Meeting record and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)
<mark>S/PV.8575</mark> 16 July 2019			Ukraine	Under- Secretary- General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities	All Council members, all invitees	

<sup>a</sup> The Chief Monitor of the OSCE Special Monitoring Mission and the Special Representative of the OSCE Chairperson-in-Office participated in the meeting by videoconference from Minsk.

<sup>b</sup> For: China, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, Russian Federation, South Africa; *against*: Belgium, France, Germany, Poland, United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining*: Côte d'Ivoire, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru.

# **Middle East**

## 22. The situation in the Middle East

During the period under review, the Council held 42 public meetings in relation to the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East". Consistent with past practice, in 2019, most meetings held under the item took the form of briefings. In the context of those meetings, the Council considered a variety of topics, principally, the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic; the conflict in Yemen; the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF); and the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). Following established practice, the Council also held two private (closed) meetings with countries contributing troops and police to UNDOF and UNIFIL.419 In addition, in a departure from previous practice, the Council held one private (closed) meeting under the item, on 5 November 2019,<sup>420</sup> to hear briefings by the Under-Secretary-General and High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and the Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) on the use of chemical weapons in Syria.

In connection with this item, the Council adopted a total of six resolutions and issued two presidential statements. On 16 January 2019, the Council established the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) for an initial period of six months, to oversee the implementation of the Stockholm Agreement;<sup>421</sup> on 15 July 2019, it extended the mandate of UNMHA for a further period of six months.<sup>422</sup> On 26 February 2019, the Council renewed the sanctions measures in relation to the situation in Yemen until 26 February 2020 and extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts for 13 months until 28 March 2020.423 The Council also renewed the mandate of UNDOF twice, for periods of 6 months each,<sup>424</sup> and extended the mandate of UNIFIL once, for a period of 12 months.<sup>425</sup> The Council failed to adopt four draft resolutions in relation to the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic. As outlined below, two draft resolutions were not adopted owing to the negative vote of one or more permanent members, and two draft resolutions were not adopted owing to the failure to obtain the required number of votes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>419</sup> Held under the item entitled "Meeting of the Security Council with troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B". For UNDOF, see S/PV.8544 (11 June 2019); for UNIFIL see S/PV.8594 (8 August 2019).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>420</sup> See S/PV.8659.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>421</sup> Resolution 2452 (2019), para. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>422</sup> Resolution 2481 (2019), para. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>423</sup> Resolution 2456 (2019), paras. 2 and 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>424</sup> Resolutions 2477 (2019), para. 13, and 2503 (2019), para. 14.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>425</sup> Resolution 2485 (2019), para. 1.

More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is provided in the tables below.

During the period under review, Council meetings in relation to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic continued to be focused on three main aspects: (a) the political process to end the conflict; (b) the humanitarian situation in the country; and (c) the proliferation and use of chemical weapons. Unlike in previous years,<sup>426</sup> in 2019, the briefings concerning the political process and the humanitarian situation were often given during the same meeting, whereas those on the proliferation and use of chemical weapons were given separately, in dedicated meetings.

Regarding the political process, the Council held regular monthly briefings by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria and the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs on efforts to reach a political solution to the conflict. In that connection, in 2019, the briefings and discussions of the Council were focused on the formation of the Constitutional Committee to undertake constitutional reform, as agreed in the final statement of the Congress of the Syrian National Dialogue held in Sochi, Russian Federation, on 30 January 2018, including on the composition of the Committee.<sup>427</sup> In his briefings to the Council, the Special Envoy for Syria elaborated on his five-point plan to facilitate the peace process, including the formation of the Committee,428 and on his intention to convene the first meeting of the Committee on 30 October 2019 in Geneva, pursuant to the agreement on its terms of reference and core rules of procedure.429 On 8 October 2019, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it welcomed the announcement by the Secretary-General with regard to the agreement between the parties for a credible, balanced and inclusive Constitutional Committee facilitated by the United Nations in Geneva.430 Following the first meeting of the Committee, held on 30 October, the Council heard briefings by both the Special Envoy and by a board member of the Syrian Women's League and founding member of the Syrian League for Citizenship.431 In his last briefing of 2019

to the Council, the Special Envoy reported on the second meeting of the Committee, held on 25 November 2019, at which no consensus had been reached on basic aspects, such as the Committee's agenda.<sup>432</sup> The briefings by the Special Envoy for Syria and the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs were also focused on the release of detainees and abductees and on the human rights abuses documented by the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on detentions in the Syrian Arab Republic, mandated by the Human Rights Council.<sup>433</sup> Representatives of civil society also gave briefings on that topic.<sup>434</sup>

