

41. Briefings

Overview

During the period under review, the Council heard a number of briefings which were not explicitly connected to any other item on the Council's agenda. They were included under various unique agenda items, and have been grouped together here for convenience.

A. Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

During the period under review, the Council held six meetings in connection with "Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council", at which the Chairmen of sanctions committees, counter-terrorism committees and working groups provided to the Council an overview of their work.

Meetings: briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
5886th 6 May 2008	Rule 37 9 Member States ^a	All Council members, all invitees, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)
6015th 12 November 2008	Rule 37 6 Member States ^b	All Council members, all invitees, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) , Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) , Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)
6043rd 15 December 2008		Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan and of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006) , Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia and of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda, of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo and of the Working Group of the Whole on United Nations Peacekeeping Operations, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) , of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire and of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1737 (2006) , Chairman of the Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions
6128th 26 May 2009	Rule 37 15 Member States ^c	All Council members, all invitees, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) , Acting Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) , Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)
6217th 13 November 2009	Rule 37 14 Member States ^d	All Council members, all invitees, Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) , Acting Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) , Chairman of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
6238th 14 December 2009		Chairman of Committee established pursuant to resolution 1132 (1997) concerning Sierra Leone, Chairman of Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) and of the Working Group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004) , Chairman of Committee established pursuant to resolution 1521 (2003) concerning Liberia, Chairman of Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) , Chairman of Committee established pursuant to resolution 1518 (2003) and of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1636 (2005)

^a Australia, Cuba, India, Israel, Japan, Qatar, Slovenia (on behalf of the European Union), Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

^b Australia, Cuba, Israel, Japan, Switzerland and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

^c Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Cuba, Czech Republic (on behalf of the European Union), Israel, Liechtenstein, Morocco, New Zealand, Norway, Pakistan, Qatar, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

^d Australia, Brazil, Colombia, Cuba, India, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Liechtenstein, Netherlands (on behalf of the group of like-minded States on targeted sanctions), New Zealand, Spain, Sweden (on behalf of the European Union), Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

B. Other briefings

During the period under review, the Council also heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, the Chairperson in Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, as well as two briefings, held in private, by the President of the International Court of Justice.⁷⁵³

25 February 2008: Briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator

On 25 February 2008, at its 5845th meeting, the Council heard a briefing by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, who reported on his visit to Kenya from 8 to 10 February after the post-electoral wave of violence in that country. During his visit, the Under-Secretary-General met with Government authorities and the opposition and visited refugee camps. In his briefing, he addressed the issues of internally displaced people, ethnic divisions within Kenyan society and the highly unsafe environment, especially for women and children. All those factors presented significant challenges for the humanitarian community. He stressed the need for an accountability mechanism for

the perpetrators of violence and for active United Nations involvement. He also transmitted the concern of humanitarian agencies to the donor community regarding insufficient funding, and announced the future revision of the emergency humanitarian response plan. Finally, he stressed that if there was no quick political response by the Government of Kenya, a new outbreak of violence was highly probable.

26 September 2008 and 27 February 2009: Briefings by the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe

At the 5982nd meeting, on 26 September 2008, the Chairperson-in-Office of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) briefed the Council on areas of cooperation between the United Nations and OSCE, focusing on three regional challenges that the United Nations and OSCE shared. With regard to the conflict between the Russian Federation and Georgia in August 2008, he proposed to follow up the ceasefire agreement with a new international platform with the authority and the resources to deal with both conflicts, adding that such a platform could be convened by the United Nations, OSCE and the European Union, together with other key stakeholders. He welcomed the close cooperation between the United Nations and OSCE in two other areas, Kosovo and Afghanistan, through the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA).

⁷⁵³ 6002nd meeting, held on 28 October 2008, and 6208th meeting, held on 29 October 2009.

At the 6088th meeting, on 27 February 2009, the Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE briefed the Council on the priorities of the Greek OSCE chairmanship for 2009. In Georgia, the objectives of OSCE included greater involvement and addressing humanitarian issues. In Kosovo, OSCE intended to continue implementing the mandate of its Mission and playing an important role in building institutions and supporting communities. In Afghanistan, OSCE would further contribute to border security management. Moreover, the Chairperson noted that the agenda of OSCE was expanding to address migration, climate change and energy security issues. It also included gender equality and the rule of law. Finally, she noted that the first high-level multilateral discussion for a renewed European security dialogue took place within OSCE, which confirmed that the Organization was uniquely placed to facilitate a dialogue on security.

8 January 2009: Briefing by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

At its 6062nd meeting on 8 January 2009, the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

briefed the Council, informing it about his Office's efforts to facilitate the return of displaced persons who had fled interrelated conflicts in the Middle East, particularly in Afghanistan, Iraq and the Gaza Strip, as well as in the Horn of Africa, particularly in the Sudan and Somalia. He explained that other causes of displacement, besides conflict, included climate change, natural disaster, drought, rising sea levels and the current global economic recession. As there was no legal framework addressing the situation of internally displaced persons, the High Commissioner pointed out the need to discuss possible forms of collective response to address new forms of forced displacement. While peacebuilding missions had facilitated the work of the Office of United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, most notably by supporting the voluntary return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons, he observed that those processes had often been obstructed by the failure to resolve outstanding land and property issues. The most effective means to address the question of forced displacement, he said, was prevention — the most important element in the concept of the responsibility to protect.

Meetings: other briefings

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>
5845th 25 February 2008		Rule 39 Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator
5982nd 26 September 2008	Letter dated 4 September 2008 from the Permanent Representative of Finland to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2008/594)	Rule 39 Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE (Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland)	7 Council members, ^a Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE
6062nd 8 January 2009		Rule 39 United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees	All Council members, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
6088th 27 February 2009		Rule 39 Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE (Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece)	10 Council members, ^b Chairperson-in-Office of OSCE

^a Belgium, Croatia, France (Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and Human Rights), Italy, Russian Federation, United Kingdom and United States.

^b Austria, Croatia, France, Japan, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, United Kingdom and United States.