

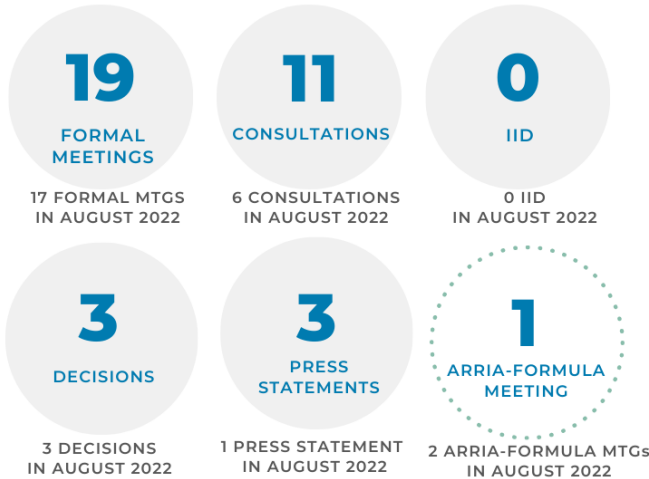
# UN Security Council in Review

August 2023



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## August 2023 at a Glance

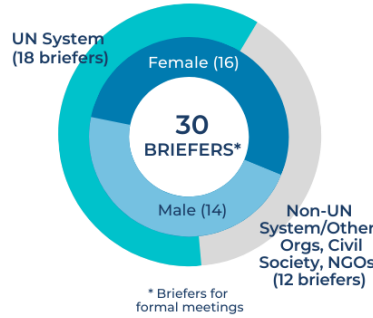


Most frequently discussed topics (open & closed)

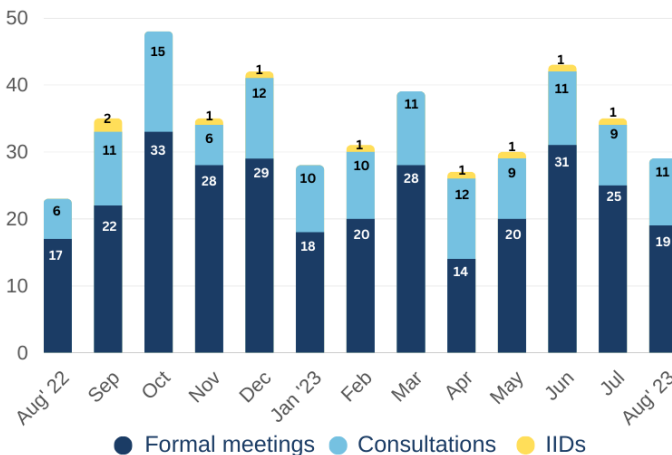
**Middle East**

Mali      Ukraine

Non-proliferation/DPRK



AUGUST 2022 - AUGUST 2023



Under the **Presidency of the United States**, the Security Council held **one signature event**:

- A high-level open debate on **Maintenance of international peace and security** (3 August), focused on famine and conflict-induced global food insecurity (S/2023/560). The Secretary of State of the United States presided over the meeting.

## Key Topics

The **Middle East** (8, 15, 16, 21, 23, 24 and 31 August), including a private meeting with troop-contributing countries to the **United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)**, was the most frequently considered country- or region-specific item in open and closed discussions. **Non-proliferation/DPRK** (17 and 30 August), **Mali** (28 and 30 August) and **Ukraine** (17 and 24 August) were also considered more than once.

Other country or region-specific items considered by the Council included: **Armenia**, **Colombia**, **Libya**, **Middle East including the Palestinian question**, **Myanmar**, the **Democratic People's Republic of Korea**, **Sudan** and the **UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy in Central Asia (UNRCCA)**.

Under other matters (AOB), Council members discussed **Cyprus** and **Georgia**.

In addition to the signature event, the Council also heard a thematic briefing on **Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts**.

## Procedural notes

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In August, for the first time since February 2019 (see [S/2019/1015](#)), Council members did not agree on the **adoption of the provisional programme of work**, which was only subsequently published on the Council website on 24 August.

On 16 August, further to a letter dated 11 August ([S/2023/594](#)), in which the representative of Armenia invoked **Article 35** of the Charter, the Council convened a previously unscheduled meeting under the item entitled “Letter dated 13 September 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Armenia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2022/688](#))”.

On 21 August, **two presidential notes** were issued: [S/2023/612](#) concerning the observance of minutes of silence; and [S/2023/615](#) whereby the Council reaffirmed its commitment to making every effort to agree provisionally on the appointment of the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies for the following year no later than 1 October and agreeing on a contingency measure in case the provisional agreement is not reached on time devolving the role of Chair onto the Presidency. On 22 August, the **Informal Working Group on Documentation and other Procedural Questions** (IWG) held its fourth meeting of the year, chaired by Albania.

On 30 August (see [S/PV.9408](#)), **two draft resolutions** submitted under the item entitled “**The situation in Mali**” concerning **the renewal of the existing sanctions measures** as well as **the mandate of the Panel of Experts** failed to be adopted; one ([S/2023/638](#)) due to a **veto** cast by the Russian Federation, and the other ([S/2023/639](#)) having failed to obtain the required number of votes.

## Decisions and press statements

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In August, the Council adopted **two resolutions** and issued **one presidential statement**.

On 2 August, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2694 \(2023\)](#), expanding the mandate of the **United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia** to include monitoring and verifying the implementation of the ceasefire agreement between the Government of Colombia and the Ejército de Liberación Nacional (ELN).

On 31 August, the Council adopted with two abstentions resolution [2695 \(2023\)](#), extending for one year the mandate of the **United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)** (see [S/PV.9409](#)).

On 3 August, the Council issued its fourth presidential statement of the year ([S/PRST/2023/4](#)), in which it reiterated its commitment to address **conflict-induced food insecurity, including famine, in situations of armed conflict**.

In August, the Council issued **three press statements** on the following topics: one on a **terrorist attack in Shiraz, Iran** ([SC/15386](#)), one on **Cyprus** ([SC/15391](#)), and one on **Libya** ([SC/15394](#)).

## Other activities

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In August, Council members convened **one Arria-formula meeting** on the following topic: “**Reinforcing the implementation of the Youth, Peace and Security agenda for a peaceful and stable Africa**” (28 August), organized by Ghana.

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Dashboards pertaining to Field Missions, Women and Peace and Security, Children and Armed Conflict, Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict, Women at the Security Council are updated quarterly (monthly for Arria-formula meetings). Dashboards on Security Council Membership and the Subsidiary Organs Chairs and Vice-Chairs are updated annually. For more information about the Council’s working methods, see our [updates on procedural developments](#).