

**Security Council**

Distr.: General
27 August 2014

Original: English

**Letter dated 26 August 2014 from the Permanent Representative
of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the
President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report on the work of the Security Council during the presidency of the Republic of Korea during the month of May 2014 (see annex).

The document was prepared under my responsibility, after consultations with the other members of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Oh Joon**
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 26 August 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Assessment of the work of the Security Council during the presidency of the Republic of Korea (May 2014)

Introduction

Under the presidency of the Republic of Korea in May 2014, the Security Council held a total of 24 meetings, with 23 public meetings (including one open debate and two debates) and 1 closed meeting. The Council also held 18 consultations of the whole. During the month, the Council held a high-level open debate on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction under the topic “Commemorating the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and looking ahead”, which was presided over by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, Yun Byung-se. A closed meeting on the implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507), the “wrap-up session” for the month of May, was also held.

The Council adopted five resolutions and four presidential statements and issued 13 press statements.

Africa

Burundi

On 14 May, the Security Council held a briefing followed by consultations on the work of the United Nations Office in Burundi (BNUB). The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi and Head of BNUB, Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, and the Chair of the Burundi configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, Paul Seger (Switzerland), briefed the Council. They underscored the importance of cooperation between the Government of Burundi and international partners for a successful transition from BNUB to the United Nations country team. The Minister of Interior of Burundi, Edouard Nduwimana, also participated in the briefing. The Special Representative and the Minister participated by means of videoconference from Bujumbura.

In their consultations with the Special Representative, Council members stressed that political freedom and inclusivity were critical in the run-up to the 2015 elections. Some members underscored that the Government of Burundi needed to make further efforts to consolidate the achievements made thus far, while others mentioned the progress made in strengthening peace and stability and expanding political space in Burundi.

Central African Republic

On 13 May, the Security Council issued a press statement strongly condemning the killing of a French journalist near Bouar, Central African Republic. In the statement, the Council also called on the transitional Government of the

Central African Republic to investigate the incident swiftly and bring the perpetrators to justice.

On 30 May, the Council issued a press statement condemning the recent attacks in the Central African Republic, including those committed on 28 May at the church of Notre Dame de Fatima in Bangui. In the statement, the Council also called for the acceleration of the political and national reconciliation process in order to lay the groundwork for an end to the violence.

Central African region

On 12 May, the Security Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa and Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA), Abou Moussa, on the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of UNOCA and on the Lord's Resistance Army-affected areas (S/2014/319).

The Council members underscored the central role of UNOCA in effectively addressing challenges in the region, such as armed group activities, arms proliferation, piracy and terrorism, with some commending the contribution of UNOCA to combating human rights violations and prevailing impunity. They also highlighted the need to redouble information-sharing and cross-border cooperation among UNOCA, United Nations peacekeeping missions, regional and subregional organizations and countries affected by the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) in order to end residual threats from LRA.

At the same meeting, the Council adopted a presidential statement on the Central African region (S/PRST/2014/8) in which it expressed concern about the deterioration of security in parts of Central Africa, particularly in the Central African Republic, and maritime insecurity in the Gulf of Guinea, and called upon all stakeholders to increase cooperation to tackle the threat of the LRA and other armed groups.

Guinea-Bissau

On 19 May, the Security Council held a briefing and consultations on the situation in Guinea-Bissau. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), José Ramos-Horta, briefed the Council by means of videoconference from Bissau on the report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau and the activities of UNIOGBIS (S/2014/333). The Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, Antonio de Aguiar Patriota (Brazil), also briefed the Council. They both underscored the importance of unity after the successful elections towards State-building and economic and social development. They also requested that international and regional partners actively assist Guinea-Bissau in the post-election political process.

The representatives of Guinea-Bissau and of Mozambique (the latter speaking in his capacity as Chair of the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries) also participated in the briefing.

In the consultations with the Special Representative, Council members welcomed the successful conclusion of the second round of presidential elections and called on all parties, including the security services, to respect the electoral outcome.

They also stressed the need to assist Guinea-Bissau with respect to key reforms, strengthening State institutions, good governance and inclusive social and economic development. After the meeting, the Council issued a press statement in this regard.

On 29 May, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2157 (2014), in which it extended the mandate of UNIOGBIS until 30 November 2014 and requested the Secretary-General to conduct a comprehensive review of the mandate of UNIOGBIS, to ensure that it was aligned with the priorities identified by the legitimate democratic Government.