In relation to the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Council heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, as well as by the Director for Operations and Advocacy and the Director of the Coordination Division of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, on the findings of the reports of the Secretary-General on the implementation of relevant resolutions, including resolution 2165 (2014), by which cross-border humanitarian operations were authorized.435 The briefers provided regular updates on the humanitarian conditions in different parts of the country, in particular Idlib, in the north-western part of the Syrian Arab Republic, and the Rukban and Hawl refugee camps, and on the efforts made to provide cross-border humanitarian assistance.

On 20 December 2019, against the backdrop of the approaching expiration of the authorization for the cross-border operations mechanism, on 10 January 2020,<sup>436</sup> the Council voted on two competing draft resolutions to renew the mechanism.<sup>437</sup> Under the draft submitted by the co-penholders, Belgium, Germany and Kuwait, the Council would have renewed the authorization of humanitarian agencies to use three of the four border crossings authorized in resolution 2165 (2014) to deliver humanitarian assistance for a period of six months, followed by an additional period of

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>426</sup> See Repertoire, Supplement 2014–2015 to Supplement 2018.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>427</sup> According to the statement, a constitutional committee would be formed to draft constitutional reform as a contribution to the political settlement under United Nations auspices in accordance with resolution 2254 (2015). For more information, see S/2018/121, annex.
<sup>428</sup> See S/PV.8475.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>429</sup> See S/PV.8628. See also S/2019/775.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>430</sup> S/PRST/2019/12, first and second paragraphs.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>431</sup> See S/PV.8674.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>432</sup> See S/PV.8696.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>433</sup> See S/PV.8475, S/PV.8493, S/PV.8520 and S/PV.8609.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>434</sup> See S/PV.8593 (representative of Syria Bright Future and representative of Families for Freedom); S/PV.8674 (member of the Women's Advisory Board and founding member of the Syrian League for Citizenship); and S/PV.8696 (co-founder and Co-Director of the Center for Civil Society and Democracy).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>435</sup> Resolution 2165 (2014), para. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>436</sup> Resolution 2449 (2018), para. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>437</sup> See S/PV.8697.

six months, unless the Council decided otherwise.438 Under the competing draft, submitted by the Russian Federation, the Council would have renewed the authorizations at two border crossings only, for a fixed period of six months.<sup>439</sup> The Council failed to adopt the draft submitted by the co-penholders, owing to the negative vote of two permanent members, namely, China and the Russian Federation.440 At the outset of that meeting, the representative of the Russian Federation indicated that he would vote against the draft submitted by the co-penholders, stressing that it failed to take into account the changes that had occurred in the Syrian Arab Republic since 2014, cross-border rendering assistance unnecessary. Following the vote, similar remarks were made by the representative of China, who stated that the mechanism had been adopted under specific circumstances and needed to be evaluated and adjusted in the light of the developments on the ground. Several Council members<sup>441</sup> expressed regret about the Council's failure to adopt the draft resolution submitted by the co-penholders. The representative of the United States added that the consequences of the vetoes by China and the Russian Federation would be disastrous. The Council then voted on the draft resolution submitted by the Russian Federation, which was not adopted, owing to the failure to obtain the required number of votes. The representative of Belgium argued that the draft presented by the co-penholders accurately reflected the situation on the ground in the Syrian Arab Republic. The representatives of Germany and the United States criticized the take-it-or-leave-it approach of the Russian Federation with regard to the negotiation on the draft resolutions, and the representatives of the United Kingdom, Poland and Indonesia recalled that, in its draft resolution, the Russian Federation failed to address the needs of the Syrian people. The representatives of the Germany, South Africa and the United Kingdom also underscored the need to continue the consultations in order to ensure the renewal of the cross-border assistance mandate before its expiration on 10 January 2020.

