

14. Peace and security in Africa

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held 11 meetings and issued seven presidential statements under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa”. Sub-items discussed in this period included the impact of transnational organized crime on peace, security and stability in West Africa and the Sahel region, the challenges of the fight against terrorism in Africa in the context of maintaining international peace and security, and combating drug trafficking in the Sahel and West Africa. Against the backdrop of the crisis in Mali and the impact of the crisis in Libya on the Sahel region, the Council considered the challenges facing the region and requested the Secretary-General to develop an integrated strategy for the Sahel, which was presented to the Council in the report of the Secretary-General of 14 June 2013.³⁶⁷

Briefing on the impact of the Libyan crisis on the Sahel region

On 26 January 2012, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council on the mission dispatched by the Secretary-General from 7 to 23 December 2011 to assess the impact of the Libyan crisis on the Sahel region. He said that most of the challenges predated the Libyan conflict and added that underlying structural challenges and a looming food crisis in the area compounded the immediate problems affecting the region, and that the mission had encountered strong appeals for the United Nations to find a framework for reconciliation between all the regions affected by the outbreak of the crisis. He then summarized the main recommendations of the mission. While acknowledging the structural limitations for coordinated action existing in the African continent, he was encouraged by the readiness of countries inside and outside the region to work together to develop a more comprehensive and coherent approach.³⁶⁸

Speakers generally agreed with the assessment of the Under-Secretary-General that most of the problems of the Sahel region predated the Libyan crisis. However, numerous speakers expressed a particular concern that such problems had been exacerbated by

the Libyan crisis.³⁶⁹ This notwithstanding, there was an overwhelming consensus regarding the need to tackle the security situation and challenges affecting the Sahel region, including weapons proliferation, drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, terrorism, food shortages and underdevelopment. While reiterating the need for international support and assistance, many speakers emphasized the primary responsibility of the Governments concerned. Most speakers appreciated and supported the recommendations of the assessment team. They emphasized the need for further cooperation and for the United Nations to adopt a more integrated approach to help the States of the region in the areas of security and development.

Impact of transnational organized crime on peace, security and stability in West Africa and the Sahel region

On 21 February 2012, the Council held a high-level open debate on the impact of transnational organized crime on peace, security and stability in West Africa and the Sahel region. The debate was held at the initiative of the presidency of Togo.³⁷⁰

During the debate, speakers underlined the magnitude and complexity of the challenges confronting the region and expressed concern over the growth of transnational organized crime. Many speakers opined that those difficulties were further exacerbated by the effect of the Libyan crisis. As expressed by the representative of Pakistan, the Libyan crisis had been for the Sahel region “like a genie in a bottle. The bottle has been uncorked and the genie is out”.³⁷¹ Most speakers suggested that, in the light of the challenges, a multifaceted and holistic approach was necessary. Many speakers highlighted the need for further resources and for further national, regional and international cooperation.

³⁶⁷ S/2013/354. For more information on Mali, see part I, sect. 16, “The situation in Mali”.

³⁶⁸ S/PV.6709, pp. 2-3.

³⁶⁹ Ibid., p. 4 (Pakistan); p. 6 (United Kingdom); p. 7 (India); p. 9 (Colombia); p. 11 (United States); p. 12 (Portugal); p. 14 (Guatemala); p. 15 (Morocco); p. 16 (Togo); p. 17 (South Africa); and p. 18 (Niger, Mali).

³⁷⁰ See S/2012/83.

³⁷¹ S/PV.6717, p. 19.

At the meeting, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it expressed concern about the serious threats to international peace and stability posed by transnational organized crime, in particular in West Africa and the Sahel region, and its strong concern about the increasing violence perpetrated by armed groups in the region. The Council further encouraged coordination of actions by the United Nations as well as by Member States in fighting threats to the security of countries on its agenda. The Council stressed the importance of implementing relevant international agreements and of strengthening international, regional and transregional cooperation. It invited the Secretary-General to consider these threats as a factor in conflict prevention strategies, conflict analysis, integrated missions assessment, planning and peacebuilding support and to consider including in his reports an analysis of the role played by these threats in situations on the agenda of the Council.³⁷²

Briefing on progress towards a United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel

On 17 September 2012, the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council on the progress in developing an integrated strategy for the Sahel encompassing security, governance, development, human rights and humanitarian dimensions, as requested of the Secretary-General in resolution 2056 (2012). In his briefing, the Under-Secretary-General stated that the Sahel region had long been characterized by cyclical instability and unconstitutional changes of Government. He added that States in the region suffered from extreme poverty with human development levels among the lowest in the world and that the region suffered from fractures rooted in societal divides. He added that weak institutions, porous borders, human rights violations and harsh climatic conditions contributed to the challenges of the region. He further underlined how critical it was that the international community dealt effectively with the underlying structural causes of vulnerability in the Sahel, and in that context said that the integrated strategy provided a conceptual framework and strategic priorities to guide United Nations engagement in the Sahel at the regional level, setting the basis for consultations with regional organizations, Governments and key actors.³⁷³

³⁷² S/PRST/2012/2.

³⁷³ S/PV.6836, pp. 2-3.

The representative of Côte d'Ivoire spoke on behalf of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), focusing mainly on the situation in Mali. He denounced the fact that little progress had been achieved on the political process leading up to the holding of free, fair, transparent and credible elections and highlighted the dire security situation in the north, which had been exacerbated as a result of the political paralysis in Bamako. He provided an overview of trends in Mali from the stand point of ECOWAS and briefed the Council on the actions taken so far. In closing, he said that ECOWAS was working on building the necessary consensus for the deployment of an ECOWAS-led stabilization force in Mali.³⁷⁴

On 10 December 2012, the Council held a high-level meeting on the situation in the Sahel, at the initiative of the presidency of Morocco.³⁷⁵ At the meeting, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it reiterated the grave concern about the consequences of instability in the north of Mali on the Sahel region and beyond. It also expressed concern about the serious threats posed by transnational organized crime in the Sahel region. The Council welcomed the initiatives of regional organizations and the United Nations to tackle the complex multidimensional challenges facing the region. In the same statement, the Council reiterated the need for an enhanced, comprehensive and more regional approach to the provision of humanitarian assistance and recognized that the strengthening of the State institutions, economic and social development, respect for human rights and the rule of law were necessary to ensure long-term security, development and stability in the Sahel region. The Council encouraged the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel to pursue his efforts in order to coordinate bilateral, interregional and international response and support for the Sahel region and, in this regard, reiterated its call to the Secretary-General and his Special Envoy to finalize as soon as possible the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel region, as requested in resolution 2056 (2012).³⁷⁶

The Secretary-General addressed the Council and noted that, as acute as the problems were in Mali, it was but a part of a systemic crisis across the entire Sahel region. He underlined that political turmoil,

³⁷⁴ Ibid., pp. 4-6.

³⁷⁵ See S/2012/906.

³⁷⁶ S/PRST/2012/26.

terrorist activity, drug trafficking and arms smuggling were spilling over borders and threatening peace and security. He said that extreme climatic conditions and fragile economies “only add to that toxic brew of vulnerability”. In response to those challenges, he emphasized the need to strengthen resilience across the region in a coordinated manner. He noted the recognition by the Council, in resolution [2056 \(2012\)](#), of the need for an integrated strategy addressing all dimensions of the crisis, and reported the appointment of the Special Envoy for the Sahel and his focus on four key issues, namely, security, governance, humanitarian requirements and development.³⁷⁷

The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel explained in turn that the integrated strategy could not be “an occasion to only write an elegant paper” but would be instead a set of actions tailored to face dynamically evolving problems. He said that key to the strategy was close cooperation among all those who were facing the Sahel challenge. He added that in developing an integrated strategy interlocutors would be not only politicians but the whole of society; he said that to be operational and effective, substantial resources were needed and expressed his intention to exert all possible efforts to mobilize those resources.³⁷⁸

During the meeting, speakers echoed the Secretary-General in emphasizing the importance of building resilience in the region. Many speakers underlined the importance of an integrated strategy for the Sahel and urged for it to be developed as soon as possible in a holistic and coordinated manner. Many speakers referred to the situation in Mali as a symptomatic case within the region, and some called for the deployment of an international support mission to restore the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Mali.³⁷⁹ Some speakers highlighted the key effect of the Libyan crisis as a catalyst of the crisis in Mali and the Sahel and cautioned that the Libyan crisis was still unfolding.³⁸⁰

³⁷⁷ [S/PV.6882](#), p. 4.

