

37. Maintenance of international peace and security

During the period under review, the Security Council held 11 meetings, adopted two resolutions, one of which was under Chapter VII of the Charter and issued one presidential statement under the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security”. Five of the meetings took the form of briefings, four took the form of open debates and two were convened to adopt a decision of the Council.¹¹⁴⁸ More information on the meetings, including on the participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.¹¹⁴⁹

In 2023, as in previous periods, a broad range of new and existing sub-items were discussed in connection with this item.¹¹⁵⁰ The thematic sub-items addressed during the period under review were the following: (a) security sector reform; (b) multilateralism and the purpose and principles of the United Nations Charter; (c) human fraternity; (d) Artificial Intelligence; (e) food insecurity; (f) public-private humanitarian partnership; (g) regional and subregional arrangements; and (h) sustaining peace through common development. The meetings addressing the above sub-items are featured below in chronological order.

On 16 March, at the initiative of Mozambique which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁵¹ the Council held a briefing under the sub-item entitled “Security sector reform”.¹¹⁵² At the meeting, Council members heard briefings by the Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peace Operations and the African Union Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security. The Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law, presenting the Secretary-General’s report on strengthening the United Nations approach to security sector reform, reported about the implementation of the Council resolution 2553 (2020). While progress had been made, including launching a system-wide programme of action to guide the implementation of the report, strengthening strategic partnerships with the African Union, the European Union, OECD, and the World Bank, and establishing a standing capacity in Brindisi, key challenges remained. Those challenges were lack of national ownership,

¹¹⁴⁸ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

¹¹⁴⁹ See [A/78/2](#), part II, chap. 34.

¹¹⁵⁰ For more information on new sub-items, see part II, sect. III.A.

¹¹⁵¹ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 1 March 2023 ([S/2023/168](#)).

¹¹⁵² See [S/PV.9285](#).

reluctance to integrate security sector reforms into the early stages of mediation and peace processes, inability to financially sustain critical progress in reforms after a drawdown of peace operations and barriers to women's participation. Addressing those challenge required strong United Nations leadership and predictable mandates by the Council, and strategic and effective interventions informed by political and economic analysis. The Assistant Secretary-General called on the Council to integrate into its instructions the key tenets of the resolution more systematically, such as national ownership, the primacy of political solutions, and the need for governance-focused and gender-sensitive approaches at all stages of security sector reform, as well as the oversight role of the Council and the importance of consistent reporting.

The African Union Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security briefed the Council and stated that the AU policy underscored security sector reform as an integral part of its peace processes and an essential element in conflict prevention, early recovery, peacebuilding and sustainable development. Highlighting key principles such as African solidarity, regional integration and national ownership, he reaffirmed the African Union's commitment to mainstreaming security sector reform norms and working methods with the regional economic communities. The launching of the African Union-led Lessons Learned Forum on AU Peace Support Operations in 2022 and using a knowledge-exchange platform to bring together all knowledge communities were few examples of such commitment.

Following the briefing, participants emphasized the importance of security sector reforms implemented through national ownership and dialogue. Several speakers supported continuing strong cooperation with subregional organizations and instruments such as the African Union Policy Framework on Security Sector Reform to strengthen the reform efforts.¹¹⁵³ The representatives of Slovakia and South Africa, as co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of Security Sector Reform, called for mobilizing financial support for the implementation of the programme of action on security sector reform for the standing capacity and establishing a consistent time frame for the Secretary-General's reporting on the implementation of resolution [2253 \(2020\)](#).

¹¹⁵³ [S/PV.9285](#) (Mozambique, Switzerland, Ecuador, Malta, China, Ghana, Gaon, United Arab Emirates, Albania and Brazil). For further details on the discussion regarding the cooperation with regional organizations, see part VIII, sect. I.

On 24 April, at the initiative of the Russian Federation which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁵⁴ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled “Effective multilateralism through the defence of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations”.¹¹⁵⁵ Council members heard an opening remark by the Secretary-General. At the outset of his statement, the Secretary-General said that the fighting that started in the Sudan on 15 April should stop and strongly condemned the indiscriminate bombardment of civilian areas. He called on all parties to stop combat operation in densely populated areas and to allow unhindered humanitarian aid operations. During his opening remarks, the Secretary-General, pointing out that the tensions between major powers were at a historic high, stated that effective multilateral responses were urgently needed to prevent and resolve conflicts, manage economic uncertainty, rescue the Sustainable Development Goals and address challenges to the global norms against the use and possession of nuclear weapons. He urged Member States to use the full range of diplomatic tools that the United Nations Charter provided for the peaceful resolution of conflicts, including the use of his good offices. Noting that the United Nations had overcome intractable conflicts and deep divisions throughout its history, the Secretary-General underlined the importance of finding a way forward to strengthen multilateral institutions. Members of the Security Council, particularly those serving permanently, had a particular responsibility to make multilateralism work, and the urgency of global challenges demanded bold and swift action.

