

## Americas

### 16. The question concerning Haiti

During the period under review, the Security Council held eight meetings, adopted two resolutions under Chapter VII of the Charter and issued one presidential statement on the question concerning Haiti. The Council also held three closed meetings with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#).<sup>202</sup> More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. In addition, from 22 to 24 June 2017, the Council conducted a visit to Haiti.<sup>203</sup>

During the period under review, the Council extended the mandate of MINUSTAH twice for periods of six months each, until 15 April 2017 and 15 October 2017, respectively, and, upon the termination of its mandate, established a follow-on peacekeeping mission, the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH).<sup>204</sup>

During 2016 and 2017, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Haiti and Head of MINUSTAH briefed the Council on the situation in Haiti, the Mission's mandate implementation efforts and its transition to the newly-established MINUJUSTH. The Council's discussions in 2016 were focused on the political instability in Haiti caused by the continued delays in holding the presidential and partial legislative elections and the severe humanitarian consequences of Hurricane Matthew in October 2016, whereas in 2017, deliberations were focused on the future of a United

Nations presence in the country further to the peaceful completion of the election schedule.

The decisions of the Council during the review period revealed a similar focus. In 2016, the Council strongly urged Haiti's political actors to prioritize the country's return to full constitutional normality by completing the electoral process, and reaffirmed that Haiti was at an important juncture in the consolidation of stability and democracy and that the engagement of its leaders was vital for setting the country firmly on a path towards lasting stability and economic development. The Council stressed in particular the need for sustained progress in strengthening the rule of law and justice sectors and the capacity and accountability of the Haitian National Police and the need to improve the human rights situation.<sup>205</sup> In 2017, the Council recognized the major milestone towards stabilization achieved with the peaceful completion of the electoral process and the return to constitutional order on 7 February 2017, and welcomed the strategic assessment and recommendations submitted by the Secretary-General on the future presence and role of the United Nations in Haiti.<sup>206</sup> Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter,<sup>207</sup> the Council established MINUJUSTH to support the Government of Haiti in strengthening rule of law institutions and the capacity of the national police force and to monitor, analyse and report on the human rights situation.<sup>208</sup> The Council also welcomed and recognized the adoption by the General Assembly of resolution [71/161](#) on the new United Nations approach to cholera in Haiti developed by the Secretary-General, which provided for material assistance and support to the affected communities.<sup>209</sup>

<sup>202</sup> Held on 16 March and 10 October 2016 and 4 April 2017 under the item entitled "Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution [1353 \(2001\)](#), annex II, sections A and B"; see [S/PV.7646](#), [S/PV.7786](#) and [S/PV.7914](#).

<sup>203</sup> For more information on the Council's mission to Haiti, see part I, sect. 36, "Security Council mission", and part VI, sect. II.A.

<sup>204</sup> Resolutions [2313 \(2016\)](#), para. 1, and [2350 \(2017\)](#), paras. 1 and 5. For more information on the mandates of MINUSTAH and MINUJUSTH, see part X, sect. I, "Peacekeeping operations".

<sup>205</sup> Resolution [2313 \(2016\)](#), paras. 11, 13 and 16–23.

<sup>206</sup> Resolution [2350 \(2017\)](#), second and thirteenth preambular paragraphs. See also [S/2017/223](#).

<sup>207</sup> Although resolution [2350 \(2017\)](#) was adopted unanimously, some Council members questioned the application of Chapter VII. See [S/PV.7924](#), p. 3 (Russian Federation); p. 5 (Plurinational State of Bolivia); and p. 7 (China).

<sup>208</sup> Resolution [2350 \(2017\)](#), paras. 4–6.

<sup>209</sup> *Ibid.*, tenth preambular paragraph, and [S/PRST/2017/20](#), sixth paragraph.

## Meetings: the question concerning Haiti

<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>
<a href="#">S/PV.7651</a> 17 March 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) ( <a href="#">S/2016/225</a> )		Nine Member States <sup>a</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of MINUSTAH, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.7789</a> 11 October 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on MINUSTAH ( <a href="#">S/2016/753</a> )		Eight Member States <sup>c</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, <sup>d</sup> Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees <sup>b</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.7790</a> 13 October 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on MINUSTAH ( <a href="#">S/2016/753</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by 16 Member States <sup>e</sup> ( <a href="#">S/2016/862</a> )	Seven Member States <sup>f</sup>			Resolution <a href="#">2313</a> ( <a href="#">2016</a> )  15-0-0  (adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter)
<a href="#">S/PV.7920</a> 11 April 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on MINUSTAH ( <a href="#">S/2017/223</a> )		11 Member States <sup>g</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Deputy Head of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees <sup>h</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.7924</a> 13 April 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on MINUSTAH ( <a href="#">S/2017/223</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by United States ( <a href="#">S/2017/313</a> )	Brazil		12 Council members, <sup>i</sup> Brazil <sup>j</sup>	Resolution <a href="#">2350</a> ( <a href="#">2017</a> )  15-0-0  (adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter)
<a href="#">S/PV.8005</a> 18 July 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on MINUSTAH ( <a href="#">S/2017/604</a> )		Seven Member States <sup>k</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, representative of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees <sup>h,l</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8068</a> 12 October 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on MINUSTAH ( <a href="#">S/2017/840</a> )		Nine Member States <sup>m</sup>	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Head of the Delegation of the European Union	All Council members, all invitees <sup>h</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8070</a> 17 October 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on MINUSTAH ( <a href="#">S/2017/840</a> )					<a href="#">S/PRST/2017/20</a>