In addition to the briefings it heard on the crossborder humanitarian operation, the Council also heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs and the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs on the impact of military operations throughout the country, including those carried out by terrorist organizations, and on the

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efforts made to restore the demilitarization agreement of 17 September 2018 between the Russian Federation and Turkey.<sup>442</sup> Throughout the second quarter of the year, the Council often discussed the problem of increasing attacks against medical facilities in the country.<sup>443</sup> The Council also heard briefings by the Head of the Russian Centre for the Reconciliation of Opposing Sides and Refugee Migration Monitoring in the Syrian Arab Republic and by the Executive Director of the Syrian American Medical Society on the assistance provided to medical facilities throughout the country.<sup>444</sup>

In connection with the agreement between the Presidents of the Russian Federation and Turkey on ways to stabilize the situation in Idlib, discussed at the meeting on 29 August 2019,445 the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs reported to the Council, on 19 September,446 about the unilateral ceasefire in Idlib announced by the Russian Federation on 30 August and the establishment by the Secretary-General, on 13 September, of an internal and independent United Nations Headquarters Board of Inquiry to investigate a series of incidents that had occurred in the north-western part of the Syrian Arab Republic.<sup>447</sup> At its subsequent meeting, held on the same day,<sup>448</sup> the Council voted on two competing draft resolutions, in which it would have addressed "the catastrophic humanitarian situation in Idlib Governorate".449 One draft resolution was submitted by the co-penholders, and the other by China and the Russian Federation. Under the draft resolution submitted by the co-penholders, the Council would have introduced а ceasefire, beginning on 21 September 2019, demanded that all Member States ensure that counter-terrorist activities complied with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law and reiterated its demand on all parties, in particular the Syrian authorities, to immediately halt any indiscriminate aerial bombardments and minimize harm to civilians and civilian objects, including medical facilities.<sup>450</sup> Under the draft resolution submitted by China and the Russian Federation, the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>438</sup> S/2019/961, para. 3.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>439</sup> S/2019/962, para. 2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>440</sup> See S/PV.8697.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>441</sup> Kuwait, Dominican Republic, France, Poland, Peru and United States.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>442</sup> S/2018/852, annex.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>443</sup> See S/PV.8493, S/PV.8515, S/PV.8527, S/PV.8535, S/PV.8553, S/PV.8561 and S/PV.8589.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>444</sup> See S/PV.8561.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>445</sup> See S/PV.8609.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>446</sup> See S/PV.8622.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>447</sup> On 14 November, the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs told the Council that the Board of Inquiry had commenced its investigations (see S/PV.8664).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>448</sup> See S/PV.8623.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>449</sup> S/2019/756, para. 1; and S/2019/757, para. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>450</sup> S/2019/756, paras. 1–3.

Council would have taken note of the memorandum of understanding agreed between the Russian Federation and Turkey on 17 September 2018, decided that the parties must maintain the ceasefire of 31 August 2019 and reaffirmed that the cessation of hostilities would not apply to military operations against terrorist groups.<sup>451</sup> At the same meeting,<sup>452</sup> in explanation of their votes, the representatives of China and the Russian Federation mentioned that the failure to address the impact of the activities of terrorist organizations in the draft submitted by the three co-penholders was the reason for their votes against it. The representative of China added that to "steamroll" a draft resolution that had major controversies towards a vote was not constructive. While the Council failed to adopt the draft submitted by the three co-penholders owing to the negative vote of two permanent members, the draft submitted by China and the Russian Federation was not adopted owing to the failure to obtain the required number of votes.

On 24 October 2019,453 the Council heard a briefing by the Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific concerning the military activities conducted by Turkey in October 2019 as part of Operation Peace Spring in the northeastern part of the Syrian Arab Republic,<sup>454</sup> as well as on the subsequent agreement with the United States and the memorandum of understanding with the Russian Federation, respectively, concerning various aspects of that operation.