In the ensuing debate, speakers reaffirmed the importance of upholding the purposes and principles of multilateralism as enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and called for reforming multilateral mechanisms such as the Security Council to ensure equitable representation based on the 21st century realities and to respond effectively to current challenges and threats to international peace and security. Several delegates pointed out the impact of the veto system in the Council’s ability to resolve crises¹¹⁵⁶, reiterated the need to refrain from the

¹¹⁵⁴ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 3 April 2023 ([S/2023/244](#)).

¹¹⁵⁵ See [S/PV.9308](#) and [S/PV.9308 \(Resumption1\)](#).

¹¹⁵⁶ [S/PV.9308](#) (Ghana, Japan and Mexico); and [S/PV.9308 \(Resumption1\)](#) (Kuwait, European Union, Singapore, Republic of Korea, Australia, Lebanon and Canada).

threat or use of force in line with Article 2(4) of the Charter¹¹⁵⁷ and revitalize the General Assembly and strengthen its cooperation with the Council.¹¹⁵⁸

On 14 June, at the initiative of the United Arab Emirates which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁵⁹ the Council held a briefing under the sub-item entitled “The values of human fraternity in promoting and sustaining peace”.¹¹⁶⁰ Council members heard an opening remark by the Secretary-General and briefings by the Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif and Chairman of the Muslim Council of Elders, the Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See, and the Founder and President of Association IMAD pour la jeunesse et la paix. In his opening remark, the Secretary-General said that the common denominator to the escalation of conflict was hatred of the other, fuelled by mis- and disinformation and hate speech which posed a direct threat to the work of the United Nations and challenges to the agenda of the Council. In that connection, the Secretary-General highlighted the importance of promoting information integrity on digital platforms, investing in social cohesion and acknowledging diversity as an asset. He also advocated for strengthening the value of compassion, respect and human fraternity and secure free and safe civic spaces, which demanded action across international organizations, Governments, civil society and the private sector with the intervention of faith leaders.

The Grand Imam of Al-Azha Al-Sharif and Chairman of the Muslim Council of Elders briefed that there was no place for theories of conflict and confrontation under the Qur’anic theory of international relations and that war in Islam was an exception, a necessity for self-defence. He lamented the international community’s silence to the immense suffering endured by the Palestinian people and urged the Council and the international community to expedite the recognition of an independent Palestinian State with Jerusalem as its capital. Noting that Al-Azhar Al-Sharif was working in cooperation with diverse religious institutions to organize a gathering of religious leaders, the Grand Imam highlighted the importance of the support of political leaders and decision-makers to achieve the shared goal of international peace and security. The Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See read an address by Pope Francis

¹¹⁵⁷ [S/PV.9308](#) (Brazil, Mozambique, United States and Mexico); and [S/PV.9308 \(Resumption1\)](#) (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Kuwait, Republic of Korea and Azerbaijan).

¹¹⁵⁸ [S/PV.9308](#) (Pakistan); and [S/PV.9308 \(Resumption1\)](#) (Singapore, Thailand, Türkiye and Nepal).

¹¹⁵⁹ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 9 June 2023 ([S/2023/417](#)).

¹¹⁶⁰ See [S/PV.9346](#).

to the Council, which urged the international community to move away from the logic of the legitimacy of war and emphasized that peace should be found in the fundamental characteristics of the Security Council.

Following the briefers, Council members underscored that human fraternity was fundamental in promoting and sustaining peace and recognized the role of community and religious leaders in cultivating tolerance. Many Council members also reiterated their call for instrumentalizing the women and peace and security agenda for conflict prevention and peace processes.

On 18 July, at the initiative of the United Kingdom which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁶¹ the Council held a briefing under the sub-item entitled “Artificial intelligence (AI): opportunities and risks for international peace and security”.¹¹⁶² At the meeting, Council members heard an opening remark from the Secretary-General and briefings by the co-Founder of Anthropic and the Professor at the Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences. In his opening statement, the Secretary-General remarked that AI, with the potential to turbocharge global development, would have an impact on every area, including the three pillars of the United Nations, but it could also amplify bias and enable new levels of authoritarian surveillance. He urged the Council to approach the technology with a sense of urgency and stated that the best approach would address existing challenges while also creating the capacity to monitor and respond to future risks. The need for global standards made the United Nations the ideal place for devising such an approach, and the Charter’s emphasis on protecting succeeding generations gave the organization a clear mandate to bring all stakeholders together. Welcoming calls from some Member States for the creation of a new United Nations entity to support collective efforts to govern the technology, the Secretary-General viewed that the overarching goal of the body would be to support countries to maximize the benefits of AI for good, to mitigate existing and potential risks and to establish and administer internationally agreed mechanisms of monitoring and governance. A new United Nations entity would also gather expertise and put it at the disposal of the international community and support collaboration on the research and development of AI tools to accelerate sustainable development. Urging the

¹¹⁶¹ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 14 July 2023 ([S/2023/528](#)).