³⁷⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6.

³⁷⁹ *Ibid.*, p. 10 (Côte d’Ivoire); p.12 (Colombia); p. 14 (Togo); p. 24 (South Africa); and p. 27 (India). For more information on the deployment of an international force in Mali, see part I, sect. 16.

³⁸⁰ [S/PV.6882](#), pp. 20-21 (Russian Federation); and pp. 22-23 (Pakistan).

Briefing and decision on the prevention of conflicts in Africa

On 15 April 2013, the Council held a high-level briefing on the prevention of conflicts in Africa at the initiative of the presidency of Rwanda.³⁸¹ At the start of the meeting, the President of the Council expressed hope that it would be an occasion for the Council to revisit the concept and practice of conflict prevention as currently understood within the United Nations system. She added that the briefing was aimed at examining how to move from day-to-day management of conflicts to develop a culture of conflict prevention through skills, mechanisms and institutions that addressed the root causes of conflicts in Africa.³⁸²

The Secretary-General in his address to the Council noted that conflicts would breed where there was poor governance, abuse of human rights and grievances over the unequal distribution of resources, wealth and power. He emphasized the importance for mediation efforts to ensure that peace agreements were not just pacts between political elites but that they also dealt with the underlying causes of conflict and allowed all stakeholders to participate. He spoke of the importance of regional action to prevent or address conflicts and said it was critical to ensure that affected communities owned and led conflict prevention initiatives. He noted that prevention also demanded addressing the culture of impunity surrounding sexual violence, which affected more than isolated individuals: it was an assault on the peace and security of entire communities.³⁸³

The representative of Togo spoke of some of the root causes of conflicts in Africa.³⁸⁴ The representative of Ethiopia, on behalf of the African Union, made reference to the report of the Secretary-General of 1998³⁸⁵ on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa as perhaps the best starting point for the discussion on the root causes of conflicts in Africa.³⁸⁶ Most speakers emphasized the need for regional and subregional organizations to take the initiative in the areas of preventive diplomacy and the peaceful settlement of disputes. While several speakers regretted the absence

³⁸¹ See [S/2013/204](#).

³⁸² [S/PV.6946](#), p. 2.

³⁸³ *Ibid.*, pp. 2-4.

³⁸⁴ *Ibid.*, pp. 4-5.

³⁸⁵ [S/1998/318](#).

³⁸⁶ [S/PV.6946](#), p. 6.

of an explicit reference to the International Criminal Court in the draft presidential statement,³⁸⁷ others accused the Court of being subject to political manipulation and not playing a constructive role in preventing conflict.³⁸⁸ Some speakers also made reference to the principle of the responsibility to protect and emphasized its dual role of recalling the responsibility of Governments to their populations and the responsibility of the international community to support and assist States in that task.³⁸⁹

At the meeting, the Council issued a presidential statement, in which it noted that, consistent with its functions in relation to international peace and security, it sought to remain engaged in all stages of the conflict cycle and in exploring ways of preventing the escalation of disputes into armed conflict or a relapse into armed conflict. The Council recognized the importance of a comprehensive strategy comprising operational and structural measures for prevention of armed conflict, and underlined the importance of partnership and cooperation between regional and subregional organizations in supporting conflict prevention and peacebuilding activities. The Council emphasized the need for States to comply with their obligations under international law, reaffirmed its strong opposition to impunity for serious violations of international humanitarian law, and highlighted the role of the international criminal justice system.³⁹⁰

Briefing and decision on the question of combating terrorism in Africa

On 13 May 2013, the Council held a high-level briefing on the question of combating terrorism in Africa in the context of the maintenance of international peace and security. The briefing was held at the initiative of the presidency of Togo.³⁹¹

The Secretary-General addressed the Council first and emphasized that terrorism thrives where borders are weakest. He added that the lack of development and the absence of the rule of law allowed terrorist groups to recruit across communities and build their ranks. He noted that the international community and

the United Nations had to do more to strengthen the capacities of affected Member States and welcomed the initiative of several regional and subregional organizations to formulate counterterrorism strategies.³⁹²

