Europe

20. The situation in Cyprus

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held six meetings, including three closed meetings with the troop-contributing countries,⁶⁶² and adopted three resolutions on the situation in Cyprus. The Council in its deliberations focused on the various political developments in Cyprus, including the relevant role and mandate of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP).⁶⁶³ In addition, the Council continued to support the good offices mission of the Secretary-General and his efforts to assist the parties in the negotiation process, and encouraged both sides to continue to work with UNFICYP to reach a comprehensive settlement.

The Council further extended the mandate of UNFICYP three times,⁶⁶⁴ in accordance with the recommendations contained in the reports of the Secretary-General.⁶⁶⁵

Extension of the mandate of UNFICYP

On 19 July 2012, the Council adopted resolution 2058 (2012), in which it noted that the progress made so far in negotiations was not sufficient, urged the sides to continue their discussions to reach decisive progress on the core issues, expressed its full support for UNFICYP and extended its mandate for a further period until 31 January 2013.

After the vote, the representative of Azerbaijan noted that his country had abstained from voting on the resolution, because in his view the resolution did not place the required emphasis on the necessity to agree on a results-oriented process.⁶⁶⁶ The representative of Pakistan expressed his dissatisfaction over the lack of inclusiveness in engaging all Council members to achieve consensus, and also pointed out that the text was not fully reflective of the recommendations of the Secretary-General.⁶⁶⁷

On 24 January 2013, the Council, in resolution 2089 (2013), extended the mandate of UNFICYP for a further period ending 31 July 2013. After the vote, the representative of Azerbaijan noted that his country had abstained from voting because the resolution contained a number of elements that were "outdated", as well as "factual inaccuracies". Furthermore, he expressed concern that a number of issues raised in the report of the Secretary-General⁶⁶⁸ were not reflected in the resolution.⁶⁶⁹

On 30 July 2013, the Council adopted resolution 2114 (2013), in which it extended the mandate of UNFICYP for a further period ending 31 January 2014. After the vote, the representative of Pakistan stated that the deletion of a reference to joint statements, including those of 23 May and July 2008, had constrained his country to abstain in the voting on the draft resolution.⁶⁷⁰ The representative of Azerbaijan also stated that the reasons for his country's abstention in voting. He said that the resolution did not provide a full and proper update of the situation and had not placed the required emphasis on the necessity to agree on a results-oriented process. He maintained that certain provisions in the resolution did not accurately describe some of the developments on the ground.⁶⁷¹

⁶⁶² See S/PV.6801, S/PV.6901 and S/PV.6997.

⁶⁶³ For more information on the mandate of UNFICYP, see part X, sect. I, "Peacekeeping operations".

⁶⁶⁴ See resolutions 2058 (2012), 2089 (2013) and 2114 (2013).

⁶⁶⁵ S/2012/507, S/2013/7 and S/2013/392.

⁶⁶⁶ S/PV.6809, p. 2.
667 Ibid., pp. 2-3.
668 S/2013/7.
669 S/PV.6908, p. 2.
670 S/PV.7014, p. 2.
671 Ibid., p. 3.

16-06865

Meetings: the situation in Cyprus

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.6809 19 July 2012	Report of the Secretary- General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2012/507)	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2012/555)			Azerbaijan, Pakistan	Resolution 2058 (2012) 13-0-2 ^{<i>a</i>}
S/PV.6908 24 January 2013	Report of the Secretary- General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2013/7)	Draft resolution submitted by France, United Kingdom, United States (S/2013/48)			Azerbaijan	Resolution 2089 (2013) 14-0-1 ^b
S/PV.7014 30 July 2013	Report of the Secretary- General on the United Nations operation in Cyprus (S/2013/392)	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom, United States (S/2013/441) Assessment report on the status of the negotiations in Cyprus (S/2012/149)			Azerbaijan, Pakistan	Resolution 2114 (2013) 13-0-2 ^c

^a For: China, Colombia, France, Germany, Guatemala, India, Morocco, Portugal, Russian Federation, South Africa, Togo, United Kingdom, United States; Abstaining: Azerbaijan, Pakistan.

^b For: Argentina, Australia, China, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Morocco, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom, United States;

Abstaining: Azerbaijan.

^c For: Argentina, Australia, China, France, Guatemala, Luxembourg, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom, United States;

Abstaining: Azerbaijan, Pakistan.

21. Items relating to the situation in the former Yugoslavia

A. The situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Overview

During 2012 and 2013, the Security Council held six meetings on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and adopted two resolutions. The High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina briefed the Council four times during the period under review on the evolving political and security situation, as well as the current and future challenges facing the country. During those meetings, the Council discussed the progress achieved and the remaining challenges in the implementation of the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina (Dayton Peace Agreement),⁶⁷² as well as the activities of the Office of the High Representative and the relationship of Bosnia and Herzegovina with the European Union.

The Council twice extended the authorization of the European Union Force (EUFOR)-Althea and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) presence, for periods of 12 months, including authorization for the participating Member States to take all necessary measures to assist both organizations in carrying out their missions ⁶⁷³

Briefings by the High Representative on progress achieved on the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement and subsequent setbacks

On 15 May 2012, the Council was briefed by the High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina on recent developments presented also in his latest report.⁶⁷⁴ He outlined the progress recently achieved in the implementation of the Dayton Peace Agreement, most notably the appointment of a Bosnian Croat Prime Minister which followed the principle of rotation of ethnicity, and the agreement reached by the six main parties on the ownership of defence and State property, two of the issues identified as preconditions for the closure of the Office of the High Representative. As the political process was based on dialogue, 2012 in his view could indeed be a breakthrough year on the path towards full Euro-Atlantic integration. Several challenges remained, however, including the continuity of divisive political agendas challenging the Dayton Peace Agreement and the territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the considerable delays in adopting the State budget. ⁶⁷⁵

Council members generally welcomed the significant progress achieved by Bosnia and Herzegovina during the reporting period, particularly in forming a national Government, advancing towards Euro-Atlantic integration and accession to the NATO membership action plan, as well as in meeting the criteria of the Peace Implementation Council for closing the Office of the High Representative. Nonetheless, speakers also called on all parties to address the wide range of remaining political and economic challenges to establish a new, multi-ethnic society and shared the concerns raised by the High Representative with regard to the continuing used by nationalistic rhetoric senior officials challenging Bosnian sovereignty and the authority of the High Representative, and attempting to roll back past reforms. The representative of the Russian Federation, stating that the analysis of the High Representative was still tainted by a biased criticism of the leadership of the Bosnian Serbs, affirmed that despite the ongoing differences inter-Bosnian dialogue was moving forward, and underlined his opposition to interference by the international community in the internal Bosnian negotiation process. He stated that the Russian Federation was categorically opposed to the arbitrary use by the High Representative of his Bonn powers, emphasizing that the use of emergency measures could be justified only in exceptional circumstances by gross violations of the Dayton Peace Agreement that were likely to destabilize the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He also said, with regard to the possible strengthening of the European Union military operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a step towards closing down the Office of the High Representative, that a precondition of the successful work of the offices of the High Representative and the European Union Special Representative should be strict respect of their mandates.676

⁶⁷² S/1995/999.

⁶⁷³ See resolutions 2074 (2012) and 2123 (2013). For more information on EUFOR-Althea, see part VIII, sect. III, "Peacekeeping operations led by regional arrangements".
⁶⁷⁴ S/2012/307.

⁶⁷⁵ S/PV.6771, pp. 2-4.

⁶⁷⁶ Ibid., pp. 15-16.