¹¹⁶² See [S/PV.9381](#).

Council to exercise leadership regarding AI and show the way towards common measures to ensure the transparency, accountability and oversight of AI systems, the Secretary-General stressed the need for a race to develop AI for good.

The Co-Founder of Anthropic observed that the AI development should not be left solely to private-sector actors for the potential threats for misuse and unpredictability of the new technology. He elaborated that it would be necessary to develop robust and reliable evaluation systems that Governments would be able to hold companies accountable and companies to earn the trust of the global community when deploying the AI systems. The Professor at the Institute of Automation of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, underlining the commonalities among the strategy and opinions of Member States regarding the use of AI for security and governance, said that the United Nations should play a central role in setting up a framework on AI for development and governance to ensure global peace and security.

In the ensuing discussion, Council members highlighted the transformative opportunities AI offered for addressing global challenges and the risks it posed in intensifying conflicts through mis- and disinformation and amplifying bias and hate speech. Many Council members recognized the technology's potential for military applications and underscored the imperative to retain the element of human decision-making in autonomous weapons systems. Council members also stressed the need to establish an ethical, responsible framework for international AI governance.

On 3 August, at the initiative of the United States which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁶³ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled "Famine and conflict-induced global food insecurity".¹¹⁶⁴ Council members heard briefings by the United Nations Famine Prevention and Response Coordinator, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the International Rescue Committee and the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Edesia. The United Nations Famine Prevention and Response Coordinator reported that the number of people suffering from acute food insecurity had reached a quarter billion in the prior year, warning that the man-made crisis had been swelling for years. She proposed a number of measures to reduce suffering and preventing famine, including by ensuring conflict parties

¹¹⁶³ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 26 July 2023 ([S/2023/560](#)).

¹¹⁶⁴ See [S/PV.9392](#) and [S/PV.9392 \(Resumption 1\)](#).

respect international humanitarian law, making use of better use of existing early warning mechanisms such as resolution [2417 \(2018\)](#), having women and girls at the centre of efforts fighting against hunger and putting adequate humanitarian funding.

The President and Chief Executive Officer of the International Rescue Committee and the Founder, pointing out that 80 per cent of the world's acutely malnourished children had not been getting help due to different approaches to moderate and severe acute malnutrition, said that a simplified system should be made the norm in humanitarian settings. Noting that it was a political problem, he said that the international community should address that threat of famine by "looking through the windshield, not the rear-view mirror", underlining the importance of anticipatory action and adequate funding. Representing the private sector, the founder and Chief Executive Officer of Edeisa explained that with the increase of conflicts, partners were struggling with critical funding shortfalls and could meet only 50 per cent of the need and urged the Council members to stand up for humankind and understand the power of collective leadership to tackle malnutrition.

Following the briefers, speakers underscored the need for a holistic and integrated approach to strengthening food systems with many stressing the need for the implementation of resolution [2417 \(2018\)](#).¹¹⁶⁵ Several delegates condemned the use of starvation and famine as a tactic of warfare¹¹⁶⁶ and advocated for enhancing resilience¹¹⁶⁶ to climate change and natural disasters by increasing self-sufficiency for food production and mobilizing sustainable financing and public-private partnership.¹¹⁶⁷

On 14 September, at the initiative of Albania which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁶⁸ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled "Advancing public-private humanitarian partnership".¹¹⁶⁹ At the meeting, Council members heard briefings

¹¹⁶⁵ [S/PV.9392](#) (Albania, Switzerland, Brazil, Gabon, Malta, China, Ecuador, Algeria, Liechtenstein, Germany and Mexico); and [S/PV.9392 \(Resumption 1\)](#) (Oman, South Africa, Slovakia, Spain, Estonia, Qatar and European Union).

¹¹⁶⁶ [S/PV.9392](#), (Albania, Ecuador and Mexico); [S/PV.9392 \(Resumption 1\)](#) (Thailand, European Union, Yemen, Romania, Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, South Africa and Portugal).

