Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, 2022

Meeting record and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 2631 (2022) (S/2022/714)					

^{*a*} Albania, Brazil, China, France, Gabon (also on behalf of Ghana and Kenya), India, Ireland, Mexico, Norway, Russian Federation, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom and United States.

^b Iraq was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

^c The Special Representative participated in the meeting by videoconference.

23. The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

During the period under review, the Security Council held one meeting in relation to the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait", at which it adopted one resolution.⁹²⁹ It was the first meeting held by the Council in relation to the item since February 2019.⁹³⁰ More information on the meeting, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.⁹³¹

On 22 February, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Council adopted resolution 2621 (2022), in which it decided that the United Nations Compensation Commission had fulfilled its mandate under resolutions 687 (1991) and 692 (1991), and reaffirmed that Iraq had fulfilled its international obligations to compensate all claimants awarded compensation by the Commission for direct loss, damage, including environmental damage and the depletion of natural resources, or injury to foreign Governments, nationals and corporations as a result of its unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait, as set out in resolutions 687 (1991), paragraphs 16 and 18, and 692 (1991).⁹³² By the same resolution, the Council decided to terminate the mandate of the Commission and to conclude its consideration of compensation by the Commission for liability as set out in resolutions 687 (1991).⁹³³

At the meeting,⁹³⁴ following the vote on the resolution, the President of the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission noted that the Commission was the first successful example of a system giving individuals recourse to seek compensation from an aggressor State and recalled that, on 9 February, the Governing Council had adopted decision 277, its final decision, in which the Governing Council had fulfilled its international obligations to compensate for losses and damages suffered as a direct result of its unlawful invasion of Kuwait. He stated that the Commission had completed its work and would be winding down all activities in 2022. He added that a final administrative Governing Council session would be held following the closure of the accounts for the return of any remaining funds in the United Nations Compensation Fund to Iraq and the issuance of all audit reports. Following the final session, the Commission would be dissolved, and a report would be sent to the Council.⁹³⁵ He underscored that the Commission demonstrated what multiple States with different interests could achieve through positive cooperation at the United Nations, and that post-war reconstruction and reconciliation by Member States acting through the United Nations were possible.

⁹²⁹ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

⁹³⁰ For more information on prior meetings on the item, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2019*, part I, sect. 23.

⁹³¹ See also A/77/2, part II, sect. 5.

⁹³² Resolution 2621 (2022), paras. 1-2.

⁹³³ Ibid., paras. 7 and 8.

⁹³⁴ See S/PV.8972.

⁹³⁵ See S/2022/104.

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

At the same meeting,936 the representative of the United Kingdom, the penholder of the resolution, said that the Commission represented an important success for the international rules-based order and that its work was a historic achievement for multilateralism in terms of post-conflict reconciliation and solutions to large-scale and complex problems related to conflict. She added that the successful completion of the mandate of the Commission served as not only a reminder of the consequences of breaching international law but also an example of what could be achieved through positive cooperation at the United Nations. The representative of the United States noted that the Commission had been a successful mechanism for post-conflict management, made possible by the Council's collective commitment to multilateralism and the maintenance of international peace and security. He underlined that, while the completion of the work of the Commission was a success, it was also a reminder that the impact of war extended for decades. He stressed that the Council, consistent with its role under the Charter, must continue to take actions to prevent the outbreak of armed conflict and advance international peace and security. The representative of France noted that the closure of the Commission was a major achievement in post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation and marked the beginning of a new chapter in relations between Iraq and Kuwait. The representative of the United Arab Emirates stated that the conclusion of the work of the Commission represented a historic moment for the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait". The representative of India said that the episode served as a good model of how Member States could come together to achieve post-conflict reconciliation through positive cooperation. The representative of Ireland emphasized that the fulfilment of the mandate of the Commission marked an unprecedented achievement in the history of international claims resolution and the first case of individuals having recourse to seek compensation from an aggressor State. She added that the joint efforts, commitment and perseverance of the Governments of Iraq and Kuwait, acting through the United Nations, were a reminder of the enduring value of dialogue and multilateralism. The representative of Norway referred to the conclusion of the mandate of the Commission as a historic and significant achievement. Similarly, the representative of China said that the completion of the work of the Commission was very significant and expressed the hope that Iraq and Kuwait would deepen cooperation and jointly promote regional stability, peace and prosperity. The representative of Albania noted that the Commission remained a model for post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation, demonstrating the value and importance of international law and respect for Member States. He added that the occasion should serve as a reminder of the catastrophic costs of war and a lesson on the importance of showing resolve in efforts to prevent conflicts, discourage illegal acts of aggression and end wars. The representative of Ghana was pleased to note that the Commission had lived up to and successfully completed its mandate, thus reinforcing her country's conviction that meaningful postconflict reconstruction and reconciliation could be achieved by Member States through constructive cooperation in a multilateral setting. The representative of Kenya indicated that the day marked a momentous occasion for the United Nations and for multilateralism. The representative of the Russian Federation noted that the dissolution of the Commission was a historic event and expressed his belief that the resources that would be available to Iraq would make a tangible contribution to improving the socioeconomic situation of Iraqi society, which had endured the humanitarian consequences of sanctions pressure since the outbreak of the crisis in the Persian Gulf in 1990.

