

emphasized the need to strengthen the private sector and encourage investment in the country.<sup>19</sup>

At the meeting, the Council also heard a statement by the representative of Liberia, invited under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure. In his statement, the representative expressed gratitude to the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the African Union, the European Union and all organs of the United Nations, as well as the Peacebuilding Commission. He assured that the challenges still looming would remain “front and centre” for the Government. He also remarked that Liberia, once a beneficiary of a peacekeeping mission, had become a contributing nation to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali.<sup>20</sup>

At the meeting, Council members commended the work performed by UNMIL during its presence in Liberia and noted the need for continued engagement by the United Nations and the international community after its closure. Council members noted the difficulties faced by the Government of Liberia in addressing the remaining root causes of conflict, praised its efforts in establishing State institutions aimed at implementing the peacebuilding plan

following the closure of UNMIL and expressed their appreciation for the efforts of the Liberian authorities in prioritizing the Sustainable Development Goals in the country’s national development plans.

At the meeting, the Council issued a presidential statement, in which the Council commended the remarkable achievements and notable progress made by the people and Government of Liberia to consolidate lasting peace and stability since 2003 and their continued commitment to respect and develop democratic processes and institutions. The Council also commended the Government for its preparation and execution of the 2017 legislative and presidential elections and expressed its appreciation to ECOWAS, the African Union and all international, regional and domestic election observation missions for their contributions to the electoral process.<sup>21</sup> The Council also expressed its appreciation for the important contribution of UNMIL throughout its more than 14 years of operation in Liberia and requested the Secretary-General to undertake a study on the role of UNMIL in the resolution of conflicts and challenges in Liberia that allowed for the successful completion of the UNMIL mandate and the transition to the United Nations country team.<sup>22</sup>

<sup>19</sup> S/PV.8239, pp. 2–7.

<sup>20</sup> Ibid., pp. 21–22.

<sup>21</sup> S/PRST/2018/8, first and second paragraphs.

<sup>22</sup> Ibid., third and fourth paragraphs.

### Meeting: the situation in Liberia

<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.8239 19 April 2018	Final progress report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Liberia (S/2018/344)		Liberia	Assistant Secretary-General for Rule of Law and Security Institutions, Chief Executive Officer of Liberty and Justice	All Council members, <sup>a</sup> all invitees	S/PRST/2018/8

<sup>a</sup> The Deputy Permanent Representative of Sweden spoke on behalf of the Chair of the Liberia configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission.

## 3. The situation in Somalia

In 2018, the Security Council held 10 meetings, adopted five resolutions, four of which were under Chapter VII of the Charter, and issued one presidential statement on the situation in Somalia. Six meetings under the item were convened to adopt a decision; all

others took the form of briefings.<sup>23</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

<sup>23</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

During the period under review, the Council was regularly briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia and Head of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM).<sup>24</sup> In his three briefings, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General emphasized the structural challenges facing Somalia, including abuse and deprivation of human rights, disputes over borders, a weak rule of law and systemic corruption. He also cautioned against a series of risks affecting the country relating to the threat of Al-Shabaab, the political differences and power distribution in the country, the fragmentation of the international community and the risk of a humanitarian catastrophe. The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission focused in his three briefings on the political developments in the country and the support by AMISOM to the Federal Government in connection with the transition plan and its fight against Al-Shabaab. The Council also heard one briefing by the Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), who focused on the progress made in and the barriers to the achievement of gender equality in Somalia and affirmed that the country would not have long-lasting peace and deep reconciliation without the far-reaching contribution, involvement and recognition of women.<sup>25</sup>

During 2018, the Council focused its discussions on the country's security transition plan, national reconciliation efforts and the commitment of the newly elected Federal Government to implement political and socioeconomic reforms. Council members also addressed the continued need for humanitarian assistance in response to the persistent threats posed by Al-Shabaab and the ongoing risks of severe famine and drought. Some Council members also noted the significance of economic recovery and of the meaningful participation of women in all efforts towards the maintenance and promotion of sustainable peace and in the political settlement process.<sup>26</sup>

As in previous years, Council members continued to deliberate on the role of UNSOM, the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS) and AMISOM and their respective mandates.<sup>27</sup> During the deliberations,

speakers underlined the importance of the support provided by UNSOM and UNSOS to the Federal Government on the electoral process, conflict resolution and the implementation of the national security architecture, as well as the need to maintain the deployment of AMISOM and build the capacity of the Somali security forces, given the protracted instability in the country. In that regard, speakers condemned the increasing terrorist attacks by Al-Shabaab against civilians and military targets, including AMISOM personnel and bases, underscoring the need for unity among Somalis, the African Union, troop-contributing countries and principal security partners.<sup>28</sup>