With respect to the use of chemical weapons in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Council heard regular briefings by the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs on the progress made in the implementation of resolution 2118 (2013) on the elimination of the Syrian chemical weapons programme in the context of informal consultations of the whole.<sup>455</sup> On 5 November 2019,<sup>456</sup> however, the Council held a private (closed)

<sup>455</sup> See S/2019/744, S/2019/840, S/2019/910, S/2019/1015, S/2020/29, S/2020/171 and S/2020/192.

meeting, at which it heard briefings by the High Representative and the Director General of OPCW.<sup>457</sup>

With regard to the conflict in Yemen, on 16 January 2019, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2452 (2019), by which it established a special political mission, the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA), for an initial period of six months, to support the implementation of the Agreement on the City of Hudaydah and the Ports of Hudaydah, Salif, and Ra's Isa.<sup>458</sup> The Council mandated the new Mission to support the implementation of the Hudaydah Agreement through, inter alia, leading and supporting the functioning of the Redeployment Coordination Committee to oversee the governorate-wide ceasefire and the redeployment of forces by the parties from the city of Hudaydah and the ports of Hudaydah, Salif and Ra's Isa and monitoring the parties' compliance with the ceasefire and the mutual redeployments.<sup>459</sup> The Council also approved the proposals of the Secretary-General with regard to the composition and operational aspects of the Mission.<sup>460</sup> On 15 July 2019, by its resolution 2481 (2019), the Council extended the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>451</sup> S/2019/757, penultimate preambular paragraph and paras. 1-2.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>452</sup> See S/PV.8623.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>453</sup> See S/PV.8645.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>454</sup> See S/2019/804.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>456</sup> See S/PV.8659.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>457</sup> On 1 March 2019, OPCW published the final report of its fact-finding mission regarding the chemical weapons attack allegedly carried out in Duma on 7 April 2018 (see S/2019/208). On 22 November 2019, the Council issued a presidential statement under the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security", in which it welcomed the attendance of and briefing by the Director General of OPCW, reaffirmed that the proliferation, means of delivery and any use of chemical weapons was a threat to international peace and security, emphasized the need for accountability for their use and expressed support for the efforts made by OPCW to achieve the object and purpose of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction and to ensure the full implementation of its provisions, including those for the international verification of compliance (S/PRST/2019/14, first, second and fifth to seventh paragraphs). For more information, see part I, sect. 38.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>458</sup> Resolution 2452 (2019), para. 1. For more information on the Stockholm Agreement of 13 December 2018, of which the Hudaydah Agreement forms a part, see Repertoire, Supplement 2018, part I, sect. 23.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>459</sup> Resolution 2452 (2019), para. 2 (a)–(b). For more information on the mandate of UNMHA, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>460</sup> Resolution 2452 (2019), para. 3. For the Secretary-General's proposals on the role of and support provided by the United Nations in the implementation of the Hudaydah Agreement, see S/2019/28. During the reporting period, the Head of UNMHA and Chair of the Redeployment Coordination Committee changed twice (see exchanges of letters S/2019/95 and S/2019/96; and S/2019/734 and S/2019/735).

mandate of UNMHA for a further period of six months, until 15 January 2020.461

In its meetings in 2019, the Council continued to focus on three distinct areas in relation to the conflict in Yemen, namely: (a) the political process to find a solution to the conflict; (b) the humanitarian situation in the country; and (c) the sanctions measures in place against individuals and entities designated as engaging in or providing support for acts that threatened the peace, security or stability of Yemen.

Regarding the political process, the Council heard regular briefings by the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen on the progress in the implementation of the Stockholm Agreement. During his briefings, he updated the Council on the status of the Hudaydah Agreement, including the outcomes of consultations between the parties. The Special Envoy also addressed the prisoner exchange mechanism and the formation of a joint committee to address the situation in the city of Taiz, as well as the situation in the southern part of Yemen.462 At the meeting on 16 September 2019,<sup>463</sup> the Council addressed the attack of 14 September on oil facilities in Saudi Arabia and heard a briefing by the Special Envoy, who informed the Council that Ansar Allah had claimed responsibility for the attack. At the same meeting, the Special Envoy also notified the Council of the establishment of the tripartite ceasefire and the de-escalation mechanism to allow for greater communication between the parties in order to prevent military escalation.

