51. Kimberley Process Certification Scheme

Initial proceedings

Decision of 28 January 2003 (4694th meeting): resolution 1459 (2003)

At its 4694th meeting, on 28 January 2003, the Security Council included in its agenda the item entitled "Kimberley Process Certification Scheme". The President (France) drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution;¹ it was put to the vote and adopted unanimously as resolution 1459 (2003), by which the Council, inter alia:

Strongly supported the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, as well as the ongoing process to refine and implement the regime, adopted at the Interlaken conference as a valuable contribution against trafficking in conflict diamonds, looked forward to its implementation, and strongly encouraged the participants to further resolve outstanding issues;

Welcomed the voluntary system of industry self-regulation, as described in the Interlaken Declaration;

Stressed that the widest possible participation in the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme was essential and should be encouraged and facilitated, and urged all Member States to participate actively in the Scheme.

¹ S/2003/54.

52. The Security Council and regional organizations: facing the new challenges to international peace and security

Initial proceedings

Deliberations of 11 April 2003 (4739th meeting)

At its 4739th meeting, on 11 April 2003, the Security Council included in its agenda the item entitled "The Security Council and regional organizations: facing the new challenges to international peace and security".¹

During the meeting, there was an interactive discussion, and statements were made by most members of the Council,² the Secretary-General, the representative of Greece (on behalf of the European Union³), and the representatives of the Organization of

American States, the African Union, the League of Arab States, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).⁴

In his statement, the Secretary-General stressed the joint interest of regional organizations and the United Nations in addressing current challenges to peace and security. He stated that, in its endeavours to deal with a range of crises, the United Nations had relied on regional partners in Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America, and that from those experiences, a great

¹ For more information on the discussion at this meeting, see chap. XII, part III, sect. A, with regard to general considerations of the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter.

² The representative of Mexico did not make a statement.

³ Bulgaria, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and

Slovenia aligned themselves with the statement.

⁴ Mexico was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs; the European Union by the Deputy Minister for Foreign Relations of Greece; and the African Union by the Minister for Provincial and Local Government of South Africa. Also present were a group of parliamentarians from Mexico and the President of the General Assembly.