Libya

On 13 May, the Council heard a briefing by the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Fatou Bensouda, who presented her Office's seventh semi-annual report on the situation in Libya, submitted pursuant to Security Council resolution 1970 (2011). The Prosecutor reported that the steady decline in the security situation in Libya had hampered the investigative activities of her Office, and she reiterated the legal obligation of the Government of Libya to fully cooperate in handling the case of Abdullah al-Senussi and to surrender Saif al-Islam Qadhafi to the Court. Underlining the importance of the rule of law, she called upon the Government to speed up the process of transferring prisoners to State-controlled detention centres and to resolve the Tawergha issue. The Prosecutor also asked key partners of Libya to consider forming a contact group on justice issues through which support could be provided to enhance Libya's efforts to bring justice to the victims. Some members underlined the importance of investigating all alleged crimes committed by all parties to the violence in Libya.

Council members urged the Government of Libya to strengthen efforts to create a stable security environment, and to cooperate with the Court to ensure that perpetrators of crimes were held accountable. The representative of Libya stated that the new Government had a strong commitment to establishing justice, fighting impunity and working to establish respect for human rights and basic freedoms.

Mali

On 20 May, the Security Council held a briefing and consultations on the situation in Mali. The Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Integration and International Cooperation of Mali, Abdoulaye Diop, and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Mali and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), Albert Koenders, joined the meeting by means of videoconference from Bamako. Addressing the violent incidents in Kidal on 16 and 17 May, the Special Representative condemned the acts of violence and stressed the need to bring the perpetrators to justice. He also emphasized the resumption of the political process and stated that the United Nations would continue to support the parties concerned in their process of reconciliation and political dialogue. Mr. Diop stated that he considered such attacks a heinous act and a flagrant, deliberate and premeditated violation of all the commitments previously made. He asked for an international commission to be established to verify the facts and for a more robust mandate of MINUSMA.

After the meeting of 20 May, the Council issued a press statement condemning the clashes and calling for the resumption of the cantonment process and sincere peace talks between the Government of Mali and the armed group signatories and

adherents to the preliminary agreement to the presidential election and the inclusive peace talks in Mali.

On 28 May, the Council held closed consultations during which it was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Mali on the development of the violent clashes in Kidal as well as the 23 May ceasefire agreement. Council members took note of the signing of a ceasefire by the Malian parties and commended the efforts of the President of the African Union and the Special Representative for the role they had played in mediating the ceasefire. They urged the signatories to implement the ceasefire fully and in good faith. They also reiterated their full support for the Special Representative and MINUSMA in contributing to the stabilization of Mali and to the launching of peace talks on the basis of the preliminary agreement. Council members expressed their full support for the efforts of all regional and international actors to bring long-term peace and stability to Mali.

Somalia

On 4 May and 24 May, the Security Council issued press statements condemning terrorist attacks in Mogadishu that had caused numerous deaths and injuries and for which Al-Shabaab had claimed responsibility. In the statements, Council members reaffirmed their determination to support the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia and emphasized that such terrorist attacks would not undermine their support for the people of Somalia.

On 22 May, the Council held a briefing and consultations on the situation in Somalia. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia and Head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), Nicholas Kay, addressing the Council by means of videoconference from Mogadishu, introduced the quarterly report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the mandate of UNSOM, pursuant to resolution 2102 (2013) (S/2014/330). Expressing an optimistic view of progress in Somalia, he stated that Somalia had made political, economic and security progress with the assistance of a larger United Nations presence across the country. Nonetheless, he reminded the Council that significant challenges still remained in a number of areas. He highlighted in particular the need for urgent progress in reforming the Constitution and establishing the federal states. He also noted that the humanitarian crisis in the country could worsen as a result of the serious funding shortage coupled with the ongoing military offensive against Al-Shabaab and owing to Al-Shabaab's tactics of blocking the main supply routes.

The Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia and Head of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), Mahamat Saleh Annadif, also briefed the Council, stating that the first phase of military operations had come to a successful end and that the security situation had clearly improved, despite persistent terrorist attacks by Al-Shabaab. He also made an appeal to the international community and donors to mobilize substantial resources for the United Nations trust fund in support of the Somali National Army.

During the consultations that followed, Council members noted that there had been significant progress in the country on both the political and military fronts and encouraged the Federal Government of Somalia to further strengthen its efforts to consolidate a federal system and advance the constitutional review process, with a view to ensuring a successful electoral process in 2016. Council members also underlined the importance of restoring State authority in the areas retaken from

Al-Shabaab. Several members shared the Special Representative's concerns regarding the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the country and suggested having an additional briefing by the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs focused on the humanitarian situation.