¹¹⁶⁷ [S/PV.9392](#) (Japan, Albania, Ghana, Malta, China, Poland, Algeria, Egypt, Liechtenstein, Germany and Mexico); [S/PV.9392 \(Resumption 1\)](#) (Oman, Slovenia, Ethiopia, Yemen, Singapore, Slovakia, Indonesia, Burkina Faso, Saudi Arabia, Portugal and Tunisia).

¹¹⁶⁸ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 28 August 2023 ([S/2023/621/Rev.1](#)).

¹¹⁶⁹ See [S/PV.9418](#) and [S/PV.9418 \(Resumption 1\)](#).

by the Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP), the President of Global Affairs and co-head of the Office of Applied Innovation at Goldman Sachs and the Chief Executive Officer at Mastercard. The Executive Director of the WFP reported that the humanitarian sector was one of the world's biggest growth industries and that the demand for WFP services was relentlessly rising due to war, economic turmoil and climate change. Underscoring the Council's responsibility to protect the space for private sector from vulnerabilities such as war in Ukraine or sanctions regimes, she urged the Council members to be resolute in using its powers and influence to create the broader conditions to enable public-private partnerships to flourish and encouraged the Member States to use their convening power to create an environment conducive to public-private partnerships.

The representatives from Goldman Sachs and Mastercard emphasized the importance of sustained public-private partnerships in addressing global challenges through innovative approaches and strengthened infrastructure. They reaffirmed the private sector's commitment to promote sustainable development and economic growth. In the ensuing discussion, participants discussed the private sector's central role in humanitarian response operations, and many emphasized the significance of the technological assistance, financing and investment that private players could offer and encouraged the public sector to be more proactive in working with the private sector.

On 20 September, at the initiative of Albania which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁷⁰ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled "Upholding the purposes and principles of the UN Charter through effective multilateralism: maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine".¹¹⁷¹ At the outset of the meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation and the Presidency discussed the Russian Federation's objections against the Presidency's proposals concerning the order of speakers, in particular the President of Ukraine's participation ahead of the members of the Council, many of whom were represented at the level of Head of State or Government, and the invitation of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of North

¹¹⁷⁰ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 6 September 2023 ([S/2023/653](#)).

¹¹⁷¹ See [S/PV.9421](#), [S/PV.9421 \(Resumption 1\)](#) and [S/PV.9421 \(Resumption 2\)](#).

Macedonia in his capacity as Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).¹¹⁷²

During the open debate, Council members heard an opening remark by the Secretary-General who, underlining the Charter of the United Nations as the roadmap to a more peaceful world, urged Member States to go further to renew their commitment to the obligations of the Charter, use all the diplomatic tools that it puts at their disposal, give priority to the prevention of conflicts and crises, and take into account the proposals for the new frameworks and tools presented in the New Agenda for Peace. Reiterating that Russia's invasion of Ukraine was in clear violation of the Charter and international law, he affirmed the United Nations' readiness to continue to work towards a just and lasting peace in Ukraine and its full commitment to the sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognized borders. The Secretary-General also urged all countries to do their part to prevent further escalation and lay the foundations for sustainable peace and established that there could be no alternative to dialogue, diplomacy and just peace. Following the opening remark, participants reaffirmed the need for all parties to engage in earnest political and diplomatic efforts to end the conflict and respect the obligations and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations. Several speakers highlighted the importance of reinvigorating the long-overdue reform of the Security Council to ensure that the organ was more representative in the crisis of multilateralism and called for strengthening regional partnerships and effective mechanisms for the peaceful settlement of disputes.

On 28 September, the Council held a briefing focused on the situation in the high seas off Libya ahead of a decision to renew resolution [2240 \(2015\)](#) and heard briefings by the Director of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in New York and the Director of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) Office to the United Nations.¹¹⁷³ The Director of the Office of the UNHCR in New York expressed grave concerns about the conditions for thousands of refugees and migrants in both official and unofficial detention facilities in Libya and reported that the UNHCR continued to advocate for ensuring the registration of all persons seeking international refugee protection. She said that the challenges of

¹¹⁷² For more information on the conduct of business and participation, see part II, sects. VI and VII, respectively.

¹¹⁷³ See [S/PV.9428](#).

mixed movements of refugees and migrants required a panoramic approach to population movements and called on all States to advance their commitments and strengthen investments in development and inclusion in countries of asylum and transit. The Director of the IOM Office to the United Nations noted that escalating conflicts, disasters, and environmental degradation could lead to more individuals undertaking hazardous journeys and urged all States to adopt a human rights-centred approach that prioritized preserving lives and ensuring the dignity of those within their borders. Following the briefings, Council members voiced concerns about the mistreatment of migrants and refugees in Libya. Some Council members advocated for addressing root causes of irregular migration and aiding stabilization in Libya to enhance territorial control while others highlighted the European Union's Naval Force Mediterranean Operation IRINI's rescue endeavours.