On 29 August 2019, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it expressed deep concern about the escalation of violence in the south of Yemen.<sup>464</sup> In the statement, the Council called on all involved parties to show restraint and to preserve the territorial integrity of Yemen, while welcoming and fully supporting the efforts by Saudi Arabia to convene a dialogue in Jeddah to resolve the situation.<sup>465</sup> The Council also expressed its full support for the efforts of the Special Envoy for Yemen to work with the parties to pave the way for the resumption of comprehensive negotiations, without delay, on the security and political arrangements necessary to end the conflict and resume a peaceful transition.<sup>466</sup>

On 22 November 2019,<sup>467</sup> following the signing of the Riyadh Agreement between the Government of Yemen and the Southern Transitional Council on 5 November 2019, the Special Envoy for Yemen gave a briefing to the Council, in which he highlighted the momentum to reach a political settlement in Yemen and noted that the parties were working together, with the support of Saudi Arabia, regional powers, the international community and the United Nations, to achieve a compromise on a range of issues.

Regarding the humanitarian situation in Yemen, the Council heard briefings by either the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator or his Deputy, each time in conjunction with the Special Envoy for Yemen. The briefers reported to the Council that, despite the political momentum, the humanitarian situation in the country remained dire. They focused their briefings on, inter alia, the continued economic instability, public health concerns and the displacement resulting from the escalation of the conflict in various parts of the country. They also raised the need for broader inclusion of women in the peace process and the disproportionate impact of the war on women and children. In that regard, on 15 April 2019,<sup>468</sup> the Council also heard briefings by the Chairman of the Yemeni non-governmental organization, Food for Humanity, who criticized the exclusion of women from the Stockholm Agreement, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children in Armed Conflict, who focused on the grave human rights violations against children in Yemen, including their widespread recruitment and maiming. The Council also heard two briefings by the Executive Director of the World Food Programme,469 who reported on the challenges the country faced with regard to food assistance.

Regarding the sanctions measures imposed in connection with the conflict in Yemen, on 26 February 2019, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2456 (2019), by which it extended the sanctions measures for 12 months, until 26 February 2020, and extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Yemen for 13 months, until 28 March 2020.470 On 15 May 2019,471 the representative of Peru, in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2140 (2014), gave a briefing to the Council on his visits to Amman, Riyadh, Muscat

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>461</sup> Resolution 2481 (2019), para. 1.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>462</sup> See, for example, S/PV.8598, S/PV.8619 and S/PV.8672. <sup>463</sup> See S/PV.8619.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>464</sup> S/PRST/2019/9, second paragraph.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>465</sup> Ibid., third paragraph.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>466</sup> Ibid., fourth paragraph.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>467</sup> See S/PV.8672.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>468</sup> See S/PV.8512.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>469</sup> See S/PV.8551 and S/PV.8578.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>470</sup> Resolution 2456 (2019), paras. 2 and 5.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>471</sup> See S/PV.8525.

and Tehran between 30 March and 5 April, to raise awareness of the purpose of sanctions and to obtain first-hand information on their implementation.

In 2019, the mandate of UNDOF was renewed twice by the Council, in resolutions 2477 (2019) and 2503 (2019), for periods of six months each, until 31 December 2019 and 30 June 2020, respectively.472 At the request of the delegation of the Syrian Arab Republic, the Council held a public meeting on 27 March 2019,<sup>473</sup> following the decision of the United States to recognize the occupied Syrian Golan as Israeli territory. At the meeting, the Council heard briefings by Under-Secretary-General Political and the for Peacebuilding Affairs and by the Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations. In her briefing, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs reiterated the Secretary-General's statement that the United Nations position on the Golan was known and clear and was reflected in the relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, notably Council resolutions 242 (1967) and 497 (1981).474

In connection with Lebanon, on 29 August 2019, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2485 (2019), by which it extended the mandate of UNIFIL for a period of one year.<sup>475</sup> In the resolution, the Council welcomed the progress made regarding the formation of the new Government in January 2019 and encouraged all Lebanese parties to resume discussions towards a consensus on a national defence strategy.<sup>476</sup> The Council also reiterated the need to respect the Blue Line in its entirety and noted with concern that UNIFIL had still not been able to access the locations related to the discovery of tunnels crossing the Blue Line in violation of resolution 1701 (2006).<sup>477</sup>

For the purposes of facilitating coverage of this item, information on the meetings is set out below under four separate headings, namely: (a) Syrian Arab Republic; (b) Yemen; (c) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force; and (d) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

sect. I.D.

