023/775](#) and [S/2023/776](#). For more information on decision-making, including voting, see part II, sect. VIII.

⁷⁸¹ See [S/PV.9442](#) (Malta, Switzerland, United Kingdom, Mozambique, Brazil, Ghana, Japan, Switzerland, Ecuador and United Arab Emirates).

⁷⁸² See [S/PV.9443](#).

Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator reported about the humanitarian challenges in Gaza, noting the impact of Israeli evacuation warnings that many could not follow. He highlighted the dire situation of Gaza's health services and the scarcity of essential supplies, including fuel, food, medical items and water, and stressed the need to protect civilians and healthcare providers.

At the high-level open debate held on 24 October, the Secretary-General opened the meeting by condemning the acts of terror by Hamas, including the kidnappings and rocket attacks, stating that there was no justification for such violence against civilians and called for the immediate and humane treatment and release of all hostages.⁷⁸³ The Secretary-General noted that Palestinian grievances did not justify the actions of Hamas, and at the same time, that those actions did not justify the collective punishment of Palestinians. He further expressed alarm at the high levels of civilian casualties and destruction in Gaza and stressed the importance of adhering to international humanitarian law. Emphasizing the need for a humanitarian ceasefire, he reiterated the importance of a two-State solution for achieving peace and stability, respecting the security needs of Israelis and the statehood aspirations of Palestinians. He urged all parties to pull back from further violence, condemned the polarization fueled by disinformation, and called for resistance against hate.

Following the Secretary-General, the Special Coordinator reported that the attacks by Hamas on 7 October resulted in over 1,400 deaths in Israel, including many civilians and the abduction of at least 220 people. He further reported on Israel's declaration of a state of war and subsequent intensive bombardment of Gaza, resulting in substantial Palestinian casualties and widespread destruction, displacing over one million Palestinians. The Special Coordinator emphasized the broader regional risks and the escalation of violence in the West Bank and across the Blue Line with Lebanon. At the same meeting, the Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator for the Occupied Palestinian Territory briefed on the humanitarian situation in both Gaza and Israel, emphasizing the critical conditions following intense air strikes and rocket attacks. She highlighted the devastating impact of the conflict, noting that the fatality toll in Gaza had

⁷⁸³ See [S/PV.9451](#).

surpassed the total number of fatalities from the 2014 war, with a significant number of the victims being women and children. She further described the severe damage to infrastructure, including a complete electricity blackout and hospitals on the verge of collapse exacerbated by shortages of essential supplies. She stressed the insufficiency of essential supplies and called for increased funding for UNRWA and other humanitarian agencies to continue their critical work.

On 25 October, the Council convened to consider two competing draft resolutions submitted by the United States and by the Russian Federation, the latter text also being co-sponsored by the Sudan and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.⁷⁸⁴ The draft submitted by the United States was not adopted due to the negative votes of two permanent members, China and the Russian Federation. The draft submitted by the Russian Federation was not adopted, having failed to obtain the required number of votes. In her statement before the votes, the representative of the United States noted that the draft resolution submitted by her delegation was intended to enjoy broad support, bolster the efforts of the United Nations and build on many elements of the draft Brazil had put forward earlier in the month.⁷⁸⁵ She further explained her position that the draft would condemn the heinous terrorist attacks by Hamas and other terrorist groups, affirm the right of Member States to defend themselves against the threat to peace and security posed by acts of terrorism, urge all parties to fully respect and comply with their obligations under international law and call for humanitarian pauses to allow for full, rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access. The representative of the United States stated that the draft submitted by the Russian Federation, on the other hand, failed to reflect the realities on the ground. The representative of the United Kingdom stated that her delegation could not support the Russian draft because it failed to recognize Israel's right to self-defense. Expressing disappointment that it was not adopted, the representative of Albania described the draft resolution submitted by the United States as a balanced text, which condemned the terrorist attack against Israel and called for the liberation of hostages, reaffirmed the right of States to self-defence, and called for humanitarian pauses and humanitarian corridors.

⁷⁸⁴ See [S/PV.9453](#).

⁷⁸⁵ For the draft resolution, see [S/2023/792](#) and [S/2023/795](#).