Many Council members⁹³⁷ asserted that Iraq had fulfilled its obligations in relation to the measures under Chapter VII of the Charter concerning its unlawful invasion and occupation of Kuwait in 1990, and most Council members⁹³⁸ commended Iraq for its commitment to make its payments, often in challenging circumstances. Some Council members⁹³⁹ expressed their appreciation to the Government of Kuwait for its commitment to the Commission. Several Council members⁹⁴⁰ called for further progress on the issues of missing Kuwaiti and third-country nationals and missing Kuwaiti property, including items from the national archives.

⁹³⁶ See S/PV.8972.

⁹³⁷ United Kingdom, United States, France, Mexico, India, Gabon, Norway, China, Albania and Kenya.

⁹³⁸ United Kingdom, United States, France, United Arab Emirates, Mexico, India, Ireland, Norway, China, Ghana, Brazil, Kenya and Russian Federation.

⁹³⁹ United States, France, United Arab Emirates, Mexico, Ireland, Norway, China, Albania, Ghana, Brazil and Kenya.

⁹⁴⁰ United Arab Emirates, India, Gabon and Ireland.

Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council, 2022

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iraq stressed that the cooperation of his Government with the Commission and the Council was a successful model of multilateral action that reinforced confidence in international mechanisms and measures to resolve crises confronting the world. He added that the fulfilment by Iraq of its obligations to the international community and to Kuwait was a major development that would strengthen its relations with the region and the world, as well as its historical ties with Kuwait. He clarified that, following the fulfilment by Iraq of its obligations, the international community and the United Nations now had a legal and moral obligation towards Iraq that included ending the application of measures under Chapter VII of the Charter against Iraq; preserving the rights, assets and international legal privileges of Iraq; and shielding Iraq from any future claims, in line with United Nations-led international efforts and in accordance with the Charter and the norms of international law ensuring justice and fairness. The representative of Kuwait welcomed the unanimous adoption of resolution 2621 (2022) and underscored that the fulfilment by mechanisms and subsidiary organs established by the Council of their tasks and responsibilities and the readiness to follow up on their implementation to achieve the desired outcomes of the relevant resolutions enhanced the credibility and effectiveness of the Council. He praised the Council on the historic achievement in its work on the issue of compensation and congratulated Iraq on fully meeting its obligations related to the issue of compensation and on ceasing to be subject to its most important obligations under Chapter VII. The representative of Kuwait reiterated his country's commitment to working and cooperating with the Government of Iraq to finalize the outstanding issues and obligations relating to missing Kuwaitis and third-country nationals and the return of property, including the national archives, as stipulated in resolution 2107 (2013).

Meeting record and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)
S/PV.8972 22 February	Letter dated 10 February 2022 from the President of the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/104)	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2022/136)	Iraq, Kuwait	President of the Governing Council of the United Nations Compensation Commission	All Council members, all invitees ^a	Resolution 2621 (2022) 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII

Meeting: the situation between Iraq and Kuwait, 2022

^{*a*} Iraq was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Thematic issues

24. United Nations peacekeeping operations

During the period under review, the Council held four meetings and adopted one resolution and one presidential statement under the item entitled "United Nations peacekeeping operations". Two of the meetings took the form of briefings, one took the form of an open debate, and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.⁹⁴¹ More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is provided in the table below.⁹⁴²

⁹⁴¹ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II.

⁹⁴² See also A/77/2, part II, chap. 4.