During the debate that followed, many speakers referred to the very challenging circumstances affecting certain regions in Africa as well as the underlying causes of such circumstances. Most speakers emphasized the need for a comprehensive and multidimensional approach to fighting against the scourge of terrorism, including law enforcement, border control, capacity-building, humanitarian assistance and coordination and cooperation at the regional level. Many speakers recalled the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

At the meeting, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it recognized that terrorism would not be defeated by military force or security forces, law enforcement measures and intelligence operations alone. The Council underscored that the long-term fight against terrorism must adopt a comprehensive approach. The Council reaffirmed that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization, and it noted the changing nature of terrorism in Africa and expressed concern about its connection with transnational organized crime. The Council recalled its own resolutions and other counter-terrorism instruments and considered sanctions an important tool in countering terrorism. The Council underlined the importance of strengthening cooperation among Member States and with United Nations entities with a view to enhancing their individual capabilities. It invited the Secretary-General to submit, within six months, a concise report providing a comprehensive survey and assessment on the United Nations work to help States and subregional and regional entities in Africa in fighting terrorism, with a view to continuing consideration of possible steps in this regard.³⁹³

Briefing and decision on the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel

On 26 June and 16 July 2013, the Council held two meetings to consider the report of the Secretary-

³⁸⁷ Ibid., p. 11 (Guatemala); p. 13 (Argentina); p. 18 (Luxembourg); and p. 25 (France).

³⁸⁸ Ibid., p. 27 (Rwanda).

³⁸⁹ Ibid., p. 8 (Australia); p. 18 (Luxembourg); p. 21 (United Kingdom); and p. 25 (France).

³⁹⁰ [S/PRST/2013/4](#).

³⁹¹ See [S/2013/264](#).

³⁹² [S/PV.6965](#), p. 3.

³⁹³ [S/PRST/2013/5](#)

General on the situation in the Sahel region.³⁹⁴ At the first meeting, the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel briefed the Council on the report of the Secretary-General. He explained that the challenges facing the people of the Sahel were immense and that only a strategy going beyond the existing efforts would allow the Governments of the region to overcome those challenges. He mentioned that a wider vision was necessary, and presented his “four-by-four strategy” based on the four pillars suggested by the Secretary-General, namely governance, security, humanitarian requirements and development. He further explained the elements of all four pillars in that strategy and clarified that the strategy focused on five key Sahelian countries in the greatest need, namely, Mali, Burkina Faso, Mauritania, the Niger and Chad.³⁹⁵

At the second meeting, on 16 July 2013, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it welcomed the development of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel, as requested by resolution 2056 (2012), and the three strategic goals defining the strategy.³⁹⁶ The Council further welcomed the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General in the development of the strategy and in drawing attention on the situation in the Sahel region, and encouraged him to foster more coherent and coordinated United Nations support for the Sahel region. The Council stressed the importance of a coordinated approach by all concerned United Nations entities with a view to maximizing synergies. It also stressed the importance of national and regional ownership of the strategy and recognized the importance of implementing the strategy in close consultation with States of the Sahel, West Africa and the Maghreb as well as with regional and subregional organizations, bilateral donors and partners. The Council requested the Secretary-General to keep it informed of the progress towards the implementation of the strategy no later than 31 December 2013, and to present a written report no later than 30 June 2014.³⁹⁷

³⁹⁴ S/2013/354.

³⁹⁵ S/PV.6988, pp. 2-4.

³⁹⁶ For more information on the goals of the strategy, see S/2013/354, paras. 23-33.

³⁹⁷ S/PRST/2013/10.

Rejection of a draft resolution concerning deferral of investigation and prosecution of Kenyan leaders by the International Criminal Court

On 15 November 2013, the Council held a meeting to consider identical letters dated 21 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council.³⁹⁸ In those letters Kenya sought a decision by the Council that no investigations or prosecutions would be initiated with regard to the cases pending at the International Criminal Court relating to the situation in Kenya concerning the President and Deputy President of Kenya.

At the meeting, a draft resolution was put to a vote but was not adopted because it failed to obtain the required number of affirmative votes, there being 7 votes in favour and 8 abstentions.³⁹⁹ By the draft resolution the Council would have requested the Court to defer the investigation and prosecution against the President and Deputy President of Kenya in accordance with article 16 of the Rome Statute.