In contrast, the representative of the Russian Federation rejected the United States draft, noting that it was not consulted enough among the Council members and was insufficient because it did not include a call for a ceasefire, did not condemn indiscriminate attacks on civilians in Gaza or oppose actions designed to forcibly displace civilians. He noted that the alternative draft resolution of the Russian Federation aimed to enable the Council to fulfil its mandate, was based on trusted humanitarian language, and incorporated the most useful elements from the United States draft resolution, as well as the previous draft resolutions. Similarly, the representative of China pointed out that the draft resolution submitted by the United States lacked the consensus it needed given that it did not reflect the strong calls for a ceasefire and an end to the fighting.

At a briefing held on 30 October, the Commissioner-General of UNRWA reported about the unprecedented level of destruction, the displacement of 670,000 of civilians within Gaza, lack of access to food, water and shelter, as well as alarmingly high numbers of casualties, especially among children and women.⁷⁸⁶ He detailed the struggle to maintain essential services, noting severe limitations on medical supplies, food and fuel and highlighted the critical role of UNRWA as a lifeline for Palestinians in Gaza, urging increased support for the Agency. He called for strict adherence to international humanitarian law, including protecting civilians and civilian infrastructure and the safe, unimpeded and uninterrupted flow of humanitarian aid. Also briefing the Council, the Executive Director of the UNICEF focused on the devastating impact of the conflict on children and highlighted an alarming number of casualties and severe life-long trauma among children. The Director of the Humanitarian Financing and Resource Mobilization Division in OCHA focused on the extensive damage to healthcare facilities and a critical shortage of essential supplies in Gaza, as well as the situation in the West Bank, which had experienced increased violence and adverse economic impact due to suspended work permits.

At a meeting held on 10 November, the Council heard briefings by the Director-General of the World Health Organization and Director General of the Palestine Red Crescent Society about the deteriorating health situation in Gaza amid continued attacks on hospitals.⁷⁸⁷

⁷⁸⁶ See [S/PV.9462](#).

⁷⁸⁷ See [S/PV.9472](#). See also [S/2024/137](#).

At the outset of the meeting, Council members observed a moment of silence in memory of the victims of the 7 October crisis and its following events.⁷⁸⁸ Expressing deep concern for both Israelis and Palestinians affected by the ongoing conflict, the Director-General of the World Health Organization highlighted the catastrophic displacement of millions of people and unsafe conditions, including outbreaks of disease due to overcrowding and over 250 attacks on healthcare facilities across Gaza and the West Bank. He commended the resilience of health workers and underscored the critical need for continuous delivery of medical supplies and fuel. Also briefing the Council, the Director General of the Palestine Red Crescent Society reported about the attacks on key medical facilities, including the Al Shifa and Al-Quds Hospitals, which endangered patients, staff and thousands of displaced civilians.

On 15 November, the Council convened to consider a draft resolution submitted by Malta.⁷⁸⁹ Ahead of the vote, the Council considered an oral amendment proposed by the Russian Federation regarding the addition of a new paragraph calling for an immediate, durable and sustained humanitarian truce leading to a cessation of hostilities.⁷⁹⁰ Having failed to obtain the required number of votes, the proposed amendment was not adopted. The Council then proceeded to vote on the draft resolution, as originally proposed by Malta, which was adopted as resolution [2712 \(2023\)](#), with 12 votes in favor and abstentions from the Russian Federation, United Kingdom and the United States. In the resolution, the Council called for urgent and extended humanitarian pauses and corridors throughout the Gaza Strip to enable full, rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access to facilitate the provision of essential goods and services in the region.⁷⁹¹ The Council also called for all parties to refrain from depriving the civilian population in the Gaza Strip of basic services and humanitarian assistance indispensable to their survival, consistent with international humanitarian law.⁷⁹² The Council further called for the immediate and unconditional release of all hostages held by Hamas and other groups, especially children, as well as ensuring immediate humanitarian

⁷⁸⁸ For more information on the practice of the Council concerning the agenda, see part II, sect. II.

⁷⁸⁹ See [S/PV.9479](#). See also [S/2023/876](#).

⁷⁹⁰ For more information on decision-making, see part II, sect. VIII.

⁷⁹¹ See resolution [2712 \(2023\)](#), para. 2.

