16. Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2016/53)

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings and adopted one resolution under the agenda item entitled "Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2016/53)". Four of the meetings took the form of briefings and one was convened for the adoption of the decision.²⁴² More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

In his quarterly briefings to the Council,²⁴³ the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia highlighted the progress made by the parties in the implementation of the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace. He also focused on the overall political process in Colombia, namely the successful and peaceful conduct of presidential and legislative elections in March and May 2018, respectively, with the participation of the People's Alternative Revolutionary Force (Fuerza Alternativa Revolucionaria del Común (FARC)) for the first time, the establishment of transitional justice and reconciliation mechanisms and the steps taken by the new Government of Colombia in the implementation of the Agreement.²⁴⁴ In terms of challenges, he briefed the

Council on an upsurge in attacks on social leaders and human rights defenders and emphasized the need for full political, legal and socioeconomic reintegration of former FARC-EP members.²⁴⁵

Deliberations in the Council under this item during 2018 focused similarly on the status of the implementation of subsequent phases of the Agreement and the reintegration of the FARC-EP elements into political, economic and social life, as well as the status of ceasefire talks between the Government and the National Liberation Army.

On 13 September 2018, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2435 (2018), in which it welcomed the progress made towards peace since the adoption of the Agreement and urged the parties to work together to renew the momentum behind the implementation of the Agreement.²⁴⁶ Acknowledging the request of the Government of Colombia to extend the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia,²⁴⁷ the Council also extended the mandate for a period of one year, until 25 September 2019.²⁴⁸

Furthermore, in a letter dated 5 December 2018 addressed to the President of the Security Council, the Secretary[General indicated his intention to appoint a new Special Representative for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission.²⁴⁹

²⁴² For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

²⁴³ In his letter dated 21 May 2018 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2018/498), the Secretary-General requested an extension for the submission of his third progress report from 26 June to 20 July 2018, in order to align its time frame with the concluding period of the current administration in Colombia. See also S/2018/499.

²⁴⁴ S/PV.8238, pp. 3–4; S/PV.8319, pp. 2–3; and S/PV.8368, pp. 3–4.

²⁴⁵ S/PV.8154, pp. 2–3; S/PV.8238, p. 3; S/PV.8319, p. 3; and S/PV.8368, pp. 2–4.

 ²⁴⁶ Resolution 2435 (2018), third preambular paragraph.
²⁴⁷ S/2018/801.

²⁴⁸ Resolution 2435 (2018), fifth preambular paragraph and para. 1. For more information on the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, see part X, sect. II.

²⁴⁹ S/2018/1097. See also S/2018/1098.

Meetings: Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (\$/2016/53)

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.8154 10 January 2018	Letter dated 8 December 2017 from the Secretary- General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2017/1037)		Colombia	Special Representative of the Secretary- General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia	All Council members, all invitees ^a	
	Report of the Secretary- General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (S/2017/1117)					
S/PV.8238 19 April 2018	Report of the Secretary- General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (S/2018/279)		Colombia	Special Representative of the Secretary- General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia	All Council members, all invitees ^a	
S/PV.8319 26 July 2018	Report of the Secretary- General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (S/2018/723)		Colombia	Special Representative of the Secretary- General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia	All Council members, all invitees ^a	
S/PV.8351 13 September 2018		Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2018/834)	Colombia			Resolution 2435 (2018) 15-0-0
S/PV.8368 10 October 2018	Report of the Secretary- General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (S/2018/874)		Colombia	Special Representative of the Secretary- General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia	All Council members, all invitees ^b	

^a Colombia was represented by its Vice-President.

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

Asia

17. The situation in Afghanistan

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings, adopted one resolution and issued one presidential statement on the situation in Afghanistan. Four of the meetings took the form of debates and one was convened for the adoption of a decision.²⁵⁰ More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the

²⁵⁰ For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.