At the meeting on 22 May, the Council adopted a presidential statement on the partial suspension of the arms embargo on Somalia (S/PRST/2014/9). In its statement, the Council underlined that improved arms and ammunition management in Somalia was critical to greater peace and stability in the country and underscored the need for the Federal Government of Somalia to show tangible progress in complying with the terms of the partial suspension of the arms embargo stipulated in resolution 2142 (2014). In that regard, the Council appealed to Member States to provide support and equipment to the Federal Government of Somalia, emphasizing in particular the need for five weapon-marking machines, equipment required for mobile marking units and interim weapons storage facilities.

On 29 May, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2158 (2014), extending the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) for 12 months. The Council mandated UNSOM to support the Federal Government of Somalia and AMISOM, as appropriate, in areas such as peacebuilding and State-building, including security sector reform, the rule of law and maritime security, and the strengthening of justice institutions with the aim of ensuring accountability, particularly with respect to crimes against women and children. The Council also stressed the importance it attached to UNSOM supporting the Government's national stabilization efforts and coordinating international assistance, in particular in areas recovered from Al-Shabaab.

Sudan and South Sudan

On 2 May, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Navi Pillay, and the Special Adviser on the Prevention of Genocide, Adama Dieng, briefed the Council about their visit to South Sudan of 28 to 30 April. They described the sharp and drastic deterioration of the human rights situation as well as the widespread humanitarian crisis. The Permanent Representative of South Sudan, Francis Deng, also participated in the briefing. Security Council members expressed concern about atrocities against civilians and urged the warring parties to respect human rights and humanitarian law, stressing accountability.

On 8 May, the Council held its monthly consultations on South Sudan and the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). The Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hervé Ladsous, and the Military Adviser for Peacekeeping Operations, Maqsood Ahmed, briefed the Council. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMISS, Hilde Johnson, also joined the consultations by means of videoconference from Juba. They described the security situation in oil-producing states and the humanitarian calamity in South Sudan. They also explained the need for a new peacekeeping force to address the ongoing conflict. Council members mentioned ways to encourage the two feuding leaders to cease hostilities and expressed support for the inclusion of Intergovernmental Authority on Development peacekeeping forces into UNMISS.

On 12 May, at a public meeting, the Security Council was briefed by the Secretary-General on his visit to South Sudan of 6 May. The Secretary-General urged South Sudan leaders to allow humanitarian access and work together to heal

wounds. In the consultations following the briefing, Council members expressed appreciation for the Secretary-General's active engagement to break the stalemate in South Sudan and stressed that the two leaders engaged in the conflict should fully implement their commitments for early stabilization in South Sudan.

On 19 May, the Council held a joint session for the monthly consultations on the Sudan and South Sudan and the bimonthly consultations on the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA). The Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Sudan and South Sudan, Haile Menkerios (by means of videoconference from Addis Ababa), and the Head of Mission and Force Commander of UNISFA, Yohannes Tesfamariam, briefed the Council. They explained that the situation was relatively stable but that there had been no substantial progress on bilateral issues between the Sudan and South Sudan. They also stressed that the tension in Abyei should be swiftly addressed before it further increased. Council members mentioned the Abyei Joint Oversight Committee and the Abyei interim administration as priorities and supported a strategic review of UNISFA to address the current stalemate in determining the future of Abyei.

On 24 May, the Council issued a press statement on the attack against the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur in Kabkabiya, North Darfur, calling on the Government of the Sudan to swiftly investigate the incident and bring the perpetrators to justice.

On 27 May, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2155 (2014), extending the mandate of UNMISS until 30 November 2014 and focusing it on the protection of civilians, human rights, humanitarian assistance and the implementation of the cessation of hostilities agreement of 23 January.

On 29 May, the Council adopted resolution 2156 (2014), extending the mandate of UNISFA until 15 October 2014 and welcoming the strategic review of UNISFA by the United Nations.

Middle East

Iraq

On 20 May, the Security Council issued a press statement on the results of the elections in Iraq. The Council welcomed the provisional results of the parliamentary election and stated that it looked forward to the finalization of the results.

Lebanon

On 6 May, the Security Council held consultations at which the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General, Terje Roed-Larsen, presented the nineteenth semi-annual report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of resolution 1559 (2004) concerning Lebanon (S/2014/296). The Special Envoy delivered a briefing about the unstable security situation in Lebanon owing to bombings and terrorist attacks. He also noted the unstable situation at the Lebanese-Syrian border in the context of the Syrian crisis, and observed that resolution 1559 (2004) was not being fully implemented. The Special Envoy noted that some political progress had been made regarding the formation of a new Government in the 11 months since the resignation of former Prime Minister Najib Mikati and the holding of the National Dialogue under President Sleiman in the absence of a few political parties.