⁷⁹² *Ibid.* para. 4.

access.⁷⁹³ Speaking ahead of the vote, the representative of Malta highlighted that the draft text was focused on the immediate needs of the affected children and was humanitarian in scope. The representative of the United Arab Emirates noted that the draft resolution, which had the support of the Group of Arab States, was the bare minimum that could enable humanitarian actors to do their life-saving work and added that her delegation remained resolute that the Council had to work towards a lasting humanitarian ceasefire.

On 22 November, the Council held an emergency meeting to hear briefings by the Executive Directors of UN-Women, UNICEF and the UNFPA, respectively, about the impact of humanitarian situation in Gaza and the West Bank for women and children.⁷⁹⁴ Commending the facilitating role of Egypt, Qatar and the United States, the Executive Director of UN-Women noted that the loss of housing and general security, compounded by escalating violence in the West Bank, had further exacerbated the hardships for women and girls. She condemned gender-based violence and ensured the Council that efforts were underway to document and respond accordingly. The Executive Director of UNICEF discussed the dire circumstances facing children in the region, including the deaths and hostage situation of Israeli children and the grim situation in Gaza and the West Bank. She reported on her visit to Gaza, where she met with affected families and UNICEF staff. In a similar vein, the Executive Director of UNFPA pointed out the heavy toll on women and children, with two-thirds of the casualties in Gaza being from these groups and described the dire conditions under which pregnant women gave birth. She emphasized the risks to women with obstetric complications, the dire state of healthcare facilities, and the widespread lack of access to basic needs like clean water, food, and sanitation.

On 29 November, the Council held a high-level briefing at which the Secretary-General reported on the implementation of resolution [2712 \(2023\)](#).⁷⁹⁵ The Secretary-General emphasized the widespread death and wholesale destruction that had been unleashed by the conflict in Gaza and Israel, displacing some 80 per cent of the people of Gaza and killing more than 140,000 people. Stressing the inviolability of United Nations facilities, he lamented that

⁷⁹³ Ibid., para. 3.

⁷⁹⁴ See [S/PV.9484](#).

⁷⁹⁵ See [S/PV.9489](#).

111 members of the United Nations family had been killed in Gaza, which represented the largest in the Organization's history. Further, while welcoming the release of several hostages and Palestinian prisoners, he urged for the unconditional release of all hostages. The Secretary-General also stressed the necessity of continuous and unimpeded humanitarian access and the significant increase of humanitarian aid and called for a humanitarian ceasefire and a determined move towards a two-State solution to ensure peace and security in the region. Also briefing the Council, the Special Coordinator focused on the dynamics in the occupied West Bank and the conflict in Gaza. While welcoming a recent agreement that resulted in the release of Israeli hostages from Gaza, a pause in fighting and increased humanitarian aid, he expressed concern over heightened tensions, violence and movement restrictions in the West Bank. Regarding regional dynamics, he mentioned tensions along the Blue Line, incidents in the Golan and the Syrian Arab Republic and missile strikes from Yemen toward Israel. Looking forward, he stressed the importance of planning for post-conflict frameworks and advocated for increased international engagement.⁷⁹⁶

On 8 December, the Council heard a briefing from the Secretary-General further to his letter dated 6 December in which he brought the situation in Gaza to the attention of the Council under Article 99 of the Charter.⁷⁹⁷ In his statement, the Secretary-General highlighted that the humanitarian situation was at a "breaking point" with a high risk of total collapse of the humanitarian support system, which led him to invoke Article 99 as an unprecedented decision. He expressed deep concern over the unprecedented threats to the safety of the United Nations staff, adding that the conditions for the effective delivery of humanitarian aid no longer existed, with severe limitations on access due to military operations and restrictions. He urged the Council to spare no effort to push for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire, the protection of civilians and the urgent delivery of life-saving aid.

Also on 8 December, the Council convened to consider a draft resolution submitted by the United Arab Emirates and co-sponsored by 101 Member States, which would demand an

⁷⁹⁶ For more information, see part V, sect. II case 9.