On 20 October, at the initiative of Brazil which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁷⁴ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled “Peace through dialogue: the contribution of regional, subregional and bilateral arrangements to the prevention and peaceful resolution of dispute”.¹¹⁷⁵ At the meeting, Council members heard briefings by the Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations, former President of Chile, former President of South Africa and the Director of the Peace Accords Matrix at the University of Notre Dame.

The Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific stated that in the context of the deterioration of global and regional arms control frameworks and crisis management protocols, diplomacy demanded a commitment to the pacific settlement of disputes as stipulated in Chapter VI of the United Nations Charter offering a range of options to address the differences within the framework of the Security Council. He underlined the need for strong partnerships between the United Nations and regional organizations, noting that it was the responsibility of the Secretariat to put forth proposals to enhance trust and increase space for cooperation. An impartial Secretariat could help forge common ground between States or conflict parties and assist decision-making in the Council by providing analysis taking into divergent perspectives.

¹¹⁷⁴ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 3 October 2023 ([S/2023/732](#)).

¹¹⁷⁵ See [S/PV.9448](#) and [S/PV.9448 \(Resumption 1\)](#).

Former President of Chile stressed the need to come back to the core principles of human rights and rule of law in contexts of armed conflict and that rebuilding consensus among Member States was an essential task for the international system. She elaborated about the importance of women's participation in mediation for achieving lasting, positive peace and ensuring a greater diversity of community member becoming engaged in peacemaking. Former President of South Africa said that it was in the vital interests of the Security Council to ensure that its regional partners such as the African Union were strong enough to discharge their responsibilities as part of the global peace architecture. In that connection, it was important to reach an agreement to use some United Nations resources to fund AU-led peace operations.

The Director of the Peace Accords Matrix presented the data-based evidence served as proof that sustained dialogue leading to peaceful arrangements could succeed when peace accord involved a wide range of policy domains, when the negotiation table was generous and included victims of the war, and when independent mechanisms for verification and monitoring accompanied the process of implementation. In the ensuing debate, several speakers emphasized that regional and subregional organizations possess valuable insights into their areas, which could significantly aid in advancing peace efforts. Delegates also emphasized the importance of fully utilizing the mechanisms outlined in Chapter VI of the UN Charter for peacefully resolving disputes.

On 20 November, at the initiative of China which held the presidency for the month,¹¹⁷⁶ the Council held a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled "Promote sustaining peace through common development".¹¹⁷⁷ At the meeting, Council members heard briefings by the President of the New Development Bank and the President of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Director of the Centre for Sustainable Development at Columbia University. In his opening remark, the Secretary-General said that at a time when 85 per cent of Sustainable Development Goals targets were off track, the international community must act with greater urgency and ambition and take actions, including an SDG stimulus of \$500 billion a year to reduce debt burdens and release resources long-term, affordable financing from multilateral and private sources. He called on all Member States to abandon the logic of zero-

¹¹⁷⁶ A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 14 November 2023 ([S/2023/870](#)).

¹¹⁷⁷ See [S/PV.9482](#) and [S/PV.9482 \(Resumption 1\)](#).

sum competition to secure peace and advance development and for the Council to be at the heart of such effort.

The President of the New Development Bank stated that consensus-building multilateralism and international cooperation were key principles for the pursuit of peace and sustainable development. She emphasized the importance of acknowledging the rich diversity of human societies and a multitude of development models and trajectories followed by different nations. The President of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Director of the Centre for Sustainable Development at Columbia University said that by addressing the underlying political and economic factors, the Council could establish conditions for peace and sustainable development and take decisive actions to end long-standing wars before they escalated into even more dangerous conflicts. He emphasized that the Council was vested with considerable powers by the Charter of the United Nations and was able to enforce its resolution if it chose to do so.

Following the briefers, several speakers supported the advancement of development as a means to prevent conflicts, emphasizing the necessity for new and creative development approaches, alongside reforms to existing mechanisms and frameworks, along with the necessary financial support.