Council members welcomed the formation of a new Government under Prime Minister Tammam Salam and stressed that a timely election of the new President of Lebanon was necessary for the country's stability. Many members expressed concerns about the lack of progress in implementing resolution 1559 (2004), including the disarmament of all militias and the full control of all Lebanese territory by the Government of Lebanon. Members also called on all parties in Lebanon to respect the disassociation policy of Lebanon consistent with their commitment in the Baabda declaration.

On 29 May, the Council adopted a presidential statement (S/PRST/2014/10) expressing disappointment that presidential elections had not taken place within the constitutional framework and urging the Parliament of Lebanon to hold elections as soon as possible.

Middle East (situation in the Syrian Arab Republic)

On 8 May, the Security Council was briefed in closed consultations by the Special Coordinator of the Joint Mission of the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW) and the United Nations, Sigrid Kaag. She updated the Council on the status of the implementation of resolution 2118 (2013), in which the Council called for the removal and elimination of the chemical weapons programme by the end of June 2014. She noted that the remaining 8 per cent of the chemical materials, including all remaining isopropanol, were stored in one facility outside Damascus. She also encouraged Syrian authorities to expedite preparatory work to allow for their quick removal once the security situation permitted. The Special Coordinator noted that no decision had been reached by the OPCW Executive Council on the destruction of remaining chemical weapons production facilities.

Council members reiterated the need for expediting the completion of the removal of remaining chemical weapons materials from the Syrian territory and the destruction of chemical weapons production facilities. There was also an acknowledgement of the successful internationally coordinated efforts and the continuing role of the Joint Mission in facilitating the completion of the operation. Members also welcomed the dispatch of a fact-finding mission of OPCW with regard to the alleged use of chlorine gas in the Syrian Arab Republic.

On 13 May, the Council held another consultation on the Syrian Arab Republic at which the Joint Special Representative of the United Nations and the League of Arab States for Syria, Lakhdar Brahimi, gave a briefing. The Joint Special Representative noted that the appalling conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic continued, with the death toll standing at 150,000, refugees totalling around 2.5 million and an estimated 6.5 million displaced persons. He stressed that there could be no military solution to the conflict and that more fighting would only prolong the unacceptable agony of the people, further placing at risk the chances for the indispensable recovery of the country, and perhaps its territorial integrity. He commented that the prospects for a settlement had not improved and noted that the intended presidential elections by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic in June would place additional pressure on the prospects for a settlement. Prior to his resignation as Joint Special Representative, he presented seven points for the United Nations to focus on: (a) humanitarian action as set in resolution 2139 (2014); (b) reducing and ending violence; (c) forming an executive that would lead the transition to a new Syrian Arab Republic; (d) a national dialogue and a national

conference; (e) a review of the Constitution; (f) national elections in accordance with the provisions of the new constitutional order; and (g) an end to the flow of arms into the Syrian Arab Republic.

Council members expressed regret at the resignation of the Joint Special Representative and applauded his tireless mediation efforts. Some members emphasized that the local ceasefire achieved in Homs must be encouraged, while others expressed the view that it should not be regarded as an exemplary case as it was a result of the starvation and surrender tactics of the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic.

On 22 May, the Council proceeded to vote on a draft resolution (S/2014/348) submitted by Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Botswana, Bulgaria, Canada, the Central African Republic, Chile, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Marshall Islands, Mexico, Monaco, Montenegro, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. In the draft resolution, the Council referred the situation in the Syrian Arab Republic since March 2011 to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court. There were 13 votes in favour, 2 votes against and no abstentions. The draft resolution was thus rejected, owing to the negative vote of two permanent members.

On 29 May, the Council held consultations at which the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator, Kyung-wha Kang, briefed members on the third report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of Security Council resolution 2139 (2014) (S/2014/365). The Assistant Secretary-General said that, three months after the adoption of resolution 2139 (2014), flagrant violations of human rights and basic obligations under international humanitarian law continued to be committed by all warring parties. She referred to a marked increase in the indiscriminate use of barrel bombs by the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic and to continued mortar attacks against residential areas by opposition groups, as well as their shutdown of Aleppo's main pumping station. She reported that approximately 9.3 million people, more than 6.5 million of whom were internally displaced, were in urgent need of humanitarian assistance in the Syrian Arab Republic. She added that an estimated 3.5 million people were residing in areas that were difficult or impossible for humanitarian actors to reach, including 241,000 who were under siege by either government or opposition forces. She stressed that the arbitrary denial of consent on cross-border access was a violation of international law and represented non-compliance with resolution 2139 (2014).