<sup>a</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Peru and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines.

<sup>b</sup> The representative of Peru spoke on behalf of the Friends of the Secretary-General for Haiti, comprising Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Guatemala, Peru, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>c</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Haiti, Mexico and Peru.

<sup>d</sup> The Special Representative participated in the meeting via videoconference from Port-au-Prince.

<sup>e</sup> Angola, Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Guatemala, Japan, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Ukraine, United States, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>f</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala and Peru.

<sup>g</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Guatemala, Haiti, Mexico, Peru, Spain and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

<sup>h</sup> The representative of Peru spoke on behalf of the Friends of the Secretary-General for Haiti, comprising Argentina, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Colombia, France, Guatemala, Peru, United States and Uruguay.

<sup>i</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), China, Egypt, France, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Senegal, United Kingdom, United States and Uruguay.

<sup>j</sup> The representative of Brazil spoke on behalf of Brazil, Chile and Guatemala.

<sup>k</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Haiti, Mexico and Peru.

<sup>l</sup> Mexico was represented by its Under-Secretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights.

<sup>m</sup> Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Haiti, Jamaica, Mexico, Peru and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).

## 17. 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 11 meetings and adopted five resolutions and two presidential statements 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 meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. The Council was briefed by the Secretary-General and his Special Representative for Colombia and Head of the United Nations Mission in Colombia on the status of the implementation of the laying down of weapons agreed upon between the Government of Colombia and the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia – People’s Army (FARC-EP) and on the work of the United Nations Mission in Colombia and the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia.<sup>210</sup> The Council also conducted a mission to Colombia from 3 to 5 May 2017.<sup>211</sup>

On 25 January 2016, the Council established the United Nations Mission in Colombia to monitor and verify the ceasefire and cessation of hostilities provisions of the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace, which was subsequently reached by the parties on 24 August 2016.<sup>212</sup> Acknowledging the request by the

Government of Colombia to the United Nations for support in the implementation of the Agreement, Council members and Colombia highlighted the important role of the Council with regard to conflict prevention and resolution in that context.<sup>213</sup>

Subsequent Council discussions focused on the progress made and challenges faced by the parties in the implementation of the Agreement, not only with respect to the laying down of arms, but also including issues such as reconciliation and transitional justice.<sup>214</sup> Following the national referendum held in Colombia on 2 October 2016, in which voters rejected the Agreement, several Council members expressed their support for the conclusion of a revised agreement between the parties.<sup>215</sup> On 26 October 2016, the Secretary-General addressed a letter to the President of the Security Council, in which he laid out recommendations for the United Nations Mission in Colombia further to the referendum of 2 October.<sup>216</sup> The President of the Security Council responded to that letter on 31 October 2016, taking note of the recommendations and noting that the Mission was authorized, pursuant to relevant resolutions, to verify the implementation of the ceasefire protocol signed on 13 October.<sup>217</sup>

Upon the completion of its mission to Colombia in May 2017, the Council welcomed the efforts of the parties to fully implement the Agreement and recalled its own full commitment to the peace process and

<sup>210</sup> For more information on the mandates of the United Nations Mission in Colombia and the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, see part X, sect. II, “Special political missions”.

<sup>211</sup> For more information on the Council’s mission to Colombia, see part I, sect. 36, “Security Council mission”, and part VI, sect. II.A.

<sup>212</sup> Resolution 2261 (2016) paras. 1–3. See also resolution 2307 (2016), first preambular paragraph and para. 1.

<sup>213</sup> S/PV.7609, p. 2 (United Kingdom); p. 5 (United States); p. 6 (Spain); p. 8 (Ukraine); and p. 10 (Colombia).

<sup>214</sup> See S/PV.7768; S/PV.7859; and S/PV.7916.

<sup>215</sup> S/PV.7859, p. 4 (Ukraine); p. 5 (Uruguay); and p. 6 (Plurinational State of Bolivia); and S/PV.7916, p. 8 (Japan).

<sup>216</sup> S/2016/902.

<sup>217</sup> S/2016/923.