In 2023, the Council adopted two resolutions and a presidential statement in connection with this item. On 14 June, following a briefing under the sub-item entitled “The values of human fraternity in promoting and sustaining peace”,¹¹⁷⁸ the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2686 \(2023\)](#), recognizing that hate speech, racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, related forms of intolerance, gender discrimination and acts of extremism could contribute to driving the outbreak, escalation and recurrence of conflict and urging States and international and regional organizations to publicly condemn violence, hate speech and extremism motivated by discrimination.¹¹⁷⁹

Ahead of the vote, the representative of the United Arab Emirates stated that the draft resolution reaffirmed the Council’s commitment to upholding the universal principles of tolerance and peaceful coexistence and commended that it included concrete measures against

¹¹⁷⁸ See [S/PV.9285](#).

¹¹⁷⁹ Resolution [2686 \(2023\)](#), paras 1 and 2.

hate speech, racism and extremism, recognizing the importance of women, youth and inter-religious dialogue in fostering lasting peace.¹¹⁸⁰ While expressing his support for the draft resolution, the representative of France cautioned against the ambiguous nature of brotherhood and tolerance as concepts which were subject to contradictory interpretations at times and clarified that the General Assembly and the Human Rights Council must be the venues where they were discussed. He added that religious issues had no place in the Council and regretted that the draft resolution was selective on issues including the freedom of expression, human rights, the rights of women and gender identity.¹¹⁸¹

Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of the United Kingdom, as a co-penholder with the United Arab Emirates, welcomed the resolution for directly addressing discrimination faced by minority groups in conflict settings, stressing the importance of upholding human rights law in efforts to combat incitement and extremism. Several Council members emphasized the importance of upholding human rights law in combating discrimination and extremism and reaffirmed intersectional and gender-transformative approaches and a commitment to promoting human rights.

On 3 August, at the outset of a high-level open debate under the sub-item entitled “Famine and conflict-induced global food insecurity”,¹¹⁸² the Council adopted a presidential statement ([S/PRST/2023/4](#)), reaffirming its commitment to addressing conflict-induced food insecurity, including famine, in situations of armed conflict, while emphasizing respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity of states. The presidential statement underscored the central role of the United Nations and the importance of coordination within the UN system and with other international, regional, and national organizations to respond to food insecurity and malnutrition in conflict settings. It reaffirmed the States' primary responsibility to protect their populations and urged all parties to adhere to international humanitarian law and facilitate the passage of humanitarian relief for civilians in need.

On 29 September, the Council adopted resolution [2698 \(2023\)](#), whereby the Council, acting under Chapter VII, condemned all acts of migrant smuggling and human trafficking into,

¹¹⁸⁰ See [S/PV.9347](#).

¹¹⁸¹ See [S/PV.9347](#).

¹¹⁸² See [S/PV.9392](#) and [S/PV.9392 \(Resumption 1\)](#).

through and from the Libyan territory and off the coast of Libya and called upon Member States to place the human rights and the immediate needs of migrants and refugees at the core of their efforts to prevent and counter smuggling and trafficking.¹¹⁸³ Further, the Council also renewed the authorisations regarding acts of migrant smuggling and human trafficking in Libya's territorial sea as set out in paragraphs 7, 8, 9 and 10 of resolution [2240 \(2015\)](#), for a further period of twelve months.¹¹⁸⁴

Meetings: Maintenance of international peace and security, 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.9285 16 March 2023	Security sector reform Letter dated 1 March 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Mozambique to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2023/168)		Slovakia, South Africa	Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions in the Department of Peace Operations, African Union Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security	All Council members, all invitees ^a	
S/PV.9308 and S/PV.9308 (Resumption 1) 24 April 2023	Effective multilateralism through the defence of the principles of the Charter of the United Nations Letter dated 3 April 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2023/244)		33 Member States ^b	Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members ^c , all invitees ^d	

¹¹⁸³ Resolution [2698 \(2023\)](#), paras 1 and 2.

¹¹⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, para 3.

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S/PV.9346 14 June 2023	The values of human fraternity in promoting and sustaining peace Letter dated 9 June 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the United Arab Emirates to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2023/417)			Grand Imam of Al-Azhar Al-Sharif and Chairman of the Muslim Council of Elders, Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See, Founder and President of Association IMAD pour la jeunesse et la paix	Secretary-General, all Council members ^e , all invitees ^f	
S/PV.9347 14 June 2023		Draft resolution submitted by the United Arab Emirates and the United Kingdom S/2023/427			7 Council members ^g	Resolution 2686 (2023) 15-0-0
S/PV.9381 18 July 2023	Artificial intelligence: opportunities and risks for international peace and security	Letter dated 14 July 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General S/2023/528		Co-Founder of Anthropic, Institute of Automation, Chinese Academy of Sciences	Secretary-General, all Council members ^h , all invitees	