Council members expressed strong disappointment over the deteriorating humanitarian situation three months after the adoption of resolution 2139 (2014), and stressed the importance of a political solution to end the suffering of the Syrian people. Some members noted the approval for transport of humanitarian supplies for nearly 60,000 people across the Nusaybin-Qamishly border point. Some members

mentioned that they were preparing a draft resolution, citing the Council's intent, as expressed in resolution 2139 (2014), to take further steps in the event of non-compliance with the resolution. Most members expressed their support and expectations concerning the preparation of such a draft.

The situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question

On 20 May, the Security Council held its monthly briefing and consultations on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question. The Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Oscar Fernández-Taranco, reported to the Council on the status of the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian negotiations and said that the political efforts towards a negotiated two-State solution had reached an impasse since 29 April. He emphasized that, without a credible political horizon, the Oslo paradigm might be placed in real jeopardy, and he called on the parties to use the current pause to consider the next steps. With regard to the Syrian Arab Republic, he reported that, on 8 May, heavy fighting between the Syrian armed forces and the armed members of the opposition had occurred east of Quneitra in the Golan. The Assistant Secretary-General expressed concern that these developments had the potential to escalate the situation between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic and jeopardize the ceasefire between the two countries.

In their consultations with the Assistant Secretary-General, Council members expressed concern that the direct peace talks between Israel and Palestine were suspended and called on both sides to come back to the negotiating table while exercising maximum restraint. Many members noted intra-Palestinian reconciliation, stressing that all factions of the Government of the State of Palestine must abide by the commitment of the Palestine Liberation Organization, including the recognition of Israel, non-violence and adherence to previous agreements.

With regard to the Syrian Arab Republic, Council members reiterated their regret over the resignation of the Joint Special Representative and some suggested that the Council heed the seven points he had presented. Members reiterated that the Syrian crisis must be resolved politically.

Yemen

On 5 May, the Security Council adopted a press statement condemning the terrorist attack in Sana'a, which had killed one French citizen and injured others, as well as other recent terrorist attacks in Yemen.

Asia

Afghanistan

On 15 May, the Security Council issued a press statement welcoming the announcement by the Afghan Independent Election Commission on the same day of the certified final results of the first round of the presidential election in Afghanistan. Council members commended the Government of Afghanistan, the electoral institutions and the security forces on the holding of the election on 5 April and applauded the courage of the Afghan people, who had participated in record numbers despite threats and intimidation by the Taliban and other extremist and terrorist groups. They also recognized the important role of the Afghan electoral

institutions, including the Independent Election Commission and the Independent Electoral Complaints Commission, and emphasized that all efforts should be made to continue to safeguard the integrity of the electoral process.

On 23 May, the Council issued a press statement condemning the attack against the Indian Consulate in Herat Province and acts of violence against diplomatic and consular representatives. Through the press statement, they also underlined the need to bring the perpetrators of those acts of terrorism to justice and urged all States to cooperate actively with the Afghan authorities in that regard. Furthermore, they reiterated their determination to combat threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.

Europe

Bosnia and Herzegovina

On 15 May, the Security Council held a semi-annual debate on Bosnia and Herzegovina. The High Representative for Bosnia and Herzegovina, Valentin Inzko, briefed the Council following the forty-fifth report on the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina. He stated that the political leaders of Bosnia and Herzegovina continued to act in their personal political interests and were as yet unable to agree on the overall reform process, including the implementation of the *Sejdić-Finci* judgement. He voiced his concern that the current state of affairs impeded the country's progress towards Euro-Atlantic integration. In the same vein, he underscored that the demonstrations in February had been a response to the lack of urgency of political leaders in addressing the mounting economic and social problems in the country. With important elections in October approaching, the High Representative called for the leaders of the country not to use inter-ethnic tensions as a means of diverting attention from the real problems facing the country. At the same time, he pointed out that the Federation entity authorities had acted unilaterally in 2013 in a way that had compromised the single economic space of the country, although that issue was now moving towards a solution. In addition, while expressing his concern at the increasing separatist rhetoric of the senior leaders from the Republika Srpska, he called on the international community to stand together in support of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The Permanent Representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia and the delegation of the European Union participated in the meeting and expressed their positions on the question of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including their commitment to respect the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the country.

During the ensuing discussion, Council members shared the High Representative's concern regarding the prolonged political stalemate. Expressing their concern over the secessionist rhetoric by the Republika Srpska, several members reaffirmed their support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Regarding the forthcoming election in October, several members commended civic gatherings, known as plenums, as a positive step forward to strengthen democracy in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Security Council resolutions 1160 (1998), 1199 (1998), 1203 (1998), 1239 (1999) and 1244 (1999)

On 27 May, the Security Council held its quarterly debate on the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK), during which the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNMIK, Farid Zarif, gave a briefing. The Special Representative of the Secretary-General commended the significant progress made by Belgrade and Pristina in the normalization of relations. Welcoming the continuing commitment by both sides to resolve differences through dialogue, he encouraged them to continue to make efforts towards the full implementation of the First Agreement of Principles Governing the Normalization of Relations of 19 April 2013. On a negative note, he highlighted a number of setbacks, condemning a series of recent violent incidents in Kosovo, including an assault against personnel of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX).

