

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.8768 15 October 2020	Report of the Secretary-General on BINUH (S/2020/944)	Draft resolution submitted by the United States (S/2020/1011)			5 Council members (China, Dominican Republic, France, Russian Federation, United States)	Resolution 2547 (2020) 15-0-2 ^b

^a The Special Representative and the Executive Director of Fondasyon Je Klere participated in the meeting by video conference from Port-au-Prince.

^b *For:* Belgium, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, South Africa, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States, Viet Nam; *against:* none; *abstaining:* China, Russian Federation.

Table 2
Videoconferences: the question concerning Haiti

<i>Videoconference date</i>	<i>Videoconference record</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Decision, vote (for-against-abstaining) and record of written procedure</i>
19 June 2020	S/2020/568	Letter dated 23 June 2020 from the President of the Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
5 October 2020	S/2020/979	Letter dated 7 October 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	

14. 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 Council held three meetings and adopted one resolution under the 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](#))”. More information on the meeting, including on participants and speakers, is provided in table 1 below. Council members also held two open videoconferences in connection with the item.³⁹³ More information on the videoconferences is provided in table 2 below. In addition to the meetings and videoconferences, Council

members held informal consultations of the whole in connection with the item.³⁹⁴

In 2020, Council members received quarterly briefings under the item by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia in connection with the reports of the Secretary-General.³⁹⁵ Council members were also briefed once by a member of the Municipal Association of Women and once by a consultant of the World Wildlife Fund and Colombian Ambassador for One Young World. Colombia was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs in the

³⁹³ For more information on the procedures and working methods developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, see part II.

³⁹⁴ See [A/75/2](#), part II, chap. 41.

³⁹⁵ [S/2019/988](#), [S/2020/603](#), [S/2020/943](#) and [S/2020/1301](#).

meetings and videoconferences held during the period under review.

In his first briefing in 2020,³⁹⁶ the Special Representative of the Secretary-General encouraged the parties to deepen their dialogue regarding any differences on the implementation of the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace, especially through the mechanisms provided for in the Agreement itself, such as the Commission for the Follow-up, Promotion and Verification of the Implementation of the Final Agreement. He noted that social mobilization had opened an opportunity for constructive dialogue on peace implementation. He also highlighted the adoption of the reintegration road map on 27 December 2019, which established the framework for the long-term reintegration process and the approval of collective productive projects.

In his briefing to the Council on 14 October,³⁹⁷ the Special Representative stated that while some of the fundamental processes provided for in the peace agreement, such as the laying down of arms by the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army, were complete and irreversible, others, such as the reintegration of former combatants into civilian life, the search for truth, reparations and restorative justice for victims and the transformation of rural Colombia, were still under construction.

In terms of achievements in reintegration, the Special Representative noted at the same briefing that the vast majority of former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army combatants remained engaged in the process, with nearly one third of them having received funding for productive projects. He had previously noted, at his briefing on 14 July,³⁹⁸ that many productive initiatives approved by the National Reintegration Committee had been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, making it even more urgent to ensure their sustainability, including through technical assistance, the allocation of land and access to markets.

At his briefings on 14 April and 14 July,³⁹⁹ the Special Representative described the insecurity facing former combatants of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army, communities, human rights defenders and social leaders as the most serious threat to peacebuilding in Colombia. He expressed particular concern about the increased reports of gender-based violence in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, as well as attacks on women social leaders, crop substitution leaders and former combatants in

Putumayo Department. He called on all parties to redouble measures to improve protection for vulnerable groups. At his briefing on 14 October,⁴⁰⁰ the Special Representative also stressed the importance for the National Commission on Security Guarantees to finalize and implement the public policy to dismantle illegal armed groups, criminal organizations and support networks. On transitional justice, the Special Representative highlighted the work of the Comprehensive System for Truth, Justice, Reparation and Non-repetition, such as the dialogue of the Truth Commission with Colombian civil society to foster reconciliation and to discuss the causes of the continued violence in several regions. He further noted that several top Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia party leaders had admitted responsibility for their role in crimes committed during the conflict.

Beyond the peace agreement, during the open videoconference held on 14 April,⁴⁰¹ the Special Representative noted the decision of the National Liberation Army to declare a one-month unilateral ceasefire in April following the appeal of the Secretary-General for a worldwide ceasefire in view of the COVID-19 pandemic. In his remarks at the same videoconference, the consultant of the World Wildlife Fund and Colombian Ambassador for One Young World provided examples of the positive impact of the peace agreement, such as the implementation of productive projects for former combatants and their communities. The main challenges to the peace process included the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ongoing violence against social leaders and the absence of the State in rural communities, leaving the vacuum to be filled by drug cartels and illegal armed groups. He also called on all actors to make real efforts to implement the gender provisions of the peace agreement.