In addition, further to the Joint Declaration of Peace and Friendship signed between Eritrea and Ethiopia on 9 July, discussions at the Council also focused on the adjustment of the sanctions measures concerning Eritrea. In that regard, on 30 July, the Council heard a briefing by the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, specifically on his visit to the region in May 2018.<sup>29</sup> With respect to Somalia, he noted that, in the view of the Committee, the arms embargo should not be completely lifted until Somalia underwent political and security reforms and created strong institutions capable of securing an adequate level of weapons and ammunition management.<sup>30</sup>

During 2018, the decisions of the Council focused on the same issues dealt with in the context of its discussions. Insofar as the political situation was concerned, on 7 June 2018, the Council issued a presidential statement, welcoming the resumption of high-level dialogue between the Federal Government of Somalia and the federal member states to make further progress on key priorities, including power-sharing and resource sharing, the constitutional review, fiscal federalism, preparations for one-person-one-vote elections in 2020 and 2021, support for regional security forces and finalizing the justice and corrections federal model.<sup>31</sup> The Council also welcomed the progress achieved in developing a conditions-based transition plan for the progressive transfer of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the Somali security

<sup>24</sup> S/PV.8165, S/PV.8259 and S/PV.8352.

<sup>25</sup> S/PV.8352, pp. 7–8.

<sup>26</sup> See, for example, *ibid.*, p. 9 (United Kingdom), p. 14 (Peru), p. 16 (Sweden), p. 17 (France), p. 18 (Netherlands), p. 19 (Kazakhstan), p. 22 (Poland) and p. 23 (Russian Federation).

<sup>27</sup> For more information on UNSOM, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>28</sup> See, for example, S/PV.8259, p. 7 (Equatorial Guinea), p. 8 (Plurinational State of Bolivia), p. 9 (Peru), p. 10 (Côte d'Ivoire) and p. 11 (Kazakhstan).

<sup>29</sup> For more information on the Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, see part IX, sect. I.B.

<sup>30</sup> S/PV.8322, p. 3.

<sup>31</sup> S/PRST/2018/13, third paragraph.

institutions and noted the critical role of AMISOM in enabling the transition to Somali-led security.<sup>32</sup>

Concerning UNSOM, on 27 March 2018, by its resolution 2408 (2018), the Council extended the mandate of UNSOM until 31 March 2019, as set out in paragraph 1 of resolution 2158 (2014).<sup>33</sup> In the resolution, the Council recognized the adverse effects of climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters, among other factors, on the stability of Somalia and emphasized the need for adequate risk assessments and risk management strategies by Governments and the United Nations relating to those factors.<sup>34</sup> Moreover, the Council underscored the importance of the support provided by UNSOM to the Federal Government of Somalia on preparations for the delivery of an inclusive, credible and transparent one-person-one-vote elections in 2020 and 2021, and encouraged UNSOM to help to ensure that the views of civil society were incorporated into the various Somali-led, inclusive political processes.<sup>35</sup>

Regarding AMISOM, the Council adopted two successive resolutions, under Chapter VII of the Charter, extending the authorization for the States members of the African Union to maintain the deployment of AMISOM. On 15 May, by its resolution 2415 (2018), the Council proceeded to undertake a technical rollover of the authorization for AMISOM, extending it until 31 July 2018, awaiting the report of the joint assessment of the Mission by 15 June 2018.<sup>36</sup> Thereafter, on 30 July, further to the letter dated 5 July 2018 from the Secretary-General,<sup>37</sup> the Council adopted resolution 2431 (2018), extending the authorization until 31 May 2019. Against the backdrop of the discussions in the Council concerning the composition of AMISOM, in resolution 2431 (2018), the Council reduced the level of uniformed personnel to a maximum level of 20,626 by 28 February 2019, delayed from the scheduled date of 30 October 2018 as envisaged in paragraph 5 of resolution 2372 (2017) and paragraph 1 of resolution 2415 (2018), and stressed that there should be no further delay in the

reduction beyond that date. The Council also set out the strategic objectives of AMISOM to enable the gradual handover of security responsibilities to Somali security forces by December 2021.<sup>38</sup>

On 6 November 2018, the Council adopted resolution 2442 (2018), under Chapter VII of the Charter, renewing, for a further period of 13 months, the authorizations set out in paragraph 14 of resolution 2383 (2017) granted to States and regional organizations cooperating with Somali authorities in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, including the use of all necessary means to repress such acts.<sup>39</sup>