The Council also heard from the President of Serbia, Tomislav Nikolić, and Atifete Jahjaga of Kosovo, who reaffirmed their commitment to the European Union-facilitated dialogue for a sustainable solution.

Council members welcomed the progress made by Belgrade and Pristina in the normalization of relations and in the implementation of the 19 April 2013 Agreement. They encouraged both sides to continue to engage in the European Union-facilitated dialogue in order to resolve outstanding sensitive issues, such as the establishment of an association/community of Serb majority municipalities in Kosovo. Several Council members welcomed the extension of the mandate of EULEX and the establishment of a special court. Some members reiterated the need to resolve the issue of internally displaced persons so as to further facilitate reconciliation among the communities.

Letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264)

On 2 May, the Security Council held an urgent meeting in the format of a briefing in relation to the letter dated 13 April 2014 from the Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/264).

The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Jeffrey Feltman, briefed the Council on the deteriorating situation in eastern and southern Ukraine, particularly in the city of Slovyansk, where two Ukrainian military helicopters had been shot down and a number of casualties had been reported on the ground. He stated that an increasing number of buildings in eastern Ukraine were being taken over by armed groups and that continuing violence in those areas threatened to further destabilize Ukraine. The Under-Secretary-General reiterated the Secretary-General's appeal for a diplomatic solution and for maximum restraint to prevent a further escalation of tensions. He also echoed the Secretary-General's call for the immediate release of seven military observers of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) being held by gunmen in Slovyansk.

Council members expressed their grave concern over the deteriorating situation in eastern Ukraine and reiterated the urgent need for the de-escalation of tensions. Expressing support for the Secretary-General's good offices, they called on

all parties to the joint Geneva Statement on Ukraine of 17 April to implement their commitments towards a peaceful resolution of the crisis. Most Council members condemned the activities of illegal armed groups, including the downing of two Ukrainian helicopters, the illegal seizure of key public buildings and the detention of OSCE military observers, and called for an immediate end to the violence. Some members, meanwhile, urged those concerned to exercise their influence on the armed groups to end the violence and set free the OSCE observers. Some members also underlined the right of the Government of Ukraine to restore order and the rule of law in the country, and reiterated support for the upcoming presidential elections on 25 May. One member of the Council stressed that the Government of Ukraine had taken punitive actions against its own people and lacked the willingness to fulfil its obligations under the Geneva Statement to ensure a speedy end to the violence and the launch of a broad national dialogue. The Permanent Representative of Ukraine participated in the meeting and expressed his country's commitment to implementing the Geneva Statement, noting that holding free and fair presidential elections on 25 May was a top priority and that the security and protection of the rights and fundamental freedoms of all the people of Ukraine remained essential for the Government of Ukraine.

Letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136)

On 21 May, the Security Council held closed consultations in relation to the letter dated 28 February 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2014/136). The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, Ivan Šimonović, and the Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs, Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, briefed the Council.

Based on the latest report of the United Nations human rights monitoring mission in Ukraine, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights informed the Council that the human rights situation in eastern Ukraine had worsened and that there had been a worrying rise in human rights violations, such as targeted killings, abductions and cases of arbitrary detention, torture, intimidation and harassment, committed mostly by anti-government groups. He noted that the unlawful detention of journalists and the deterioration of media freedom remained of great concern. He also expressed concern over the human rights situation in Crimea, including the issue of citizenship.

The Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs echoed the Secretary-General's concerns about the deterioration of the situation in eastern Ukraine. Despite the continuing violence, he noted positive signs, such as the release of OSCE military observers and the recent launch of a nationwide round-table dialogue. The Assistant Secretary-General underscored that the elections of 25 May would be a way to de-escalate the situation and reiterated the Secretary-General's appeal to all parties to redouble their efforts to help create the conditions necessary for free and fair elections.

Council members expressed their deep concern about the deteriorating human rights situation in eastern Ukraine and called for a thorough investigation into human rights violations. They also voiced the need to investigate the tragedy in

Odessa. At the same time, some members expressed their concern over the human rights situation in Crimea, which had resulted in an increasing number of internally displaced persons. Meanwhile, Council members welcomed the national round-table dialogue as a positive sign and encouraged the Ukrainian authorities to continue such dialogue in an inclusive manner. They also expressed the hope that the elections of 25 May would provide an opportunity to de-escalate tensions and promote a peaceful solution to the crisis. Most Council members reaffirmed their support for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine.