⁷⁹⁷ See [S/PV.9498](#) and [S/2023/962](#). For more information on invocation of and discussions on Article 99 of the Charter, see part VI, sect. IV.

immediate humanitarian ceasefire and the unconditional release of all hostages.⁷⁹⁸ Speaking before the vote, the representative of the United Arab Emirates implored all Council members to vote in favour of the draft resolution for it echoed the calls for a humanitarian ceasefire made by world leaders, humanitarian organizations and the Secretary-General. The draft resolution was not adopted due to the negative vote of a permanent member, the United States.⁷⁹⁹ Explaining the vote, the representative of the United States stated that his delegation could not support the draft resolution because it did not include language condemning the terrorist attack by Hamas on Israel on 7 October and acknowledging Israel's right to defend itself against terrorism, consistent with international law. He stressed that the draft text was unbalanced, divorced from reality, and failed to note the attack that killed more than 1,200 people and the acts of sexual and gender-based violence committed by Hamas during its attack on 7 October.⁸⁰⁰

On 22 December, the Council adopted resolution [2720 \(2023\)](#), with the abstentions of the Russian Federation and the United States.⁸⁰¹ By the resolution, the draft of which was submitted by the United Arab Emirates, the Council called for urgent steps to immediately allow safe, unhindered and expanded humanitarian access and to create the conditions for a sustainable cessation of hostilities.⁸⁰² The Council also requested that the Secretary-General appoint a Senior Humanitarian and Reconstruction Coordinator with responsibility for facilitating, coordinating, monitoring and verifying the humanitarian nature of all humanitarian relief consignments to Gaza provided through States that were not party to the conflict and that the Coordinator expeditiously established a United Nations mechanism for accelerating the provision of humanitarian relief consignments to Gaza. The Council further requested that the Secretary-General report in writing, within five working days of the adoption of the resolution, on the implementation of Security Council resolution [2712](#)

⁷⁹⁸ See [S/PV.9499](#). See also [S/2023/970](#).

⁷⁹⁹ Further to the veto cast at the meeting, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [76/262](#), the Security Council transmitted a special report to the Assembly ([A/78/667](#)). With regard to the veto cast on 8 December ([S/PV.9499](#)) under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question", the discussion in the Assembly was held under the umbrella of the tenth emergency special sessions on 12 December (see [A/ES-10/PV.45](#) – [A/ES10/PV.48](#)) For further details, see part IV, sect. I. F.

⁸⁰⁰ See [S/PV.9499](#).

⁸⁰¹ See [S/PV.9520](#) and resolution [2720 \(2023\)](#).

⁸⁰² Resolution [2720 \(2023\)](#) paras. 1 and 2.

[\(2023\)](#).⁸⁰³ Ahead of the vote on the draft resolution, the Council considered an amendment proposed orally by the Russian Federation, which called for an urgent suspension of hostilities to allow safe and unhindered humanitarian access and for urgent steps towards a sustainable cessation of hostilities. The amendment was not adopted owing to the negative vote of a permanent member, the United States.⁸⁰⁴ Explaining her delegation's rejection of the amendment, the representative of the United States stated that the humanitarian draft resolution submitted by the United Arab Emirates already called for steps to immediately allow safe, unhindered and expanded humanitarian access and to create the conditions for a sustainable cessation of hostilities. On 26 December, the Secretary-General appointed the Senior Humanitarian and Reconstruction Coordinator for Gaza.⁸⁰⁵

On 29 December, the Council convened for an emergency briefing and heard briefings by the Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific, Vice-President for Studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and Special Advisor and Senior Humanitarian Law and Policy Consultant at the Norwegian Refugee Council.⁸⁰⁶ The Assistant Secretary-General highlighted the interconnected nature of conflicts across various theaters, warning of a high risk for a regional spillover given the multiple actors involved. He noted with concern the continued daily exchanges of fire across the Blue Line, including strikes on civilian areas, daily attacks on United States bases in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic and continued Houthi threats to maritime navigation in the Red Sea. He urged all actors to de-escalate tensions and return to a cessation of hostilities under the framework of resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#). The Vice-President for Studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and former Deputy Prime Minister of Jordan criticized the focus on post-war governance in Gaza, stressing the need to address the Israeli occupation, which he called the root cause of the problem. He further outlined a hypothetical political process, including a defined timeline to end the occupation, the recognition of a Palestinian State and new elections. In his briefing, the Special Advisor and Senior Humanitarian Law and Policy Consultant at the Norwegian Refugee Council expressed his concern over the forced

⁸⁰³ Ibid., para. 14.