- <sup>475</sup> Resolution 2485 (2019), para. 1. See also S/2019/619.
  For more information on the mandate of UNIFIL, see part X, sect. I.
- <sup>476</sup> Resolution 2485 (2019), second and sixteenth preambular paragraphs.
- <sup>477</sup> Ibid., twelfth preambular paragraph and para. 11.

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.8454 30 January 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	13 Council members, <sup><i>a</i></sup> all invitees	
S/PV.8471 26 February 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions_2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018) and 2449 (2018) (\$/2019/157)		Syrian Arab Republic	Director for Operations and Advocacy of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	13 Council members, <sup>b</sup> all invitees	

## Meetings: the situation in the Middle East – Syrian Arab Republic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>472</sup> Resolutions 2477 (2019), para. 13, and 2503 (2019),

para. 14. <sup>473</sup> See S/PV.8495.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>474</sup> For more information on the discussion, see part II,

Meeting record and date	Sub-item	Other documents	Rule 37 invitations	Rule 39 and other invitations	Speakers	Decision and vote (for-against- abstaining)
<mark>S/PV.8475</mark> 28 February 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Syria	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.8493 27 March 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Director of the Coordination Division of the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs	All Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.8515 24 April 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions_2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018) and 2449 (2018) (\$/2019/321)		Syrian Arab Republic	Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Nujeen Mustapha, civil society representative	14 Council members, <sup>d</sup> all invitees	
<mark>S/PV.8520</mark> 30 April 2019				Special Envoy of the Secretary-General	All Council members, invitee	
S/PV.8527 17 May 2019			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey	Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Under-Secretary- General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, <sup>e</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.8535 28 May 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	14 Council members, <sup>f,g</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.8553 18 June 2019			Iran (Islamic Republic of), Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey	Under-Secretary-General for Peacebuilding and Political Affairs, Under-Secretary- General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	13 Council members, <sup>h</sup> all invitees	

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

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.8561 25 June 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions_2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018) and 2449 (2018) (\$/2019/508)		Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Head of the Russian Centre for the Reconciliation of Opposing Sides and Refugee Migration Monitoring in the Syrian Arab Republic, Executive Director of the Syrian American Medical Society	members, <sup>h</sup> all invitees <sup>i</sup>	
<mark>S/PV.8567</mark> 27 June 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General	All Council members, all invitees <sup>j</sup>	
<mark>S/PV.8589</mark> 30 July 2019				Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Director of International Policy and Partnerships at Physicians for Human Rights	13 Council members, <sup><i>a</i></sup> all invitees	
<mark>5/PV.8593</mark> 7 August 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Dr. Hala of Syria Bright Future, Amina Khoulani of Families for Freedom	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.8609 29 August 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions_2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018) and 2449 (2018) (S/2019/674)		Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General	All Council members, <sup>e</sup> all invitees	
<mark>S/PV.8622</mark> 19 September 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Assistant-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	12 Council members, <sup>k</sup> all invitees	

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.8623 19 September 2019		Draft resolution submitted by Belgium, Germany, Kuwait (\$/2019/756)	Syrian Arab Republic		All Council members, invitee	Draft resolution S/2019/756 not adopted $12-2-1^l$ Draft resolution S/2019/757 not
		Draft resolution submitted by China, Russian Federation (S/2019/757)				adopted 2-9-4 <sup>m</sup>
S/PV.8628 30 September 2019			Six Member States <sup>n</sup>	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General	All Council members, <sup>f</sup> all invitees <sup>o</sup>	
S/PV.8635 8 October 2019						S/PRST/2019/12
S/PV.8645 24 October 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions_2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018) and 2449 (2018) (\$/2019/820)		Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey	Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Assistant Secretary-General for the Middle East, Asia and the Pacific, Director of the Mine Action Service	14 Council members, <sup>d</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.8659 5 November 2019 (closed)			40 Member States <sup>p</sup>	High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Director General of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), representative of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations, representative of the Permanent Observer Mission of the Holy See to the United Nations	All Council members, three invitees (High Representative for Disarmament Affairs, Director General of OPCW, Syrian Arab Republic)	
<b>S/PV.8664</b> 14 November 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	14 Council members, <sup><i>q</i></sup> all invitees	