On 28 May, the Council convened an open meeting on the situation in Ukraine. The Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs briefed the Council on the latest developments in Ukraine, particularly following the presidential elections of 25 May. After noting the high turnout in the presidential elections, he welcomed the President-elect's initiative to engage in dialogue with all sides and to reach out to the eastern region. Nevertheless, he expressed concern at the continuing violence in the eastern region, which had led to an increase in the number of casualties. Highlighting the need to de-escalate tensions, the Under-Secretary-General reiterated the Secretary-General's appeal to use the outcome of the elections as an opportunity to unify the country in support of a peaceful, stable, prosperous and united Ukraine.

Council members welcomed Ukraine's presidential elections and stressed the importance of holding an inclusive national dialogue with all parties concerned in order to achieve a peaceful solution, which was an essential element of the Geneva Statement and the OSCE road map. Expressing concern over the ongoing violence, Council members called for a peaceful solution to the crisis and for the immediate release of four OSCE monitors being held by armed groups.

Thematic and other issues

Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction

On 7 May, the Security Council held a high-level open debate on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction under the theme "Commemorating the tenth anniversary of Security Council resolution 1540 (2004) and looking ahead". The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, Yun Byung-se, presided over the debate. In addition to Council members, 46 non-members of the Council took part in the open debate in accordance with rule 37 or rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure.

In his briefing, the Deputy Secretary-General, Jan Eliasson, commended the significant contribution made by resolution 1540 (2004) since its adoption on 28 April 2004 and stressed that the implementation of the resolution must be a global commitment and enterprise. He called on all Member States that had not already done so to submit their initial implementation reports by the end of 2014.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea, as the first speaker among the Council members, laid out three key essential tasks that should underpin future efforts: enhancement of the role of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) on implementation monitoring; capacity-building and assistance; and promotion of synergies among relevant non-proliferation norms and initiatives.

Council members expressed appreciation for the timeliness and significance of the debate, particularly in the light of the tenth anniversary of resolution 1540 (2004). Commending the role of the Committee and the leadership of its Chair, members cited the need to increase momentum towards the full implementation of the resolution.

The Council adopted a presidential statement on non-proliferation as an outcome of the open debate (S/PRST/2014/7). Through the presidential statement, the Council called upon all States to step up their efforts to implement resolution 1540 (2004) with a view to achieving its full implementation by 2021. It called upon all States to submit their first implementation reports without delay, recommended that the Committee consider developing a strategy towards the full implementation of the resolution, stressed the need for enhanced assistance in implementing the resolution and encouraged the Committee to draw on relevant expertise, including civil society, industry and the private sector.

Maintenance of international peace and security

On 8 May, the Security Council adopted resolution 2154 (2014), in which it decided to create a medal to honour those military, police and civilian United Nations or associated personnel who had demonstrated exceptional courage in the face of extreme danger. The medal was named after a Senegalese military officer, Mbaye Diagne, who had saved the lives of many Rwandans during the 1994 genocide and lost his life while serving with the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda.

Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts

On 9 May, the Security Council issued a press statement condemning the terrorist attacks committed by Boko Haram that had occurred in Gamboru Ngala, Nigeria, on 5 May. Council members expressed their deep sympathy and condolences to the families of the victims, as well as to the people and the Government of Nigeria, and expressed their sympathy to all those injured in the attacks. They also condemned in the strongest terms the abduction of 276 schoolgirls on 14 April in Chibok, Nigeria, and the reported abduction on 5 May of eight girls in Wrabe, Nigeria. They demanded the immediate and unconditional release of all abducted girls and further expressed their deep concern at statements made by the alleged leader of Boko Haram threatening to sell the girls as slaves. Furthermore, they underlined the need to bring the perpetrators of those reprehensible acts of terrorism to justice, and urged all States to cooperate actively with the Nigerian authorities in that regard.

On 28 May, the Council issued a press statement condemning the terrorist attack on the Jewish Museum of Belgium, in Brussels, on 24 May.

Other matters

On 14 May, the Security Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Hervé Ladsous, on lessons learned with regard to the use of unarmed unmanned aerial vehicles in the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Council members also watched a video clip recorded by unarmed unmanned aerial vehicles during their operations.