Concerning the sanctions measures, on 14 November, the Council adopted resolution 2444 (2018), under Chapter VII of the Charter, in which it recognized that, during the course of the mandate of the Monitoring Group on Somalia and Eritrea, no conclusive evidence had been found that Eritrea supported Al-Shabaab. Moreover, the Council welcomed the meeting between the representative of the Government of Eritrea and the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea and the meeting between the Presidents of Djibouti and Eritrea and lifted the arms embargoes, travel bans, asset freezes and other targeted sanctions imposed on Eritrea and terminated the mandate of the Monitoring Group with effect from 16 December 2018.<sup>40</sup> Furthermore, the Council adjusted the mandate of the Security Council Committee and established the Panel of Experts on Somalia. It also reaffirmed the arms embargo on Somalia and reiterated the exemption on the delivery of weapons, ammunition or military equipment or the provision of advice, assistance or training intended solely for the development of the Somali National Security Forces.<sup>41</sup>

---

<sup>32</sup> Ibid., sixth and eighth paragraphs.

<sup>33</sup> Resolution 2408 (2018), para. 1.

<sup>34</sup> Ibid., eighteenth preambular paragraph.

<sup>35</sup> Ibid., paras. 4 and 5.

<sup>36</sup> Resolution 2415 (2018), second preambular paragraph and para. 1.

<sup>37</sup> S/2018/674.

<sup>38</sup> Resolution 2431 (2018), paras. 5 and 7 (a).

<sup>39</sup> Resolution 2442 (2018), para. 14. See also resolutions 1846 (2008), para. 10; and 2246 (2015), para. 14.

<sup>40</sup> Resolution 2444 (2018), paras. 1–4 and 10. For more information on sanctions measures concerning Somalia, see part VII, sect. III. For more information on the Security Council Committee and the Monitoring Group, see part IX, sect. I.B.

<sup>41</sup> Resolution 2444 (2018), paras. 9, 11, 13 and 14.

Meetings: the situation in Somalia

<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.8165</a> 24 January 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2017/1109</a> )		Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia and Head of the African Union Mission in Somalia	Two Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Peru), all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8215</a> 27 March 2018		Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/257</a> )	Somalia		Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2408 (2018)</a> 15-0-0
<a href="#">S/PV.8257</a> 15 May 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2018/411</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/437</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2415 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8259</a> 15 May 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2018/411</a> )		Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission	Five Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kazakhstan, Peru), all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8280</a> 7 June 2018						<a href="#">S/PRST/2018/13</a>

**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>
<a href="#">S/PV.8321</a> 30 July 2018	Letter dated 5 July 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/674</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/742</a> )	Somalia		One Council member (Ethiopia), Somalia	Resolution <a href="#">2431 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.8322</a> 30 July 2018			Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia		Two Council members (Kazakhstan, Ethiopia), <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.8352</a> 13 September 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2018/800</a> )		Somalia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women)	All Council members, all invitees <sup>d</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8391</a> 6 November 2018	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation with respect to piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia ( <a href="#">S/2018/903</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by United States ( <a href="#">S/2018/990</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2442 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)

## Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, 2018

<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.8398</a> 14 November 2018	Letter dated 7 November 2018 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">751 (1992)</a> and <a href="#">1907 (2009)</a> concerning Somalia and Eritrea addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1002</a> )  Letter dated 7 November 2018 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions <a href="#">751 (1992)</a> and <a href="#">1907 (2009)</a> concerning Somalia and Eritrea addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2018/1003</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom ( <a href="#">S/2018/1010</a> )	Djibouti, Eritrea, Somalia		14 Council members, <sup>e</sup> all invitees	Resolution <a href="#">2444 (2018)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)

<sup>a</sup> The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission participated in the meeting via videoconference from Addis Ababa.

<sup>b</sup> The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission participated in the meeting via videoconference from Mogadishu.

<sup>c</sup> The representative of Kazakhstan spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [751 \(1992\)](#) and [1907 \(2009\)](#) concerning Somalia and Eritrea.

<sup>d</sup> The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission participated in the meeting via videoconference from Mogadishu.

<sup>e</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia, France, Kazakhstan, Kuwait, Netherlands, Peru, Poland, Russian Federation, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

### 4. The situation in Burundi

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings in connection with the situation in Burundi and issued one presidential statement. One meeting was convened under this item

to adopt a decision; all others were briefings.<sup>42</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

<sup>42</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.