<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.9392 3 August 2023 S/PV.9392 (Resumption 1) 3 August 2023	Famine and conflict-induced global food insecurity Letter dated 26 July 2023 from the Permanent Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2023/560)		59 Member States ⁱ	United Nations Famine Prevention and Response Coordinator, President and Chief Executive Officer of the International Rescue Committee, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Edesia, Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the United Nations, Permanent Observer of the Observer State of the Holy See to the United Nations	All Council members, ^j all invitees ^k	S/PRST/2023/4
S/PV.9418 and S/PV.9418 (Resumption 1) 14 September 2023	Advancing public-private humanitarian partnership Letter dated 28 August 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2023/631/Rev.1)		17 Member States ^l	Executive Director of the World Food Programme, President of Global Affairs and co-head of the Office of Applied Innovation at Goldman Sachs, Chief Executive Officer at Mastercard, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, ^m all invitees ⁿ	
S/PV.9421 S/PV.9421 (Resumption 1) 20 September 2023 and S/PV.9421 (Resumption 2) 21 September 2023	Upholding the purposes and principles of the UN Charter through effective multilateralism: maintenance of peace and security of Ukraine Letter dated 6 September 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Albania to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2023/653)		42 Member States ^o	President of the European Council, Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, Permanent Observer of the Sovereign Order of Malta to the United Nations, Secretary for Relations with States and International Organizations of the Holy See	Secretary-General; All Council members, ^p all invitees ^q	

<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.9428 28 September 2023				Director of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in New York, Director of the International Organization for Migration Office to the United Nations	13 Council members, ^f all invitees	
S/PV.9429 29 September 2023	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2652 (2022) (S/2023/640)	Draft resolution submitted by 29 Member States ^s S/2023/708	26 Member States ^t		Russian Federation	Resolution 2698 (2023) 14-0-1 ^u (adopted under Chapter VII)
S/PV.9448 20 October 2023 S/PV.9448 (Resumption 1) 20 October 2023	Peace through dialogue: the contribution of regional, subregional and bilateral arrangements to the prevention and peaceful resolution of disputes Letter dated 3 October 2023 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2023/732)		43 Member States ^v	Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific in the Departments of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and Peace Operations, former President of Chile, former President of South Africa, Director of the Peace Accords Matrix, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, ^w all invitees ^x	
S/PV.9482 and S/PV.9482 (Resumption 1) 20 November 2023	Promote sustaining peace through common development Letter dated 14 November 2023 from the Permanent Representative of China to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2023/870)		50 Member States ^y	President of the New Development Bank, President of the Sustainable Development Solutions Network and Director of the Centre for Sustainable Development at Columbia University, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^z all invitees ^{aa}	

^a The representative of South Africa spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Security Sector Reform.

^b Armenia, Australia, Azerbaijan (also on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement), Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Canada, Cuba, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kuwait, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Singapore, South Africa, Sri Lanka, the Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (also on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defence of the Charter of the United Nations) and Viet Nam.

^c The Russian Federation (President of the Council) was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of State. Gabon was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. Ghana was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration.

^d Cuba was represented by its First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. The representative of Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) spoke on behalf of: Group of Friends in Defence of the Charter of the United Nations. The representative of Azerbaijan spoke on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

^e The United Arab Emirates (President of the Council) was represented by its Minister of State. Gabon as represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Mozambique was represented by its Minister of State Administration and Public Service. Ghana was represented by its Minister of Environment, Science, Technology and Innovation.

^f The Chairman of the Muslim Council of Elders and Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See participated in the meeting by videoconference.

^g United Arab Emirates, France, United Kingdom, Switzerland, United States, Malta and Ecuador.

^h The United Kingdom (President of the Council) was represented by its Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs. Japan was represented by its State Minister for Foreign Affairs. Mozambique was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation for Advanced Science and Technology.

ⁱ Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia (also on behalf the Canada, Australia and New Zealand), Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Chile, Cuba, Denmark (also on behalf of the Nordic countries, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark), Egypt, Estonia, Ethiopia, Germany, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Ireland (also on behalf of the Group of Friends of Action on Conflict and Hunger), Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya, Latvia, Lebanon, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Mexico, Morocco, Myanmar, the Kingdom of the Netherlands (also on behalf of the Benelux countries, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands), Nigeria, Oman (also on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council), Pakistan, Panama, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Thailand, Tunisia, Türkiye, Ukraine, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela (also on behalf of the Group of Friends in Defence of the Charter of the United Nations), Viet Nam and Yemen.

^j The United States (President of the Council) was represented by its Secretary of State. The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of State. Japan was represented by its State Minister for Foreign Affairs. Albania was represented by its Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

^k Armenia was represented by its Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. Cuba was represented by its First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs. Poland was represented by its Under-Secretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Australia spoke on behalf of Canada and New Zealand. Oman spoke on behalf of the Gulf Cooperation Council. Denmark spoke on behalf of the Nordic Countries. The Kingdom of the Netherlands spoke on behalf of the Benelux. Ireland spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of Action on Conflict and Hunger.

^l Belgium (also on behalf of the Benelux countries, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands), Chile, Denmark (also on behalf of the Nordic countries, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark), Egypt, Germany, Guatemala, India, Italy, the Republic of Korea, Morocco, Poland, Portugal, Slovenia, South Africa, Thailand, Türkiye and Qatar.

^m Albania (President of the Council) was represented by its Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs.

ⁿ The Executive Director of the World Food Programme participated by videoconference.

^o Argentina, Australia, Austria, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Ireland, Italy, Kuwait, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Mexico, Montenegro, Netherlands (the Kingdom of), North Macedonia, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Türkiye, Ukraine and the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela.

^p Albania (President of the Council) was represented by its Prime Minister. Ecuador was represented by its constitutional President. Ghana was represented by its President. Switzerland was represented by its President. Japan was represented by its Prime Minister. Malta was represented by its Prime Minister. Gabon was represented by its Prime Minister. United Kingdom was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister. The United States was represented by its Secretary of State. The Russian Federation was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Brazil was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of Climate Change and Environment and the Chief of the International Affairs Office at the Presidential Court. China was represented by the Executive Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs.

^q Ukraine was represented by its President. Germany was represented by its Chancellor. Estonia was represented by its President. Czechia was represented by its President. Portugal was represented by its President. Hungary was represented by its President. Slovenia was represented by its President. Latvia was represented by its President. Guatemala was represented by its President. Lithuania was represented by its President. North Macedonia was represented by its President. Poland was represented by its President. Montenegro was represented by its Prime Minister. Spain was represented by its Prime Minister. Denmark was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Italy was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Republic of Korea was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Bulgaria was represented by its Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs. Mexico was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Canada was represented by its Prime Minister. Austria was represented by its Federal Minister for European and International Affairs. Liechtenstein was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, Education and Sport. Romania was

represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Australia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Belgium was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, European Affairs and Foreign Trade and the Federal Cultural Institutions. Slovakia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Affairs. Chile was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Greece was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Kingdom of the Netherlands was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Bosnia and Herzegovina was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Panama was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Belarus was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Sierra Leone was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. Ireland was represented by its Minister for the Environment, Climate, Communications and Transport. Türkiye was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. Kuwait was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs. India was represented by its Secretary (West) of the Ministry of External Affairs. Qatar was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs. Venezuela was represented by its Minister of People's Power for Foreign Affairs. South Africa was represented by its Director-General of the Department of International Relations and Cooperation. Malta was represented by its Grand Chancellor of the Sovereign Order.^f Albania, Brazil, China, Ecuador, France, Japan, Malta, Mozambique (also on behalf of Gabon and Ghana) Russian Federation, Switzerland, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.

^s Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

^t Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands (Kingdom of the), Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain and Sweden.

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

^v Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia (also on behalf of the Group of Friends of the Responsibility to Protect, Cuba, Denmark (also on behalf of the Nordic countries, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark), Egypt, Ethiopia, Georgia, Germany, India, Indonesia (also on behalf of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)), the Islamic Republic of Iran, Italy, Jamaica (also on behalf of the 14 member States of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM)), Kazakhstan, Kenya, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Türkiye and Ukraine.

^w Albania was represented by its Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs. The United Arab Emirates was represented by its Minister of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

^x Cuba was represented by its First Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs. The former President of the Republic of Chile and former President of the Republic of South Africa participated by videoconference. Croatia spoke on behalf of the Group of Friends of the Responsibility to Protect. Denmark spoke on behalf of the Nordic countries. Jamaica spoke on behalf of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM).^y Algeria, Angola, Australia, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, the Plurinational State of Bolivia, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Canada, Chile, Croatia, Cuba, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark (also on behalf of the Nordic countries, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and Denmark), Djibouti, Egypt, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Mali, Mexico, Morocco, the Kingdom of the Netherlands (also on behalf of the Benelux countries, Belgium, Luxembourg and the Kingdom of the Netherlands), Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Türkiye, Ukraine, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and Viet Nam.

^z China (President of the Security Council) spoke before all Council members. Mozambique was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

^{aa} Hungary was represented by its Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade. Cuba was represented by its Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs. The President of the New Development Bank participated by videoconference.