⁸⁰⁴ Further to the veto cast at the meeting, pursuant to General Assembly resolution [76/262](#), the Security Council transmitted a special report to the Assembly ([A/78/691](#)). With regard to the veto cast on 22 December ([S/PV.9520](#)) under the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian Question", the Assembly convened for a plenary meeting 9 January 2024 (see [A/78/PV.51](#) and [A/78/PV.52](#)). For further details, see part IV, sect. I. F.

⁸⁰⁵ [SG/A/2251](#)

⁸⁰⁶ See [S/PV.9522](#).

displacement of Palestinians within Gaza and the possibility of mass deportations of Palestinians across the border with Egypt and further stressed the illegality of settlement expansion and settler violence.

Meetings: The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, 2023

<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>
S/PV.9236 5 January 2023			Israel, Jordan	Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees ^a	
S/PV.9246 and S/PV.9246 (Resumption 1) 18 January 2023			25 Member States ^b	Six invitees ^c	All Council members, all invitees ^d	
S/PV.9263 20 February 2023			Israel, Qatar	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Deputy Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees ^e	
S/PV.9290 22 March 2023			Israel	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees ^d	
S/PV.9309 and S/PV.9309 (Resumption 1) 25 April 2023			35 Member States ^f	Six invitees ^g	All Council members ^h , all invitees ⁱ	
S/PV.9328 24 May 2023				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Executive Director of Gisha	All Council members, all invitees ^d	

<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>
S/PV.9361 27 June 2023			Israel	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, President of the Arab American Institute, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees ^d	
S/PV.9387 and S/PV.9387 (Resumption 1) 27 July 2023			30 Member States ^j	Six invitees ^k	All Council members, all invitees ^l	
S/PV.9400 21 August 2023				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	All Council members, invitee ^d	
S/PV.9425 27 September 2023				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process	All Council members, invitee ^d	
S/PV.9439 16 October 2023		Draft resolution (S/2023/772) submitted by 26 Member States ^m	25 Member States ⁿ	Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine	12 Council members ^o , 3 invitees ^p	Draft resolution (S/2023/772) not adopted 5-4-6 ^q
		Draft resolution submitted by Brazil (S/2023/773)				Draft resolution (S/2023/773) not adopted 12-1-2 ^s
S/PV.9442 18 October 2023		Draft amendment submitted by the Russian Federation (S/2023/775),			14 Council members ^r	Draft amendment (S/2023/775) not adopted 6-1-8 ^t
		Draft amendment submitted by the Russian Federation (S/2023/776)				Draft amendment (S/2023/776) not adopted 7-1-7 ^u
S/PV.9443 18 October 2023			Algeria, Egypt, Israel, Jordan, Libya, Oman, Pakistan, South Africa, the Syrian	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency	All Council members, all invitees ^v	

<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>
			Arab Republic, Tunisia	Relief Coordinator, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations		
S/PV.9451 and S/PV.9451 (Resumption 1) 24 October 2023			62 Member States ^w	Seven invitees ^t	All Council members ^y , all invitees ^z	
		Draft resolution submitted by the United States (S/2023/792)				Draft resolution (S/2023/792) not adopted 10-3-2 ^{cc}
S/PV.9453 25 October 2023		Draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation, Sudan and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (S/2023/795)	Israel, the Sudan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela		13 Council members ^{aa} , invitee ^{bb}	Draft resolution (S/2023/795) not adopted 4-2-9 ^{dd}
S/PV.9462 30 October 2023			Israel, Jordan	Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, Director, Humanitarian Financing and Resource Mobilization Division, Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine	All Council members, all invitees ^{ee}	
S/PV.9472 10 November 2023			Israel	Director-General of the World Health Organization, Director General of the Palestine Red Crescent Society, Permanent Observer of	All Council members, all invitees ^{ff}	