During the meeting, the members of the Council explained the rationale for their votes. While those that abstained considered that the continuation of the Court proceedings did not constitute in and of itself a threat to international peace and security in accordance with the tenor of article 16 of the Rome Statute, those that voted in favour argued that African countries had presented a compelling argument in favour of the draft resolution and the deferral. Many speakers emphasized the futility of the vote and the negative consequences that it had on the relationships between the Court and the Council and between the African Union and the Council. The representative of Luxembourg said that resorting to article 16 was not necessary because there were other resources available to address the concerns of Kenya and the African Union.⁴⁰⁰ While the representative of Togo hoped that the outcome of the vote would not have a negative impact on relations between Africa and the Security Council,⁴⁰¹ the representative of Rwanda affirmed that the vote undermined the principle of sovereign equality of

³⁹⁸ S/2013/624.

³⁹⁹ S/2013/660. For more information on the vote, see the table at the end of the section.

⁴⁰⁰ S/PV.7060, p. 3.

⁴⁰¹ *Ibid.*, p. 10.

States enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations.⁴⁰² The representative of Kenya asserted that the turn of events at the Council was “sad, absurd and confounding” and that it did nothing for building confidence and solidarity with the Council at a time when the usefulness of the Council was under question.⁴⁰³ The representative of Ethiopia noted that this was not a Kenyan matter but an African one and that the position of African leaders was that the continuation of the Court proceedings constituted a threat to the peace and security of the region. He added that the response of the Council was bound to make Africa conclude that a few members of the Council had difficulty in seeing Africa exercise ownership of its policies and strategies for the peace and security of the continent.⁴⁰⁴

Briefing on the Sahel

On 12 December 2013, the Council held a meeting on the Sahel. The Secretary-General briefed the Council on his visit to the region together with representatives of the African Union, the World Bank, the African Development Bank and the European Union. He affirmed that he had returned from the visit with a clear sense of the need to do much more to fight poverty, empower women, provide employment opportunities for young people and ensure that all the people of the Sahel had what they needed to build a better future.⁴⁰⁵

The President of the World Bank also briefed the Council on his conclusions on the visit to the region. He emphasized the need for a coordinated regional approach to tackling the major development challenges of the region.⁴⁰⁶

The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel briefed the Council on the progress in the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel. He said that many factors would continue to impact efforts in the Sahel and needed to be taken into account when implementing the strategy. He said that the region would have to compete for attention with other serious crises around the world, and declared that that attention was decreasing. He

underlined that the current global economic climate limited traditional funding mechanisms and donors, and described the efforts made to raise the profile of the challenges facing the Sahel and the awareness that the Sahel was a global problem. He recalled that security, governance and development were linked and said that, in terms of security, problems had no border and solutions should have no borders. He voiced the request of African countries to involve surrounding countries, and not only those specifically involved, when dealing with security issues. He also urged the Council to take into account the need for governance reforms in the region in all decisions dealing with terrorism and conflicts in the Sahel.⁴⁰⁷

The observer of the African Union described the activities undertaken by his organization to strengthen security cooperation among the countries of the Sahel-Saharan region through the Nouakchott Process. He explained that it was launched as a means of coordinating forms of action among intelligence and security services of the countries of the region. He noted, however, that long-term socioeconomic development was of crucial importance to create lasting stability in the Sahel-Saharan region.⁴⁰⁸

During the meeting, speakers praised the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel as well as the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General. Most speakers agreed on the root causes of the situation of the Sahel as well as on the strategies to reverse course and support the States of the Sahel, emphasizing the need for coordination among stakeholders, particularly among the States of the region and subregional organizations.

At the meeting, the Council issued a presidential statement reiterating most of the contents of the presidential statement of 16 July 2013.⁴⁰⁹ The Council welcomed the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel, and reiterated the importance of a coordinated approach in the implementation of the strategy.⁴¹⁰

⁴⁰² Ibid.

⁴⁰³ Ibid., p. 13.

⁴⁰⁴ Ibid., pp. 15-16.

⁴⁰⁵ [S/PV.7081](#), pp. 2-3.

⁴⁰⁶ Ibid., p. 3.

⁴⁰⁷ Ibid., pp. 4-5.

⁴⁰⁸ Ibid., pp. 6-7.

⁴⁰⁹ [S/PRST/2013/10](#).