Briefings by Chairmen of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2140 (2014) concerning Yemen

On 14 May, the Security Council held a briefing followed by consultations on the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2140 (2014). The Chair of the Committee, Raimonda Murmokaitė (Lithuania), briefed the Council at a public meeting. She updated the Council on the discussions and activities of the Committee since the adoption of resolution 2140 (2014) on 26 February, including the appointment of the Panel of Experts on Yemen and the Committee meeting with Yemen and the Gulf Cooperation Council. She also said that the Panel would submit its update to the Council no later than on 25 June.

During the consultations, Council members recognized the activities carried out by the Committee and expressed support for the continued close cooperation between the Committee and other Security Council committees and regional organizations, including the Gulf Cooperation Council. Council members expressed the hope that the people of Yemen would continue implementing the National Dialogue Conference outcome, while also expressing concern at the growing presence of Al-Qaida in the Arabian Peninsula in Yemen. They also stressed that the Panel of Experts should start implementing its mandate to seek and review information regarding individuals and entities that might be engaging in activities that threatened the peace, security and stability of Yemen.

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006) concerning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea

On 20 May, the Security Council was briefed in closed consultations by the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006) concerning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Sylvie Lucas (Luxembourg), on the work of the Committee during the period from 20 February to 6 May 2014. The Chair updated the Council about the Committee's discussions on the final report of the Panel of Experts on the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and other issues, including follow-up measures in the *Chong Chon Gang* case and the recent launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of ballistic missiles. She informed the Council of the Committee's adoption of its programme of work for the period from 1 May 2014 to 30 April 2015, as well as of the appointment of two new members to the Panel of Experts. She also said that the lists of items prohibited for export or import by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea had been updated.

In the consultations that followed, most Council members reiterated their condemnation of the ballistic missile launches, called for the Democratic People's Republic of Korea to abide by its international obligations and stressed the need for the Committee to take appropriate action in response to violations of Council resolutions. Concern was expressed with regard to delays in taking follow-up measures in the *Chong Chon Gang* case, including the adoption of an implementation assistance notice and the designation of responsible entities. One delegation spoke of the need to exercise restraint in public rhetoric and military activities in the region. Some suggested that the relevant discussion and the work of the Panel of Experts should bear in mind the overall situation of the Korean

peninsula and contribute to its peace and stability rather than complicating it. Several members referred to the need for the Council to formally discuss the recent report of the Human Rights Council commission of inquiry on human rights in the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan

On 20 May, the Security Council received a 90-day report from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan, Maria Cristina Perceval (Argentina). Council members expressed concern about the deteriorating security and humanitarian situation in Darfur. Some members underscored that the Government of the Sudan should fully implement the relevant Council resolutions, including the arms embargo, and issue multiple entry visas to the members of the Panel of Experts on the Sudan. Other members mentioned that economic rebuilding was key to addressing the root causes of conflict in Darfur and, in that regard, reiterated their call for the provision of financial assistance and debt relief to the Sudan. One member called for the lifting of economic sanctions on the Sudan.

Joint briefing by counter-terrorism-related subsidiary bodies

On 28 May, the Security Council held its biannual briefing with the Chairs of its counter-terrorism-related subsidiary bodies. Gary Quinlan (Australia), Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1989 (2011) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities, Raimonda Murmokaitė (Lithuania), Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism, and Oh Joon (Republic of Korea), Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), briefed the Council on the ongoing cooperation among the three committees and the work of their respective committees since the latest briefing, held in November 2013, as well as directions for future endeavours.

Council members expressed their appreciation for the work of the committees and their support for them. They emphasized that it was important that the committees further carry out their mandates and enhance their coordination and cooperation with Member States, with support from relevant expert groups. Several non-members of the Council also participated in the discussion.

Implementation of the note by the President of the Council (S/2010/507)

On 29 May, the Security Council held a private wrap-up session on the implementation of the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507). Non-members of the Council were invited to participate in the meeting as observers. In addition to the Council members, 56 Member States that were not Council members and one observer delegation attended the session.

As a major contribution of the work of the Council during the month of May, Council members welcomed the high-level open debate on the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the unanimous adoption of resolution 2155 (2014) on South Sudan. They also stressed the need for the Council to remain more vigilant with regard to the crisis in South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic. In particular, a number of Council members voiced their deep concern at the Council's inaction

on the Syrian Arab Republic, referring to the failure to adopt a resolution on referral to the International Criminal Court of the situation in that country. Several members also recalled the urgent need for the de-escalation of tensions in Ukraine and called for all parties concerned to engage in meaningful dialogue for a peaceful resolution. Council members highlighted the importance of the Council taking united and timely steps in urgent and emerging situations to maintain international peace and security.

After the wrap-up session, the presidency held an additional informal briefing (question-and-answer session) open to all States Members of the United Nations.