<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>
				the Observer State of Palestine		
S/PV.9479 15 November 2023		Draft resolution submitted by Malta (S/2023/876)	Israel	Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine	14 Council members ^{gg} , all invitees	Resolution 2712 (2023) 12-0-3 ^{hh}
S/PV.9484 22 November 2023			Israel	Executive Director of UN-Women, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine	All Council members, all invitees ⁱⁱ	
S/PV.9486 27 November 2023 (closed)			Egypt, Israel, Qatar	Director of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East Representative Office in New York, Director of Coordination, United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.9489 29 November 2023			Egypt, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, Malaysia, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Slovenia, Türkiye	Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, Observer State of Palestine	All Council members ^{jj} , all invitees ^{kk}	
S/PV.9498 8 December 2023	Letter dated 6 December 2023 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security		Egypt, Indonesia, Israel, Qatar	Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees ^{ll}	

<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>
	Council (S/2023/962)					
S/PV.9499 8 December 2023	Draft resolution submitted by the United Arab Emirates (S/2023/970)		97 Member States ^{mm}	Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine	14 Council members ⁿⁿ , 1 invitee ^{oo}	Draft resolution S/2023/970 not adopted 13-1-1 ^{pp}
S/PV.9513 19 December 2023				Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Head of Mission and Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization	All Council members, all invitees ^{qq}	
S/PV.9520 22 December 2023			Egypt, Israel	Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine	14 Council members ^{rr} , all invitees	Resolution 2720 (2023) 13-0-2 ^{ss}
S/PV.9522 29 December 2023			Israel	Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations, Vice-President for Studies at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace and former Deputy Prime Minister of Jordan, Special Advisor and Senior Humanitarian Law and Policy Consultant at the Norwegian Refugee Council, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine	All Council members, ^{tt} all invitees ^{uu}	

^a The Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine spoke on behalf of the Group of Arab States.

^b Algeria, Argentina, Bangladesh, Brunei Darussalam, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, Iraq, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Morocco, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia and Türkiye.

^c Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine to the United Nations, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations, Permanent Observer at the Observer Mission of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the United Nations, Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People.

^d The Special Coordinator participated in the meeting by videoconference. Indonesia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

^e The Special Coordinator and the Deputy Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine

Refugees in the Near East participated in the meeting by videoconference; the representative of Qatar spoke on behalf of the Group of Arab States.

^f Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Chile, Cuba, Egypt, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Türkiye, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

^g Observer State of Palestine, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Permanent Observer at the Observer Mission of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the United Nations, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations.

^h The Russian Federation was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; the United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of State.

ⁱ The Observer State of Palestine was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates; Kazakhstan was represented by its First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; Cuba was represented by its First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. The representative of Lebanon spoke on behalf of the Group of Arab States, the representative of Mauritania spoke on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, and the representative of Azerbaijan made a statement on behalf of the 120 States members of the Movement of Non-Aligned Countries (NAM).

^j Algeria, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Chile, Cuba, Egypt, Guyana, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Pakistan, the Philippines, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, the Syrian Arab Republic, Türkiye, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen.

^k Permanent Observer of the Observer State of Palestine, Assistant Secretary-General for Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations, Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the League of Arab States to the United Nations, Vice-Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Permanent Observer of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the United Nations.

^l The representative of Bangladesh spoke on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation. Cuba was represented by its First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

^m Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Indonesia, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Türkiye, United Arab Emirates, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe.

ⁿ Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Djibouti, Egypt, Eritrea, Indonesia, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Mali, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Nicaragua, Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Sudan, Türkiye, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Yemen and Zimbabwe.

^o Russian Federation, United States, Japan, United Kingdom, Malta, Ecuador, Switzerland, China, Gabon, United Arab Emirates, Albania, France.

^p Observer State of Palestine, Israel and Jordan; the representative of Jordan spoke on behalf of the Group of Arab States.

^q *For:* China, Gabon, Mozambique, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates; *against:* France, Japan, United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining:* Albania, Brazil, Ecuador, Ghana, Malta, Switzerland.

^r Brazil, Russian Federation, United States, Malta, China, Mozambique, Ghana, Japan, Switzerland, Gabon, United Kingdom, Ecuador, Albania, United Arab Emirates.

^s *For:* Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates; *against:* United States; *abstaining:* Russian Federation, United Kingdom.