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

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.8674 22 November 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, board member of the Syrian Women's League	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.8694 19 December 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on the implementation of Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014), 2258 (2015), 2332 (2016), 2393 (2017), 2401 (2018) and 2449 (2018) (\$/2019/949)		Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey	Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	14 Council members, <sup>r</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.8696 20 December 2019			Syrian Arab Republic	Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, co-founder and Co-Director of the Center for Civil Society and Democracy	All Council members, all invitees	
<b>S/PV.8697</b> 20 December 2019		Draft resolution submitted by Belgium,	Syrian Arab Republic		13 Council members, <sup>s</sup> invitee	Draft resolution $S/2019/961$ not adopted $13-2-0^t$
		Germany, Kuwait (S/2019/961)				Draft resolution S/2019/962 not adopted
		Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation (\$/2019/962)				5-6-4 <sup><i>u</i></sup>

<sup>*a*</sup> The representatives of Belgium and Germany did not make statements. The representative of Kuwait spoke also on behalf of Belgium and Germany, the other co-penholders on the humanitarian situation in the Syrian Arab Republic.

<sup>b</sup> The representatives of Germany and Kuwait did not make statements. The representative of Belgium, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Germany and Kuwait.

<sup>c</sup> The representative of Germany, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Belgium and Kuwait.

<sup>d</sup> The representative of Belgium did not make a statement. The representative of Kuwait, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Belgium and Germany.

<sup>e</sup> The representative of Belgium, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Germany and Kuwait.

<sup>f</sup> The Russian Federation was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.

<sup>g</sup> The representative of Kuwait did not make a statement. The representative of Belgium, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Germany and Kuwait. The representative of Germany also made a statement as co-penholder, also on behalf of Belgium and Kuwait.

<sup>h</sup> The representatives of Belgium and Kuwait did not make statements. The representative of Germany, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Belgium and Kuwait.

- <sup>*i*</sup> The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Head of the Russian Centre for the Reconciliation of Opposing Sides and Refugee Migration Monitoring participated in the meeting via videoconference from Rome and Damascus, respectively.
- <sup>*j*</sup> The Special Envoy participated in the meeting by videoconference from Geneva.
- <sup>k</sup> The representatives of Belgium, Kuwait and the Russian Federation did not make statements. The representative of Germany, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Belgium and Kuwait.
- <sup>1</sup> For: Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States; *against*: China, Russian Federation; *abstaining*: Equatorial Guinea.
- <sup>m</sup> For: China, Russian Federation; *against*: Belgium, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, United Kingdom, United States; *abstaining*: Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Indonesia, South Africa.
- <sup>n</sup> Egypt, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Jordan, Saudi Arabia, Syrian Arab Republic and Turkey.
- <sup>o</sup> The Islamic Republic of Iran was represented by its Deputy Foreign Minister for Legal and International Affairs; and Turkey was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- <sup>p</sup> Australia, Austria, Bulgaria, Canada, Cyprus, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Malaysia, Malta, Morocco, Namibia, New Zealand, Niger, North Macedonia, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Saudi Arabia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Tunisia, Turkey and Viet Nam.
- <sup>*q*</sup> The representative of Kuwait did not make a statement. The representative of Belgium, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Germany and Kuwait.
- <sup>r</sup> The representative of Belgium did not make a statement. The representative of Germany, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Belgium and Kuwait. Kuwait was represented by its Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs.
- <sup>s</sup> The representatives of Côte d'Ivoire and Equatorial Guinea did not make statements. The representative of Germany, as co-penholder, spoke also on behalf of Belgium and Kuwait.
- <sup>1</sup> For: Belgium, Côte d'Ivoire, Dominican Republic, Equatorial Guinea, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, Peru, Poland, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States; *against*: China, Russian Federation; *abstaining*: none.
- " For: China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Russian Federation, South Africa; against: Dominican Republic, France, Peru, Poland, United Kingdom, United States; abstaining: Belgium, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait.

#### Meetings: the situation in the Middle East - Yemen

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.8441 9 January 2019	Report of the Secretary-General on status of implementation of Security Council resolution 2451 (2018) (S/2018/1173) Report of the Secretary-General on status of implementation of Security Council resolution 2451 (2018) (S/2019/11)		Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General for Yemen, Under- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
S/PV.8444 16 January 2019	Letter dated 31 December 2018 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2019/28)	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2019/46)	Yemen		Invitee	Resolution 2452 (2019) 15-0-0

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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.8464 19 February 2019			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Under- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
S/PV.8469 26 February 2019	Letter dated 25 January 2019 from the Panel of Experts on Yemen addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2019/83)	Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2019/173)				Resolution 2456 (2019) 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
S/PV.8512 15 April 2019			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Under- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Special Representative of the Secretary- General for Children and Armed Conflict, Chairperson of Food for Humanity	All Council members, all invitees <sup><i>a,b</i></sup>	
S/PV.8525 15 May 2019			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Under- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund	All Council members, <sup>c</sup> all invitees	
<mark>S/PV.8551</mark> 17 June 2019	Letter dated 10 June 2019 from the Secretary- General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2019/485)		Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Under- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Executive Director of the World Food Programme (WFP)	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	

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.8572 15 July 2019		Draft resolution submitted by United Kingdom (S/2019/558)				Resolution 2481 (2019) 15-0-0
S.PV.8578 18 July 2019			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Under- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Executive Director of WFP	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
S/PV.8598 20 August 2019			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Assistant- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	Seven Council members, <sup>d</sup> all invitees <sup>a</sup>	
S/PV.8608 29 August 2019						S/PRST/2019/9
S/PV.8619 16 September 2019			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Under- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees <sup>e</sup>	
S/PV.8642 17 October 2019			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Under- Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees <sup>f</sup>	
S/PV.8672 22 November 2019			Yemen	Special Envoy of the Secretary- General, Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator	All Council members, all invitees <sup>a</sup>	

 <sup>a</sup> The Special Envoy participated in the meeting by videoconference from Amman.
 <sup>b</sup> The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator participated in the meeting by videoconference from London.

- <sup>c</sup> The representative of Peru spoke twice, once in his national capacity and once in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2140 (2014).
- <sup>d</sup> China, Côte d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea, Kuwait, Peru, South Africa and United States.
- <sup>e</sup> The Special Envoy participated in the meeting by videoconference from Geneva.
- <sup>f</sup> The Special Envoy participated in the meeting by videoconference from Riyadh.

### Meetings: the situation in the Middle East - United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

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.8495 27 March 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) (S/2019/248)		Israel, Syrian Arab Republic	Under-Secretary- General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, Under- Secretary- General for Peace Operations	All Council members, all invitees	
S/PV.8562 26 June 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on UNDOF (S/2019/467)	Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation, United States (S/2019/521)				Resolution 2477 (2019) 15-0-0
S/PV.8693 19 December 2019	Report of the Secretary- General on UNDOF (S/2019/923)	Draft resolution submitted by Russian Federation, United States (S/2019/956)			Three Council members (Indonesia, Kuwait, United States)	Resolution 2503 (2019) 15-0-0

### Meetings: the situation in the Middle East - United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

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.8610 29 August 2019	Letter dated 1 August 2019 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2019/619)	Draft resolution submitted by France (S/2019/690)	Israel, Lebanon		Eight Council members <sup>a</sup>	Resolution 2485 (2019) 15-0-0

<sup>a</sup> China, Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Indonesia, Kuwait, United Kingdom and United States.

## 23. The situation between Iraq and Kuwait

During the period under review, the Council held one meeting in relation to the item entitled "The situation between Iraq and Kuwait" and adopted one presidential statement under this item. The meeting took the form of an adoption<sup>478</sup> and was the first meeting held by the Council under the item since June 2013.<sup>479</sup> More information on the meeting, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>478</sup> For more information on the format of meetings, see part II, sect. I.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>479</sup> For more information on prior meetings on the item, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2012–2013*, part I. sect. 24.