⁴¹⁰ [S/PRST/2013/20](#).

Drug trafficking and its consequences for peace and security in West Africa and the Sahel

On 18 December 2013, the Council held a meeting to discuss drug trafficking and its consequences for peace and security in West Africa and the Sahel. The meeting was held at the initiative of the presidency of France.⁴¹¹

The Secretary-General opened the discussion by noting that around the world drug trafficking and transnational organized crime threatened security, undermined respect for the rule of law and jeopardized peace and stability. He further underlined the particular challenge that these posed to West Africa and the Sahel given the magnitude of the traffic and the rising consumption of illicit drugs, which aggravated the already challenging public health environment and threatened socioeconomic development. He noted that the work on this front was guided by the conventions against organized crime, drug trafficking and corruption as well as the international instruments on terrorism. He emphasized the need to generate partnerships to support victims and advised that drug trafficking presented an enormous challenge to peace, stability and social development in West Africa and the Sahel. In the context of the discussion of the post-2015 development agenda, he highlighted that the aim should be not only to relieve citizens of the burden of crime but to lift them out of the conditions that enabled crime to grow.⁴¹²

Most speakers underlined the harmful effect of drug trafficking for the region. Many speakers echoed the Secretary-General in expressing their alarm

concerning the increase in drug consumption, which posed a genuine threat to the region. The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime welcomed the discussion of this subject as an opportunity to assess priorities and challenges, enhance synergies and decide on the best strategies.⁴¹³ Most speakers expressed their concern regarding the ties between drug trafficking, organized crime and terrorism. They agreed also on the basic analysis of the circumstances underlying the advance of these scourges and some recalled the need for a holistic approach not limited to law enforcement and repressive measures.⁴¹⁴ Many speakers urged cooperation at the national, regional and international levels.

At the meeting, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it expressed growing concern about the serious threats posed by drug trafficking and related transnational organized crime to international peace and stability in West Africa and the Sahel region. The Council called upon States that had not yet ratified or implemented the relevant international conventions to do so, and reaffirmed that responses to drug trafficking needed to be addressed in full conformity with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The Council stressed the importance of strengthening transregional and international cooperation on the basis of a common and shared responsibility to counter the world drug problem, and called upon Member States of West Africa and the Sahel region to strengthen border management to effectively constrain the spread of transnational threats such as drug trafficking.⁴¹⁵

⁴¹¹ See [S/2013/728](#)

⁴¹² [S/PV.7090](#), pp. 2-3.

⁴¹³ *Ibid.*, p. 4.

⁴¹⁴ *Ibid.*, p 7 (United Kingdom); and p. 24 (African Union).

⁴¹⁵ [S/PRST/2013/22](#).

Meetings: peace and security in Africa

<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.6709 26 January 2012	Letter dated 17 January 2012 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2012/42)		Chad, Mali, Niger	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, all Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.6717 and S/PV.6717 (Resumption 1) 21 February 2012	The impact of transnational organized crime on peace, security and stability in West Africa and the Sahel region Letter dated 17 January 2012 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2012/42) Letter dated 8 February 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Togo to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2012/83)		22 Member States ^a	Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation, Deputy Secretary-General of the European External Action Service	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^b all invitees	S/PRST/2012/2

<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.6836 17 September 2012			Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS))	Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs	All invitees	
S/PV.6882 10 December 2012	The Sahel: Towards a more comprehensive and coordinated approach Letter dated 5 December 2012 from the Permanent Representative of Morocco to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2012/906)		Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of ECOWAS), ^c Chad (on behalf of the Community of Sahelo-Saharan States)	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations, Chief Operating Officer of the European External Action Service, Director of Political Affairs in the Arab Maghreb Union, Director of the Human Development Group in the Africa Region of the World Bank, Special Adviser to the President of the African Development Bank, Permanent Observer of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^d all invitees	S/PRST/2012/26