^t *For:* Brazil, China, Gabon, Mozambique, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates; *against:* United States; *abstaining:* Albania, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Switzerland, United Kingdom.

^u *For:* Brazil, China, Gabon, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates; *against:* United States; *abstaining:* Albania, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Japan, Malta, United Kingdom.

^v The Special Coordinator and the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator participated in the meeting by videoconference; the representative of Jordan spoke on behalf of the Group of Arab States and the representative of Oman spoke on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

^w Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Cambodia, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Czechia, Egypt, Finland, Germany, Guatemala, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Spain, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Viet Nam.

^x Observer State of Palestine, Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Deputy Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process, Chair of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, Permanent Observer of the Sovereign Order of Malta.

^y Brazil was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; the United States was represented by its Secretary of State; France was represented by its Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs; Gabon was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Albania was represented by its Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs; Malta was represented by its Minister for Foreign and European Affairs and Trade; Switzerland was represented by its State Secretary; the United Kingdom was represented by its Minister of State for Security; the United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of State for International Cooperation.

^z The Observer State of Palestine was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates. Israel was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Egypt was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Hungary was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade; South Africa was represented by its Minister for International Relations; Saudi Arabia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Luxembourg was represented by its Minister for Foreign and European Affairs; Indonesia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Portugal was represented by its Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs; Algeria was represented by its Minister of Foreign Affairs and National Community Abroad; Türkiye was represented by its Deputy Foreign Minister for Middle East and North Africa Affairs; Germany was represented by its Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs; the Kingdom of the Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Libya was represented by its Acting Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation; Slovenia was represented by its State Secretary; Cuba was represented by its First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs; Poland was represented by its Under-Secretary of State; Colombia was represented by its Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs. The representative of Jordan spoke on behalf of the Group of Arab States.

^{aa} Albania, China, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Malta (on behalf of the 10 elected members of the Security Council), Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.

^{bb} Israel.

^{cc} *For*: Albania, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Switzerland, United Kingdom, United States; *against*: China, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates; *abstaining*: Brazil, Mozambique.

^{dd} *For*: China, Gabon, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates; *against*: United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining*: Albania, Brazil, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Switzerland.

^{ee} The Commissioner-General of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East participated by videoconference.

^{ff} The Director General of the Palestine Red Crescent Society participated by videoconference.

^{gg} Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.

^{hh} *For*: Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Malta, Mozambique, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates; *against*: none; *abstaining*: Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States.

ⁱⁱ The Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund participated by videoconference.

^{jj} Brazil was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; China was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Ghana was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration; Japan was represented by its Special Envoy for the Middle East Peace; Switzerland was represented by its State Secretary; the United Kingdom was represented by its Minister of State at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office; the United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of State.

^{kk} The Special Coordinator participated in the meeting by videoconference. The Observer State of Palestine was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates; Qatar was represented by its Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Egypt was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Saudi Arabia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Jordan was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Expatriates; Türkiye was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Indonesia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; Slovenia was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign and European Affairs; Malaysia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.^{ll} The representative of Egypt spoke on behalf of the Group of Arab States; the representative of Indonesia spoke on behalf of the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation; the representative of Qatar spoke on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council.

^{mmm} Afghanistan, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Cambodia, the Central African Republic, Chad, Chile, Colombia, the Comoros, the Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, the Dominican Republic, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, the Gambia, Grenada, Guyana, Iceland, Indonesia, Iraq, Ireland, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libya, Luxembourg, Malaysia, Maldives, Mauritania, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, Suriname, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Türkiye, Uganda, Uzbekistan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

ⁿⁿⁿ Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United States.

^{ooo} Observer State of Palestine.

^{pp} *For*: Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates; *against*: United States; *abstaining*: United Kingdom.

^{qq} The Special Coordinator participated in the meeting by videoconference. The Special Coordinator and the Head of Mission and Chief of Staff of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization participated by videoconference.

^{rr} Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States.

^{ss} *For*: Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Gabon, Ghana, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom; *against*: none; *abstaining*: Russian Federation, United States.

^{tt} Brazil spoke on behalf of Brazil and Switzerland.

^{uu} The Special Advisor and Senior Humanitarian Law and Policy Consultant at the Norwegian Refugee Council participated by videoconference.