

## Asia

### 18. The situation in Afghanistan

During the period under review, the Security Council held nine meetings, adopted two resolutions and issued one presidential statement concerning the situation in Afghanistan. As in previous periods, the item was considered by the Council at quarterly debates with the participation of interested Member States. At those meetings, the Council was addressed by a variety of speakers, including the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA),<sup>221</sup> representatives of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011). More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. In 2016 and 2017, the briefings to the Council were focused on the political transition and reform efforts undertaken by the National Unity Government in Afghanistan, the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in the country, the status of peace and reconciliation and the implementation of the mandate of UNAMA. Moreover, during deliberations, members of the Council highlighted the need for further strengthening of the rule of law, human rights, electoral reform and anti-corruption measures.<sup>222</sup> Council members and other speakers also stressed the fundamental importance of improving the status of women in Afghanistan and their participation in peace and reconciliation efforts.<sup>223</sup>

The Council expressed its concern about the security situation in Afghanistan and condemned the terrorist activities by the Taliban, including the Haqqani Network, as well as Al-Qaida, Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da'esh) affiliates and other armed groups.<sup>224</sup> The Council welcomed the continuing efforts of the Government to advance the peace process to promote an Afghan-led and Afghan-owned dialogue on reconciliation and political participation, and stressed the crucial importance of advancing regional cooperation to promote security, stability and economic and social development in the country.<sup>225</sup>

The Council also stressed the importance of the support of the international community to the National Unity Government in implementing its reform agenda, while also recognizing the positive impact of international commitments made at the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) summit held in Warsaw in June 2016 and the Brussels Conference on Afghanistan, held in October 2016, for the security and development of Afghanistan.<sup>226</sup> The Council referred in particular to the priority of reforming and strengthening the Afghan National Police and Afghan National Defence and Security Forces, including through the continued presence and support of the non-combat Resolute Support Mission, and extended the mandate of UNAMA twice for periods of one year each, until 17 March 2017 and 17 March 2018, respectively.<sup>227</sup>

<sup>221</sup> For more information on the mandate of UNAMA, see part X, sect. II, "Special political missions".

<sup>222</sup> S/PV.7771, p. 8 (New Zealand); p. 10 (Ukraine); pp. 12–13 (France); pp. 16–17 (United States); p. 17 (Angola); and pp. 19–20 (Japan); and S/PV.7896, pp. 11–12 (Italy); pp. 15–16 (Senegal); p. 17 (Egypt); p. 18 (Uruguay); and p. 23 (United Kingdom).

<sup>223</sup> S/PV.7844, p. 10 (Ukraine); p. 12 (United States); p. 16 (United Kingdom); pp. 19–20 (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela); p. 22 (Senegal); p. 23 (Angola); p. 25 (Spain); and S/PV.7896, p. 17 (Plurinational State of Bolivia); p. 18 (Uruguay); p. 19 (Kazakhstan); p. 23

(United Kingdom); p. 27 (Netherlands); p. 30 (European Union); p. 32 (Australia and Belgium); and p. 34 (Canada).

<sup>224</sup> S/PRST/2016/14, third paragraph.

<sup>225</sup> Resolutions 2274 (2016), eleventh preambular paragraph and para. 14, and 2344 (2017), eighth preambular paragraph and para. 12.

<sup>226</sup> Resolution 2344 (2017), ninth preambular paragraph.

<sup>227</sup> Resolutions 2274 (2016), paras. 4, 26, 28 and 29, and 2344 (2017), paras. 3, 17 and 19.

Meetings: the situation in Afghanistan

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
<a href="#">S/PV.7645</a> 15 March 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2016/218</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by Spain ( <a href="#">S/2016/241</a> )	11 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2274 (2016)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.7722</a> 21 June 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2016/532</a> )		11 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.7771</a> 14 September 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2016/768</a> )		11 Member States <sup>a</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, <sup>c</sup> 10 invitees under rule 37, <sup>d</sup> all invitees under rule 39	<a href="#">S/PRST/2016/14</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.7844</a> 19 December 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2016/1049</a> )		12 Member States <sup>e</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union	New Zealand (as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution <a href="#">1988 (2011)</a> ), all Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.7896</a> 10 March 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2017/189</a> )		11 Member States <sup>f</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Chair of the Afghanistan Independent Human Rights Commission, Head of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.7902</a> 17 March 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security ( <a href="#">S/2017/189</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by Japan ( <a href="#">S/2017/222</a> )	Afghanistan		Japan	Resolution <a href="#">2344 (2017)</a> 15-0-0

**Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of  
the Security Council for the maintenance of  
international peace and security**

<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.7980 21 June 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2017/508)		11 Member States <sup>f</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.8055 25 September 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2017/783)		10 Member States <sup>g</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, representative of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees <sup>h</sup>	
S/PV.8147 21 December 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security (S/2017/1056)		10 Member States <sup>i</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Executive Director of UNODC, founding member of the Women and Peace Studies Organization and member of the High Peace Council of Afghanistan, <sup>j</sup> Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union	Kazakhstan (as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011)), all Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Netherlands, Pakistan, Sweden and Turkey.

<sup>b</sup> Italy was represented by its Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and Sweden by its State Secretary for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>c</sup> New Zealand was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>d</sup> The representative of Sweden did not make a statement.

<sup>e</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Kazakhstan, Netherlands, Pakistan, Sweden and Turkey.

<sup>f</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Netherlands, Pakistan, Spain and Turkey.

<sup>g</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Belgium, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), the Netherlands, Pakistan and Turkey.

<sup>h</sup> Afghanistan was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>i</sup> Afghanistan, Australia, Canada, Germany, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Netherlands, Pakistan, Turkey and Uzbekistan.

<sup>j</sup> The Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the founding member of the Women and Peace Studies Organization and member of the High Peace Council of Afghanistan participated in the meeting via videoconference from Vienna and Kabul, respectively.

## 19. The situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

During the period under review, the Security Council held two meetings in connection with the item entitled “The situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea”. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. These constituted the third and fourth meetings held by the Council on the human rights situation in the country

since the inclusion, in 2014, of the item in the list of matters of which the Council is seized.<sup>228</sup>

<sup>228</sup> For more information on the first two meetings, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2014–2015*, part I, sect. 18, “The situation in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea”.