In her briefing to the Council on 14 July,⁴⁰² a member of the Municipal Association of Women and defender of Afro-Colombian territorial and human rights stated that attacks on leaders and human rights defenders in Colombia stood as proof of how communities, particularly women, were enduring a profound violation of the right to life as a consequence of armed conflict, the absence of a State presence in their territories and a militaristically focused intervention as a response by the Government. She demanded from the President of Colombia, Iván Duque Márquez, the full implementation in the territories of the comprehensive programmes on security and protection for communities with differential gender and ethnic approaches, compliance with the peace agreement in a comprehensive manner, the investigation and prosecution of the material and

³⁹⁶ See [S/PV.8702](#).

³⁹⁷ See [S/2020/1023](#).

³⁹⁸ See [S/PV.8749](#).

³⁹⁹ See [S/2020/305](#) and [S/PV.8749](#).

⁴⁰⁰ See [S/2020/1023](#).

⁴⁰¹ See [S/2020/305](#).

⁴⁰² See [S/PV.8749](#).

intellectual authors of violations of human rights, the structural transformation of rural Colombia, integrating regions, eradicating poverty and ensuring the rights of all citizens and for the Government to make peace a priority in the country's public agenda. She called on the international community to encourage armed actors to agree on a humanitarian agreement to, inter alia, respect human rights and territorial autonomy, protect communities and visit the territories, assist peacebuilding initiatives, including with political commitment, and promote the implementation of resolution 1325 (2000) to strengthen the participation, protection and leadership of women and youth in building and maintaining peace.

Discussions in the Council during the period under review were focused on the status of the implementation of the Final Agreement, signed between the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army in 2016. Council members expressed deep concern about the rising number of attacks and killings of former Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia combatants, community and social leaders and human rights defenders, including women, members of indigenous and Afro-Colombian communities and other vulnerable groups. They called for greater protection of former combatants and vulnerable groups through the approval of protection requests by the National Protection Unit, implementation of the policy to dismantle illegal armed groups by the National Commission on Security Guarantees and greater presence of State authority in affected areas.

Speakers underscored the importance of further progress on rural reform and development and countering illicit drugs, including crop substitution. Speakers further discussed the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the implementation of the peace agreement, including the humanitarian, socioeconomic and security

challenges the virus posed in Colombia. In that regard, while noting the one-month ceasefire announced by the National Liberation Army at the start of the pandemic in April 2020, Council members underscored the importance of a complete cessation of hostilities between the armed groups and the Government.⁴⁰³ Speakers further expressed their full support for the work of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia in support of the peace agreement, with several of them also expressing support for the possible amendment of its mandate to include the verification of the implementation of sanctions imposed by the Special Jurisdiction for Peace.⁴⁰⁴

On 25 September, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2545 (2020), welcoming the progress made towards peace since the adoption of the peace agreement and urging the parties to work together to sustain progress and address challenges, in particular the continued violence in conflict-affected areas.⁴⁰⁵ The Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia for a period of one year until 25 September 2021.⁴⁰⁶ In addition, recalling that the peace agreement envisaged a role for the Mission in verifying compliance with the sentences of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace, the Council expressed its readiness to consider, in a timely manner, the addition of that task to the mandate.⁴⁰⁷

⁴⁰³ See S/2020/305 (Dominican Republic, France, Germany, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (speaking on behalf of Niger, South Africa and Tunisia) and United Kingdom).

⁴⁰⁴ See S/2020/1023 (Belgium, France, Germany, Russian Federation, United Kingdom, United States and Colombia).

⁴⁰⁵ Resolution 2545 (2020), third preambular paragraph.

⁴⁰⁶ Ibid., fifth preambular paragraph and para. 1.

⁴⁰⁷ Ibid., para. 3. For more information on the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, see part X, sect. II.

Table 1

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 (S/2016/53)

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.8702 13 January 2020	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (S/2019/988)		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	

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

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.8749 14 July 2020	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia (S/2020/603)		Colombia	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, Member of the Municipal Association of Women and defender of Afro-Colombian territorial and human rights	12 Council members, ^b all invitees ^c	
S/PV.8760 25 September 2020		Draft resolution submitted by the United Kingdom (S/2020/937)	Colombia			Resolution 2545 (2020) 15-0-0

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

^b The representative of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines spoke also on behalf of the Niger, South Africa and Tunisia.

^c The representative of Colombia and the Special Representative participated in the meeting by videoconference from Bogotá. The member of the Municipal Association of Women and defender of Afro-Colombian territorial and human rights participated in the meeting by videoconference from Cauca.

Table 2

Videoconferences: 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](#))

<i>Videoconference date</i>	<i>Videoconference record</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Decision, vote (for-against-abstaining) and record of written procedure</i>
14 April 2020	S/2020/305	Letter dated 16 April 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	
14 October 2020	S/2020/1023	Letter dated 16 October 2020 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General and the Permanent Representatives of the members of the Security Council	