<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.6946 15 April 2013	Prevention of conflicts in Africa: addressing the root causes Letter dated 2 April 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Rwanda to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2013/204)		Ethiopia (on behalf of the Chairperson of the African Union)		Secretary-General, all Council members, ^e Ethiopia	S/PRST/2013/4
S/PV.6965 13 May 2013	The challenges of the fight against terrorism in Africa in the context of maintaining international peace and security Letter dated 30 April 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Togo to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2013/264)		Algeria, Benin, Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of ECOWAS), Ethiopia (on behalf of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development), Somalia, Sudan, United Republic of Tanzania	Director-General of the Intergovernmental Action Group against Money Laundering in West Africa, Permanent Observer of the African Union, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^f six invitees under rule 37 ^g	S/PRST/2013/5
S/PV.6988 26 June 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region (S/2013/354)			Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel	
S/PV.7001 16 July 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Sahel region (S/2013/354)					S/PRST/2013/10

<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.7060 15 November 2013	Identical letters dated 21 October 2013 from the Permanent Representative of Kenya to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2013/624)	Draft resolution submitted by 14 Member States ^h (S/2013/660)	10 Member States ⁱ		All Council members, Kenya, Ethiopia	Draft resolution (S/2013/660) not adopted ^j
S/PV.7081 12 December 2013				President of the World Bank, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sahel, Permanent Observer of the African Union, European Union Special Representative for the Sahel	Secretary-General, all Council members, all invitees	S/PRST/2013/20
S/PV.7090 18 December 2013	Combating drug trafficking in the Sahel and in West Africa Letter dated 5 December 2013 from the Permanent Representative of France to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (S/2013/728)		Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of ECOWAS)	Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa, Permanent Observer of the African Union	Secretary-General, all Council members, ^k all invitees	S/PRST/2013/22

(Footnotes on following page)

(Footnotes to Meetings: peace and security in Africa)

- ^a Algeria, Australia, Benin, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Canada, Côte d'Ivoire (on behalf of ECOWAS), Egypt, Finland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mali, Mauritania, Nigeria, Norway, Senegal, Sudan, Tunisia, Turkey and Uganda.
- ^b Togo (President of the Security Council) was represented by its President; France by the Minister of State responsible for French nationals abroad; Morocco by the Minister Delegate for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; the Russian Federation by the Special Envoy of the President; and the United States by the Permanent Representative and member of the President's Cabinet.
- ^c Côte d'Ivoire was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- ^d Morocco (President of the Council) was represented by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; Colombia by the Minister for Foreign Affairs; and Togo by the Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.
- ^e Rwanda (President of the Security Council) was represented by the Minister for Foreign Affairs; and Togo by the Minister of State, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.
- ^f Togo (President of the Security Council) was represented by its President; Luxembourg by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs; Argentina by the Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Morocco by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation; the Republic of Korea by the Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs; Rwanda by the Permanent Representative and Minister of State in Charge of Cooperation; and the United States by the Permanent Representative and member of the President's Cabinet.
- ^g The representative of Somalia did not make a statement.
- ^h Azerbaijan, Burundi, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Namibia, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo, Uganda.
- ⁱ Burundi, Gabon, Ghana, Ethiopia (on behalf of the African Union), Kenya, Mauritania, Mauritius, Namibia, Senegal and Uganda.
- ^j *For:* Azerbaijan, China, Morocco, Pakistan, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Togo;
Against: none;
Abstaining: Argentina, Australia, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Republic of Korea, United Kingdom, United States.
- ^k Guatemala was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

15. The situation in Libya

Overview

During the years 2012 and 2013, the Security Council held 18 meetings in connection with the situation in Libya, and adopted one presidential statement and two resolutions under Chapter VII of the Charter. In its deliberations, the Council focused on the numerous security challenges facing the country, the human rights situation and the political developments after elections to the General National Congress in July 2012 and the formation of a new Government.

By resolutions 2040 (2012) and 2095 (2013), the Council modified and twice extended the mandate of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), for one year each time.⁴¹⁶ By the same

⁴¹⁶ For information on the mandate of UNSMIL, see part X, sect. II, "Political and peacebuilding missions".

resolutions, the Council also made adjustments to the sanctions regime established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011), as modified by resolution 2009 (2011).⁴¹⁷ The Council also modified and extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts twice, first for 12 months and then for 13 months.⁴¹⁸

Transitional period leading up to elections in July 2012

At its meeting on 25 January 2012, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the

⁴¹⁷ For information on sanctions concerning Libya, see part VII, sect. III, "Measures not involving the use of armed force in accordance with Article 41 of the Charter".

⁴¹⁸ For information on the Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I. B, under "Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya".