
Part IX

Subsidiary organs of the Security Council: committees, tribunals and other bodies

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Introductory note

Article 29

The Security Council may establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.

Rule 28

The Security Council may appoint a commission or committee or a rapporteur for a specified question.

The power of the Security Council to establish subsidiary organs is set out in Article 29 of the Charter of the United Nations and rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure. Part IX of the present Supplement covers the practice of the Council relating to committees, working groups, investigative bodies, tribunals, ad hoc commissions, and special advisers, envoys and representatives, as well as the Peacebuilding Commission. It also includes instances of subsidiary organs that were proposed but not established, where applicable. Field-based missions, including United Nations peacekeeping and political missions, are covered in part X. Field-based missions led by regional organizations are covered in part VIII. Each subsection below provides a summary of the major developments relating to each subsidiary organ during the period covered by this Supplement.

I. Committees

Note

Section I focuses on the decisions of the Security Council adopted during 2020 concerning the establishment of committees and the implementation of and changes to their mandates, as well as their termination. Subsection A covers standing committees and subsection B covers committees established under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations. The description of each committee includes the tasks of the committee, as mandated by the Council in the context of the implementation of sanctions measures such as an arms embargo, an asset freeze and/or a travel ban. Information on measures mandated by the Council pursuant to Article 41 of the Charter is provided in part VII, section III. The committees are discussed within each subsection below in the order of their establishment.

The committees of the Council consist of all 15 members of the Council. Their meetings are held in private, unless a committee itself decides otherwise, and decisions are reached by consensus. The Council has both standing committees that meet only when issues under their purview are being considered and committees established on an ad hoc basis in response to specific requirements of the Council, such as counter-terrorism or sanctions committees.

The Bureau of each committee generally consists of a Chair and a Vice-Chair, who are elected by the Council on an annual basis.¹ Since the issuance in 2012 of a note by the President of the Council on the matter, the process for the appointment of Chairs and Vice-Chairs is conducted with the participation of all Council members.² According to the note by the President of the Council dated 31 August 2017, the informal process would be undertaken in a balanced, transparent, efficient and inclusive way “so as to facilitate an exchange of information related to the work of the subsidiary bodies involved” and would be “facilitated jointly by two members of the Council working in full cooperation”.³ On 27 December 2019, a new note by the President was issued, according to

which the Council members stressed that the “informal consultation process should take into account the need for a shared responsibility and a fair distribution of work for the selection of the Chairs among all members of the Council, bearing in mind the capacities and resources of members”.⁴

A. Standing committees

During 2020, the standing committees, namely, the Committee of Experts on Rules of Procedure, the Committee of Experts established by the Council at its 1506th meeting to study the question of associate membership, the Committee on the Admission of New Members and the Committee on Council Meetings away from Headquarters, continued to exist but did not meet.

B. Committees established under Chapter VII of the Charter

Subsection 1 deals with the committees and associated monitoring teams, groups or panels of experts (expert groups) that oversaw specific sanctions measures in 2020.⁵ The functioning of the committees and associated monitoring teams, groups and/or panels of experts (expert groups), as with the rest of the work of the Council, was heavily affected by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic. As described in more detail below, while many of the mandates of the committees remained largely unchanged, the Council modified some aspects of the mandates of certain committees or requested committees or expert groups to carry out specific tasks. For example, the Council stressed the important role of the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da’esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities in identifying possible cases of non-compliance with the measures pursuant to resolution 2368 (2017), and requested the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team to study the basic and extraordinary exemptions procedures set out in resolution 2368 (2017) and provide recommendations to the Committee.⁶ The Monitoring Team was also directed to gather

¹ For the bureaux of the committees during the period covered in the present Supplement, see [S/2020/2](#), [S/2020/2/Rev.1](#), [S/2020/2/Rev.2](#), [S/2020/2/Rev.3](#), [S/2020/2/Rev.4](#), [S/2020/2/Rev.5](#) and [S/2020/2/Rev.6](#).

² See [S/2012/937](#).

³ [S/2017/507](#), paras. 111–114. It was also indicated in the note that the Council should make every effort to agree on the appointment of the Chairs for the following year no later than 1 October. Previous notes of this nature were [S/2006/507](#) and [S/2010/507](#).

⁴ See [S/2019/991](#).

⁵ For information concerning the sanctions measures relevant to each of the committees, see part VII, section III.

⁶ Resolution [2560 \(2020\)](#), fifth preambular paragraph and para. 2.

information on instances of non-compliance with the measures imposed by resolution 2255 (2015) and to keep the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) informed of such instances, as well as to facilitate assistance on capacity-building. In addition, the Council directed the Monitoring Team to provide recommendations to the Committee on actions taken to respond to non-compliance.⁷ The Panel of Experts on Libya was requested to closely follow and report to the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) any information relating to the illicit export from or illicit import to Libya of petroleum.⁸

Subsection 2 deals with subsidiary organs with a thematic scope, namely the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004), which have broader mandates relating to terrorism and non-proliferation. Other subsidiary bodies, including the Office of the Ombudsperson, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and expert groups, are discussed together with the relevant committees.

In 2020, despite the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the committees carried out their mandate of, inter alia, listing and delisting individuals and entities,

⁷ Resolution 2557 (2020), para. 3.

⁸ Resolution 2509 (2020), paras. 3 and 11. The mandate of the Panel of Experts included supporting the Committee, gathering and analysing information on compliance, making recommendations on actions that the Council, the Committee, the Government of Libya or other States may consider to improve implementation of the relevant measures and providing periodic reports.

granting exemptions and processing notifications, monitoring and assessing implementation and reporting to the Council. In addition to reporting by means of written reports, some Committee Chairs delivered briefings to the Council in open meetings and closed consultations.

As outlined in table 1, briefings by Chairs of subsidiary organs took place under both thematic and country-specific items and briefings were delivered as joint or individual briefings, in the context of which Chairs reported at varying intervals on a variety of aspects of the work of subsidiary organs, including their mandates and/or any visits conducted by the Chairs. Owing to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the ability of Chairs to deliver briefings to the Council in person was greatly affected in 2020, and Committee Chairs provided briefings to Council members during open videoconferences instead. COVID-19 also caused delays in the holding of those briefings. For example, the joint special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), and all activities of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) related to the comprehensive review on the status of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) during 2020, pursuant to resolution 1977 (2011), had to be postponed. More information on the videoconferences is provided in table 2.⁹

⁹ For more information on the format of meetings and the procedures and working methods developed during the COVID-19 pandemic, see part II.

Table 1
Briefings by Chairs of Security Council subsidiary organs, 2020 (meetings)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Briefing by the Chair</i>	<i>Meeting record and date</i>
Country-specific		
The situation in Libya	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011)	S/PV.8710 30 January 2020
The situation in Mali	Committee established pursuant to resolution 2374 (2017)	S/PV.8777 17 November 2020
The situation in the Middle East	Committee established pursuant to resolution 2140 (2014)	S/PV.8725 18 February 2020
The situation in Somalia	Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992)	S/PV.8735 27 February 2020

Table 2
Briefings by Chairs of Security Council subsidiary organs, 2020 (videoconferences)

<i>Item</i>	<i>Briefing by the Chair</i>	<i>Videoconference record and date</i>
Thematic		
Briefings by Chairs of subsidiary bodies of the Security Council	Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) , 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015)	S/2020/1143 23 November 2020
	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001)	
	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)	
	Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992)	S/2020/1258 16 December 2020
	Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) , 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015)	
	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011)	
	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)	
	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006)	
	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011)	
	Committee established pursuant to resolution 2374 (2017)	
	Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict	
Country-specific		
The situation in Afghanistan	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011)	S/2020/1274 17 December 2020
The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004)	S/2020/987 6 October 2020
The situation in Libya	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011)	S/2020/421 19 May 2020
		S/2020/879 2 September 2020
The situation in Somalia	Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992)	S/2020/529 9 June 2020
		S/2020/1079 28 October 2020
Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan	Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005)	S/2020/528 9 June 2020
		S/2020/913 15 September 2020
		S/2020/1235 11 December 2020
	Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015)	S/2020/1237 15 December 2020

1. Committees overseeing specific sanctions measures

During the period under review, the total number of active committees overseeing specific sanctions

measures was 14. Table 3 provides an overview of the committees, including selected categories of the main mandatory measures that they oversaw during 2020.

Table 3
Security Council committees responsible for oversight of specific sanctions measures, 2020

	<i>Arms embargo</i>	<i>Asset freeze</i>	<i>Travel ban or restrictions</i>	<i>Non-proliferation measures/restrictions on ballistic missiles</i>	<i>Financial restrictions</i>	<i>Petroleum related (including bunkering services)</i>	<i>Natural resources^a</i>	<i>Other^b</i>
Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992)	X	X	X				X	X
Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999) , 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015)	X	X	X					X
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1518 (2003)	X	X						
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004)	X	X	X					X
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005)	X	X	X					
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1636 (2005)		X	X					
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006)	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011)	X	X	X		X	X		
Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011)	X	X	X					
Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012)			X					
Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013)	X	X	X					
Committee established pursuant to resolution 2140 (2014)	X	X	X					
Committee established pursuant to resolution 2206 (2015)	X	X	X					
Committee established pursuant to resolution 2374 (2017)		X	X					

^a Refers to a variety of measures on natural resources, including charcoal, coal, iron, gold, titanium, copper, nickel, silver and zinc.

^b Including measures relating to, inter alia, transport and aviation measures, the ban on components of improvised explosive devices, trade restrictions and/or diplomatic restrictions.

Committee pursuant to resolution 751 (1992) concerning Somalia

In 2020, the mandate of the Committee remained largely unchanged.¹⁰ During the year under review, the Chair of the Committee conducted a visit to Mogadishu from 21 to 23 January 2020, on which he provided a briefing to the Council.¹¹ For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.¹²

By its resolution 2551 (2020), the Council renewed the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Somalia until 15 December 2021, requested the Secretary-General to include members with dedicated gender expertise, in line with paragraph 11 of its resolution 2467 (2019) and expressed its intent to review the mandate and take appropriate action regarding any extensions of the mandate of the Panel of Experts no later than 15 November 2021.¹³ In its resolution 2554 (2020), the Council called upon all States to cooperate fully with the Panel of Experts on Somalia, including on information-sharing regarding possible violations of the arms embargo or charcoal ban.¹⁴

Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities

In 2020, the Council addressed matters relating to the Committee under the item entitled "Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts".¹⁵ The mandates of the Committee, the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team and the Office of the Ombudsperson remained largely unchanged in 2020.¹⁶ For more information on the work of the

Committee, see its annual report for 2020.¹⁷ More information on the work of the Office of the Ombudsperson may be found in its biannual reports.¹⁸

In its resolution 2560 (2020), the Council stressed the important role of the Committee in identifying possible cases of non-compliance with the measures pursuant to resolution 2368 (2017).¹⁹ The Council also encouraged Member States to more actively submit to the Committee the requests of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities that met the listing criteria in paragraph 2 of resolution 2368 (2017) and to submit to the Committee additional identifying and other information set out in paragraph 85 of resolution 2368 (2017), in order to keep the ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida sanctions list reliable and up-to-date.²⁰ Moreover, the Council requested the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team to study the basic and extraordinary exemptions procedures set out in paragraphs 81 (a) and (b) of resolution 2368 (2017) concerning the assets freeze, and to provide recommendations to the Committee to determine whether or not updating those exemptions was required.²¹

Committee established pursuant to resolution 1518 (2003)

In 2020, there were no modifications to the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1518 (2003). By its resolution 1518 (2003), adopted on 24 November 2003, the Council established the Committee and mandated it to continue to identify individuals and entities whose funds, other financial assets and economic resources should be frozen and transferred to the Development Fund for Iraq, in

list. The mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team included, inter alia, supporting the Committee, gathering and analysing information on compliance, providing information relevant to the listing of individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures, assisting the Committee in regularly reviewing names on the sanctions list, assisting the Office of the Ombudsperson to the Committee in carrying out its mandate, and providing periodic reports. The mandate of the Office of the Ombudsperson included, inter alia, reviewing requests from individuals and entities seeking to be removed from the sanctions list and making a recommendation to the Committee on those requests.

¹⁷ S/2020/1212.

¹⁸ S/2020/106 and S/2020/782.

¹⁹ Resolution 2560 (2020), fifth preambular paragraph.

²⁰ Ibid., para. 1.

²¹ Ibid., para. 2. For further information on the mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, see sect. I.B. below on the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011).

¹⁰ The mandate of the Committee included, inter alia, designating individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, which comprise an arms embargo, an asset freeze, a travel ban, a charcoal ban and a ban on components of improvised explosive devices, monitoring implementation and deciding on requests for exemptions.

¹¹ See S/PV.8735.

¹² S/2020/1215.

¹³ Resolution 2551 (2020), para. 30.

¹⁴ Resolution 2554 (2020), para. 10.

¹⁵ For more information, see part I, sect. 29.

¹⁶ The mandate of the Committee included, inter alia, monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions, designating individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, comprising an arms embargo, an asset freeze and a travel ban, and conducting periodic and specialized reviews of the entries on the ISIL (Da'esh) and Al-Qaida sanctions

accordance with paragraphs 19 and 23 of resolution [1483 \(2003\)](#).²² For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.²³

Committee established pursuant to resolution [1533 \(2004\)](#) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo

In 2020, the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1533 \(2004\)](#) remained largely unchanged.²⁴ For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.²⁵

By its resolution [2528 \(2020\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of the Group of Experts established pursuant to resolution [1533 \(2004\)](#) until 1 August 2021 and expressed its intention to review the mandate and take appropriate action regarding the further extension of the mandate no later than 1 July 2021.²⁶ In addition, the Council reaffirmed the reporting provisions set out in resolutions [2360 \(2017\)](#) and [2478 \(2019\)](#),²⁷ and requested the Group of Experts to provide to the Council, after discussion with the Committee, a midterm report no later than 30 December 2020, and a final report no later than 15 June 2021, as well as to submit monthly updates to the Committee, except in the months where the midterm and final reports were due.²⁸

In its resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), by which the Council renewed the mandate of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), the Council expressed its full support for the Group of Experts, called for enhanced cooperation between all States, particularly those in the region, and MONUSCO and the Group of Experts, and requested the timely exchange of information between the Mission and the

Group of Experts. The Council also requested that MONUSCO monitor the implementation of the arms embargo as described in paragraph 1 of resolution [2293 \(2016\)](#), in cooperation with the Group of Experts.²⁹

Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) concerning the Sudan

In 2020, the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) concerning the Sudan and its Panel of Experts remained unchanged.³⁰ In addition to briefing Council members during open videoconferences,³¹ the Chair also submitted three periodic briefings in the form of a letter to the Council.³² For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.³³

In its resolution [2508 \(2020\)](#), by which the mandate of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) was extended until 12 March 2021, the Council requested the Panel to provide periodic reports and expressed its intention to review the Panel's mandate and take appropriate action regarding the further extension of the mandate no later than 12 February 2021.³⁴

Committee established pursuant to resolution [1636 \(2005\)](#)

During the period under review, there were no changes to the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1636 \(2005\)](#) to register and oversee the travel ban and asset freeze on individuals designated by the International Independent Investigation Commission or by the Government of Lebanon as suspected of involvement in the terrorist bombing in Beirut on 14 February 2005 that killed the former Prime Minister of Lebanon, Rafiq Hariri, and

²² For background information, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2000–2003*, chap. V, part I.B.2.

²³ [S/2020/1216](#).

²⁴ The mandate of the Committee included, inter alia, designating individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Security Council comprising an arms embargo, an asset freeze, transport and customs controls and a travel ban, monitoring implementation and deciding on requests for exemptions.

²⁵ [S/2020/1214](#).

²⁶ Resolution [2528 \(2020\)](#), para. 3. The mandate of the Group of Experts included, inter alia, supporting the Committee, gathering and analysing information on compliance, providing information relevant to the listing of individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures and providing periodic reports.

²⁷ Resolution [2528 \(2020\)](#), para. 5.

²⁸ *Ibid.*, para. 4.

²⁹ Resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), paras. 38–39. For more information on the mandate of MONUSCO, see part X, sect. I.

³⁰ The mandate of the Committee included monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions and designating individuals and entities subject to measures adopted by the Council, comprising an arms embargo, an asset freeze and a travel ban. The mandate of the Panel of Experts included supporting the Committee, gathering and analysing information on compliance, providing information relevant to the listing of individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures and providing periodic reports.

³¹ See [S/2020/528](#), [S/2020/913](#) and [S/2020/1235](#). For details on the briefings, see tables 1 and 2.

³² See [S/2020/250](#), [S/2020/526](#) and [S/2020/907](#).

³³ [S/2020/1209](#).

³⁴ Resolution [2508 \(2020\)](#), para. 2.

22 others.³⁵ The Committee held no meetings during 2020. As at 31 December 2020, no individual had been registered.

Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006)

During the period under review, there were no modifications to the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1718 (2006).³⁶ As reflected in its annual report, during a closed videoconference on 7 October 2020 the Committee held technical discussions on the conversion rate in relation to paragraph 5 of Council resolution 2397 (2017) concerning the supply, sale or transfer from Member States to the Democratic People's Republic of Korea of all refined petroleum products.³⁷

By its resolution 2515 (2020), the Council extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 30 April 2021, requested the Panel to provide periodic reports and expressed its intent to review the Panel's mandate and to take appropriate action regarding the further extension of the mandate no later than 26 March 2021.³⁸

Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya

In 2020, the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1970 (2011) concerning Libya remained unchanged.³⁹ For more

information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.⁴⁰

During the period under review, the Council adopted resolution 2509 (2020), by which it extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts on Libya until 15 May 2021 and decided that the Panel's mandated tasks would remain as defined in resolution 2213 (2015) and would also apply with respect to the measures updated in resolution 2509 (2020). The Council also requested that the Panel of Experts closely follow and report to the Committee any information relating to the illicit export from or illicit import to Libya of petroleum.⁴¹

In its resolution 2542 (2020), by which the mandate of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) was renewed, the Council underscored the importance of ensuring that existing sanctions measures were fully implemented and that violations were reported to the Committee. The Council also demanded full compliance, including by all Member States, with the arms embargo imposed under resolution 1970 (2011), welcomed efforts by the Panel of Experts to investigate violations of the arms embargo as well as the cooperation between the relevant United Nations bodies and other interested parties with the Panel of Experts, and noted its intention to hold those who violated the arms embargo accountable through the Committee.⁴²

Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011)

In 2020, the Council addressed matters related to the Committee under two different items of its agenda, namely: (a) The situation in Afghanistan; and (b) Threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts.⁴³

The mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1988 (2011) remained largely

³⁵ For more information, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2004–2007*, chap. V part I.B.

³⁶ The mandate of the Committee included, inter alia, monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions and designating individuals, entities and vessels subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, comprising, inter alia, an arms embargo, an embargo relating to nuclear, ballistic missile and other weapons of mass destruction programmes, sectoral bans on coal, minerals and fuel, a ban on the export of luxury goods, a travel ban, an asset freeze, a ban on the provision of financial services and a ban on specialized teaching and training in disciplines that could contribute to prohibited activities and programmes.

³⁷ S/2020/1259, para. 13.

³⁸ Resolution 2515 (2020), paras. 1–2. The mandate of the Panel of Experts included, inter alia, supporting the Committee, gathering and analysing information on compliance, providing information relevant to the listing of individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures and providing periodic reports.

³⁹ The mandate of the Committee included monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions and designating individuals, entities and vessels subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, comprising an arms embargo, a travel ban, an asset freeze and measures aimed at preventing illicit exports of petroleum.

⁴⁰ S/2020/1256.

⁴¹ Resolution 2509 (2020), paras. 3 and 11. The mandate of the Panel of Experts included supporting the Committee, gathering and analysing information on compliance, making recommendations on actions that the Council, the Committee, the Government of Libya or other States may consider to improve implementation of the relevant measures and providing periodic reports. For more information on the sanctions measures concerning Libya, see part VII, sect. III.

⁴² Resolution 2542 (2020), twenty-seventh preambular paragraph and para. 7. For more information on the mandate of UNSMIL, see part X, sect. II.

⁴³ For more information, see part I, sects. 16 and 29.

unchanged.⁴⁴ The Council adopted one resolution in relation to the mandate of the Committee and the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team. By its resolution [2557 \(2020\)](#), the Council extended, for a period of 12 months, until 16 December 2021, the mandate of the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team in support of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1988 \(2011\)](#), with further details on the mandate set forth in the annex to the resolution.⁴⁵ In the resolution, the Council also directed the Monitoring Team to gather information on instances of non-compliance with the measures imposed by resolution [2255 \(2015\)](#) and to keep the Committee informed of such instances, as well as to facilitate, upon request by Member States, assistance on capacity-building. In addition, the Council encouraged Committee members to address issues of non-compliance and bring them to the attention of the Monitoring Team or the Committee and directed the Monitoring Team to provide recommendations to the Committee on actions taken to respond to non-compliance.⁴⁶ For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.⁴⁷

Committee established pursuant to resolution [2048 \(2012\)](#) concerning Guinea-Bissau

During 2020, no changes were made to the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2048 \(2012\)](#) concerning Guinea-Bissau. The Committee continued to oversee the implementation of the travel ban, designate individuals who met the listing criteria contained in resolution [2048 \(2012\)](#) and to consider and decide on requests for exemptions from the sanctions measures. For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.⁴⁸

Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) concerning the Central African Republic

In 2020, the Council adopted two resolutions relating to the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) concerning the Central African Republic.⁴⁹ By its resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), the Council renewed the provisions concerning the travel ban and asset freeze measures, as set out in resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), for a period of six months until 31 July 2020,⁵⁰ and decided to adjust the list of exemptions to the arms embargo.⁵¹

By its resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#), the Council further expanded the list of exemptions to the arms embargo.⁵² The Council again renewed the asset freeze and travel ban measures, as set out in resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), this time for a period of 12 months until 31 July 2021.⁵³ For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.⁵⁴

The Council extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts twice during the reporting period, for 7 and 13 months, respectively, and requested the Panel to provide periodic reports.⁵⁵ Expressing concern about reports of illicit transnational trafficking networks that continued to fund and supply armed groups in the Central African Republic, the Council continued to request the Panel, in the course of carrying out its mandate, to devote special attention to the analysis of such networks, in cooperation with other panels or groups of experts established by the Council.⁵⁶ Stressing the importance that the authorities achieve key benchmarks in order to contribute to the advancement of security sector reform, the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation processes and necessary weapons and ammunition management reforms, the Council continued to request the Central African Republic

⁴⁴ The mandate of the Committee included, inter alia, monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions, designating individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, comprising an arms embargo, an asset freeze and a travel ban, and conducting periodic and specialized reviews of the entries on the sanctions list. The Committee was also supported by the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team.

⁴⁵ Resolution [2557 \(2020\)](#), para. 2. See the annex to the resolution for a comprehensive overview of the mandate of the Monitoring Team.

⁴⁶ *Ibid.*, para. 3.

⁴⁷ [S/2020/1211](#).

⁴⁸ [S/2020/1245](#).

⁴⁹ The mandate of the Committee included, inter alia, monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions and designating individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, comprising an arms embargo, an asset freeze and a travel ban.

⁵⁰ Resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), para. 4.

⁵¹ *Ibid.*, para. 1 (f) and (g).

⁵² Resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#), para. 1 (g). For more information on the sanctions measures concerning the Central African Republic, see part VII, sect. III.

⁵³ Resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#), para. 4. See also resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), paras. 9, 14 and 16–19.

⁵⁴ [S/2020/1251](#).

⁵⁵ Resolutions [2507 \(2020\)](#), paras. 6–7, and [2536 \(2020\)](#), paras. 6–7.

⁵⁶ Resolutions [2507 \(2020\)](#), para. 8, and [2536 \(2020\)](#), para. 8.

authorities to report to the Committee on the progress achieved in that regard.⁵⁷ The Council further requested the Secretary-General, in close consultation with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), including the Mine Action Service, and the Panel of Experts, to conduct assessments on the progress achieved by the authorities on the key benchmarks enumerated in the presidential statement of 9 April 2019.⁵⁸

In its resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), by which the Council extended the mandate of MINUSCA, the Council reiterated the tasks of MINUSCA related to assisting the Committee and the Panel of Experts, including by supporting the Panel in the collection of information on acts of incitement to violence, particularly on religious or ethnic grounds.⁵⁹

Committee established pursuant to resolution [2140 \(2014\)](#)

In 2020, the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2140 \(2014\)](#) remained largely unchanged.⁶⁰ For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.⁶¹

By its resolution [2511 \(2020\)](#), the Council renewed until 26 February 2021 the sanctions measures as set out in resolutions [2140 \(2014\)](#) and [2216 \(2015\)](#) and also, emphasizing the importance of facilitating humanitarian assistance, decided that the Committee could, on a case-by-case basis, exempt any activity from the sanctions measures if the Committee determined that such an exemption was necessary to facilitate the work of the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations in Yemen.⁶² By the same resolution, the Council also extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 28 March 2021, requested the Panel to provide periodic reports and expressed its intention to review the Panel's mandate and take

appropriate action regarding the further extension of the mandate no later than 28 February 2021.⁶³

Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan

In 2020, the mandates of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan and its Panel of Experts remained unchanged.⁶⁴ For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.⁶⁵

By its resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) until 1 July 2021 and requested the Panel to provide periodic reports.⁶⁶

The Council reiterated its request for the Panel to include the necessary gender expertise in line with paragraph 6 of resolution [2242 \(2015\)](#) and encouraged it to integrate gender as a cross-cutting issue across its investigation and reporting.⁶⁷ In its resolutions [2514 \(2020\)](#) and [2521 \(2020\)](#), the Council further encouraged the timely exchange of information between the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) and the Panel of Experts and requested UNMISS to assist the Committee and the Panel of Experts within its mandate and capabilities.⁶⁸

Also in its resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#), the Council requested the Secretariat to provide, by 31 October

⁵⁷ Resolutions [2507 \(2020\)](#), para. 12, and [2536 \(2020\)](#), fourth preambular paragraph and para. 12.

⁵⁸ Resolutions [2507 \(2020\)](#), para. 13, and [2536 \(2020\)](#), para. 13. See also [S/PRST/2019/3](#).

⁵⁹ Resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 33 (a)–(d). For more information on the mandate of MINUSCA, see part X, sect. I.

⁶⁰ Resolution [2511 \(2020\)](#), paras. 4 and 11. The mandate of the Committee included monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions and designating individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, comprising an arms embargo, an asset freeze and a travel ban.

⁶¹ [S/2020/1255](#).

⁶² Resolution [2511 \(2020\)](#), paras. 2–3.

⁶³ *Ibid.*, paras. 7–8.

⁶⁴ The mandate of the Committee included monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions and designating individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, comprising an arms embargo, an asset freeze and a travel ban.

⁶⁵ [S/2020/1225](#).

⁶⁶ Resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#), para. 18. The mandate of the Panel of Experts included supporting the Committee, gathering, examining and analysing information on compliance and, as of 2018, information regarding the supply, sale or transfer of arms and related materiel and related military or other assistance, providing information relevant to the listing of individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures and providing periodic reports. Resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#) was adopted with 12 votes in favour (Belgium, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Indonesia, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia, United Kingdom, United States, Viet Nam) and 3 abstentions (China, Russian Federation, South Africa). For more information on the outcome of the vote, see part I, sect. 8.

⁶⁷ Resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#), para. 19.

⁶⁸ Resolutions [2514 \(2020\)](#), para. 24, and [2521 \(2020\)](#), para. 23. For more information on the mandate of UNMISS, see part X, sect. I.

2020, a report assessing the role of the arms embargo in facilitating implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (Revitalized Agreement) and articulating options for the elaboration of benchmarks to assess the arms embargo measures according to progress on the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement, including adherence to the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities, Protection of Civilians and Humanitarian Access and ceasefire provisions of the Revitalized Agreement, and expressed its intention to review the options by 15 December 2020.⁶⁹

Committee established pursuant to resolution 2374 (2017) concerning Mali

In 2020, the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2374 (2017) remained unchanged.⁷⁰ For more information on the work of the Committee, see its annual report for 2020.⁷¹

By its resolution 2541 (2020), the Council extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts until 30 September 2021. The Council also requested the Panel to provide periodic reports and expressed its intention to review the Panel's mandate and to take appropriate action regarding its further extension no later than 31 August 2021.⁷² Furthermore, in its

⁶⁹ Resolution 2521 (2020), para. 5. Further to resolution 2521 (2020), in his report dated 31 October 2020 (S/2020/1067), the Secretary-General submitted an assessment of the role of the arms embargo in facilitating the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement and articulating options for the elaboration of benchmarks. In a letter dated 16 December 2020 from the President of the Council addressed to the Secretary-General, Council members requested the Secretary-General to conduct a Headquarters-based desk review and consultations and to report to the Council with recommendations on benchmarks to assess the arms embargo measures by 31 March 2021 (S/2020/1277). The Headquarters-based desk review included consultations with the Panel of Experts on South Sudan. For more information on the sanctions measures concerning South Sudan, see part VII, sect. III.

⁷⁰ The mandate of the Committee included, inter alia, monitoring implementation, deciding on requests for exemptions and designating individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures adopted by the Council, comprising an asset freeze and a travel ban.

⁷¹ S/2020/1222.

⁷² Resolution 2541 (2020), paras. 3–4. In its resolution 2374 (2017), the Council set out the mandate of the Panel of Experts, which included, inter alia, supporting the Committee, gathering and analysing information, especially on non-compliance, providing information relevant to the listing of individuals and entities subject to the sanctions measures and providing periodic reports.

resolution 2531 (2020), by which the Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) until 30 June 2021, the Council encouraged the Panel of Experts to identify parties responsible for the potential lack of implementation of the priority measures set out in the resolution through its regular reporting and interim updates.⁷³ In its resolutions 2531 (2020) and 2541 (2020), the Council further reiterated its request to MINUSMA to assist and exchange information with the Committee and the Panel of Experts.⁷⁴

2. Other committees

During the period under review, both the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate established by resolution 1535 (2004) to support the Counter-Terrorism Committee remained active. In 2020, the Council did not adopt any resolutions relevant to the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate.

During the period under review, the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) continued to meet, holding three formal and three informal sessions during the year.⁷⁵ The Council did not adopt any resolutions related to the Committee.

Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

In 2020, the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate and the Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team submitted a report on actions taken by Member States to disrupt terrorist financing, as requested by the Council in its resolution 2462 (2019).⁷⁶ However, the joint special meeting of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and the Committee pursuant to resolutions 1267 (1999), 1989 (2011) and 2253 (2015), which had been requested by the Council in the same resolution to feature a presentation of that report,⁷⁷ was postponed owing to restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic.⁷⁸

⁷³ Resolution 2531 (2020), para. 5.

⁷⁴ Resolutions 2531 (2020), para. 29 (b), and 2541 (2020), para. 3. For more information on the mandate of MINUSMA, see part X, sect. I.

⁷⁵ See S/2020/1308.

⁷⁶ Resolution 2462 (2019), para. 37. For the report, see S/2020/493.

⁷⁷ Resolution 2462 (2019), para. 36.

⁷⁸ See S/2020/1143.

Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004)

In 2020, the Security Council did not adopt any resolutions related to the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004). In fulfilment of its responsibilities under resolutions 1540 (2004), 1673 (2006), 1810 (2008), 1977 (2011) and 2325 (2016), the Committee submitted its nineteenth programme of work covering the period from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2021,⁷⁹ and its annual review of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) for 2020,⁸⁰ pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2325 (2016).

Owing to the delays caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, the Committee did not conduct a comprehensive review on the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) during 2020, pursuant to resolution 1977 (2011). In that regard, the Committee decided that all activities related to the review, including the open consultations, would be postponed until 2021, with the exception of activities that could be undertaken in an online format.⁸¹

On 29 April 2020, the Chair of the Committee transmitted to the Council, in the form of a letter, his annual briefing pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004).⁸²

⁷⁹ See S/2020/120.

⁸⁰ See S/2020/1308.

⁸¹ See S/2020/847.

⁸² See S/2020/347.

He noted that States had made significant progress in the full implementation of resolution 1540 (2004). Nevertheless, he recognized that many gaps remained, and that the full and effective implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) was a long-term task. In the past year, the Committee had focused its attention on the latest information on the status of national implementation, including with regard to States that had yet to submit their first report. The Chair also gave an overview of the work performed by the Committee on the comprehensive review of the status of implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) prior to the renewal of the Committee's mandate in April 2021, as stipulated in resolution 1977 (2011). The status of the implementation of resolution 1540 (2004) by Member States would be a central theme of the review. The Committee would also address three other themes, namely, the Committee's role in facilitating assistance matchmaking; collaboration with relevant international, regional and subregional organizations and other United Nations bodies; and outreach. The Chair emphasized the importance of contributions by Member States to the comprehensive review. International, regional and subregional organizations would also be invited to contribute. A report on the comprehensive review would be submitted to the Council.⁸³

⁸³ Ibid.

II. Working groups

Note

During the period under review, working groups of the Council continued to meet. As in the case of the committees, the working groups were composed of all 15 members of the Council and meetings were held in private unless otherwise decided. Decisions were reached by consensus. In 2020, five of the six existing working groups of the Council continued to hold meetings despite the impact of the COVID-19

pandemic on their ability to conduct those meetings in person.⁸⁴

Table 4 provides information on the establishment, mandate, key provisions and Chairs and Vice-Chairs of the informal and ad hoc working groups of the Council in 2020.

⁸⁴ Of 33 meetings held, 28 were held by videoconference and 5 were in person. The Working Group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004) did not meet during the period under review.

Table 4
Working Groups of the Security Council, 2020

<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Chair (Vice-Chair)</i>
Working Group on Peacekeeping Operations		
Established on 31 January 2001 (S/PRST/2001/3)	To address both generic peacekeeping issues relevant to the responsibilities of the Council, and technical aspects of individual peacekeeping operations, without prejudice to the competence of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations Where appropriate, to seek the views of the troop-contributing countries, including through meetings between the Working Group and the troop-contributing countries, so that their views are taken into account by the Council	Tunisia (United Kingdom)
Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa		
Established in March 2002 (S/2002/207) ^d	To monitor the implementation of recommendations contained in the presidential statement S/PRST/2002/2 and previous presidential statements and resolutions regarding conflict prevention and resolution in Africa To propose recommendations on the enhancement of cooperation between the Security Council and the Economic and Social Council as well as with other United Nations agencies dealing with Africa To examine, in particular, regional and cross-conflict issues that affect the Council's work on African conflict prevention and resolution To propose recommendations to the Security Council to enhance cooperation in conflict prevention and resolution, between the United Nations and regional (Organization of African Unity [now African Union]) and subregional organizations	South Africa (Niger)
Working Group established pursuant to resolution 1566 (2004)		
Established on 8 October 2004 (resolution 1566 (2004))	To consider and submit recommendations to the Council on practical measures to be imposed upon individuals, groups or entities involved in or associated with terrorist activities, other than those designated by the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1267 (1999) concerning Al-Qaida and the Taliban and associated individuals and entities, including more effective procedures considered to be appropriate for bringing them to justice through prosecution or extradition, freezing their financial assets, preventing their movement through the territories of Member States and preventing supply to them of all types of arms and related material, and on the procedures for implementing these measures To consider the possibility of establishing an international fund to compensate victims of terrorist acts and their families, which might be financed through voluntary contributions which could consist in part of assets seized from terrorist organizations, their members and sponsors, and submit its recommendations to the Council	Niger (France, Russian Federation, South Africa)
Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict		
Established on 26 July 2005 (resolution 1612 (2005))	To review the reports of the monitoring and reporting mechanism on children and armed conflict To review progress in the development and implementation of the action plans called for in resolutions 1539 (2004) and 1612 (2005)	Belgium (Niger)

<i>Establishment</i>	<i>Mandate</i>	<i>Chair (Vice-Chair)</i>
	To consider other relevant information presented to it	
	To make recommendations to the Council on possible measures to promote the protection of children affected by armed conflict, including through recommendations on appropriate mandates for peacekeeping missions and recommendations with respect to the parties to the conflict	
	To address requests, as appropriate, to other bodies within the United Nations system for action to support implementation of resolution 1612 (2005) in accordance with their respective mandates	

Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions

Established in June 1993 (no formal decision was taken)	To deal with issues related to documentation and other procedural questions	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Estonia)
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Informal Working Group on International Tribunals

Established in June 2000 pursuant to a proposal made by some Council members at the 4161st meeting (no formal decision was taken) ^b	To deal with a specific issue pertaining to the statute of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and subsequently mandated to deal with other (legal) issues pertaining to the Tribunals	Viet Nam (Germany)
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^a In notes by the President of the Council, the Council renewed the mandate of the Working Group for periods of one year until 31 December 2011 (see S/2003/1138, S/2004/1031, S/2005/814, S/2007/6, S/2008/795, S/2009/650 and S/2010/654). From that date onward, the Working Group has continued to meet without the annual renewal of its mandate.

^b See S/PV.4161.

III. Investigative bodies

Note

During the period under review, the Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (UNITAD) for 12 months until 18 September 2021.⁸⁵ The Council did not authorize the establishment of any new investigative bodies.

United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant

UNITAD formally commenced its activities on 20 August 2018.⁸⁶ On 11 May and 11 November 2020,

the Special Adviser and Head of UNITAD submitted to the Council the fourth and fifth reports on the activities of the Team,⁸⁷ which included work on evidentiary consolidation and legal analysis, the identification of new evidentiary sources, expanding cooperation with Iraqi counterparts and strengthening partnerships with communities, non-governmental organizations and religious leaders, as well as providing training and support to Iraqi judicial and executive organs. In 2020, Council members held two videoconferences to hear briefings by the Special Adviser on the activities of UNITAD and its progress in implementing its mandate further to its fourth and fifth reports.⁸⁸

In addition, in 2020, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2544 (2020), reaffirming resolution

⁸⁵ Resolution 2544 (2020), para. 2.

⁸⁶ S/2018/1031, para. 4. For more information on the establishment and history of UNITAD, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2016–2017* and *Supplement 2018*, part IX, sect. III.

⁸⁷ S/2020/386 and S/2020/1107. For more information on the investigative priorities, see previous reports of the Special Adviser and Head of UNITAD (S/2018/1031, S/2019/407 and S/2019/878).

⁸⁸ See S/2020/547 and S/2020/1193. For additional information, see part I, sect. 34.

2379 (2017), by which UNITAD had been established, and recalled the terms of reference approved by the Council.⁸⁹ By the same resolution, the Council decided to extend the mandate of the Special Adviser and the Investigative Team until 18 September 2021.⁹⁰ As with previous extensions, the Council noted that any further extension of the mandate would be decided at the

request of the Government of Iraq or any other Government that had requested UNITAD to collect evidence of acts that may amount to war crimes.⁹¹ In addition, the Special Adviser was requested to continue to submit and present reports to the Council on the Team's activities every 180 days.⁹²

⁸⁹ Resolution 2544 (2020), para. 1. For the terms of reference approved by the Council for UNITAD, see S/2018/118, annex.

⁹⁰ Resolution 2544 (2020), para. 2.

⁹¹ Ibid. See also resolution 2379 (2017), paras. 2–3, and a letter dated 16 September 2020 from the representative of Iraq addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2020/909).

⁹² Resolution 2544 (2020), para. 4.

IV. Tribunals

Note

In a note by the President of the Council dated 2 February 2018,⁹³ the Council agreed that issues pertaining to the International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals would be considered under an item entitled “International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals”,⁹⁴ under which would be subsumed the earlier consideration by the Council of issues pertaining to the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia and the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.⁹⁵ During the period under review, the Council adopted one presidential statement and one resolution under Chapter VII of the Charter concerning, inter alia, the reappointment of the Prosecutor of the Mechanism, as well as other aspects regarding the management, reporting and completion of functions of the Tribunal. The Council also took note of the intention of the

Secretary-General to reappoint 25 judges, including the President of the Mechanism.⁹⁶

Developments in 2020

On 28 February 2020, the Council issued a presidential statement⁹⁷ in which it recalled its decision that the Mechanism should operate for an initial period of four years starting from 1 July 2012, and its decision to review the progress of the work of the Mechanism, including in completing its functions, before the end of that initial period and every two years thereafter. The Council also recalled its decision that the Mechanism should continue to operate for subsequent periods of two years following each such review, unless the Council decided otherwise, and that the Mechanism should be a small, temporary and efficient structure, whose functions and size would diminish over time, with a small number of staff commensurate with its reduced functions.

By its resolution 2529 (2020), adopted under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council appointed the Prosecutor of the Mechanism with effect from 1 July 2020 until 30 June 2022.⁹⁸ In the resolution, the Council once again emphasized that, in view of the substantially reduced nature of the residual functions, the Mechanism was established to be a small, temporary and efficient structure, whose functions and size would diminish over time, with a small number of staff commensurate with its reduced functions, and requested the Mechanism to continue to be guided in its activities by those elements.⁹⁹ In addition, the Council welcomed the report submitted by the Mechanism to the Council pursuant to its presidential

⁹³ S/2018/90.

⁹⁴ By its resolution 1966 (2010), the Council established the Mechanism to carry out the residual functions of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 (International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia) and the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January 1994 and 31 December 1994 (International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda) after the completion of their mandates. For more information on the activities of the Council during 2019 in connection with the Mechanism, see part I, sect. 24.

⁹⁵ See *Repertoire, Supplement 2014–2015*, part I, sect. 26; *Supplement 2016–2017*, part I, sect. 28; and *Supplement 2018*, part I, sect. 27.

⁹⁶ For more information on the appointment procedure, see part IV, sect. I.D.

⁹⁷ S/PRST/2020/4, second and third paragraphs.

⁹⁸ Resolution 2529 (2020), para. 1.

⁹⁹ Ibid., para. 6.

statement of 28 February 2020 for the purposes of the review of the progress of the work of the Mechanism, including in completing its functions, as required by paragraph 17 of resolution [1966 \(2010\)](#), and the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services (OIOS) on the evaluation of the methods and work of the Mechanism. The Council also took note of the conclusions of OIOS on the Mechanism's implementation of the OIOS recommendations and paragraph 8 of resolution [2422 \(2018\)](#).¹⁰⁰ The Council

¹⁰⁰ *Ibid.*, para. 7. For the report submitted by the Mechanism to the Council pursuant to its presidential statement of 28 February 2020 ([S/PRST/2020/4](#), fifth paragraph) for

further noted the views and recommendations made with regard to the Mechanism's work by the Council's Informal Working Group on International Tribunals, and requested the Mechanism to take into account those views and implement the recommendations, enumerating a series of steps the Mechanism should continue to take to further enhance efficiency and effective and transparent management.¹⁰¹

the purposes of the review of the progress of the work of the Mechanism, see [S/2020/309](#). For the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services, see [S/2020/236](#).

¹⁰¹ Resolution [2529 \(2020\)](#), para. 9.

V. Ad hoc commissions

Note

No new commissions were created during 2020. The United Nations Compensation Commission, established pursuant to resolutions [687 \(1991\)](#) and [692 \(1991\)](#) to process claims and pay compensation for losses and damage suffered as a direct result of the invasion and occupation of Kuwait by Iraq in 1990 to 1991, continued to function, without any changes to its

mandate. In a letter dated 29 October 2020,¹⁰² the Vice-President of the Governing Council of the Compensation Commission stated that the Council had noted that the timeline for the completion of the Commission's mandate was likely to extend beyond 2021.

¹⁰² [S/2020/1053](#).

VI. Special advisers, envoys and representatives

Note

Section VI provides a list of special advisers, envoys and representatives in whose appointment the Security Council has been involved and whose mandates relate to the Council's responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. Special representatives appointed as heads of peacekeeping or special political missions are covered in part X and those authorized by the General Assembly are covered in part IV. Previous supplements should be consulted for information concerning special advisers, envoys and representatives whose functions have ceased.

During the period under review, the following envoys, advisers and representatives of the Secretary-General continued to exercise their functions:

- Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara
- Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus
- Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

- Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution [1559 \(2004\)](#)
- Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect
- Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict
- Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa
- Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen
- Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region
- Special Adviser and Head of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant

On 15 September 2020, by its resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), the Council requested that the Secretary-General appoint a Special Envoy on Libya to lead the United Nations Support Mission in Libya, focusing in

particular on good offices and mediation with Libyan and international actors to end the conflict. In December, the Secretary-General and the President of the Council exchanged letters on the appointment of the Special Envoy,¹⁰³ but the Secretary-General had not made an official announcement by the end of 2020.

On 4 December 2020, the Council issued a presidential statement in which it noted that the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi had completed his assignment on 30 November 2019 and requested the Secretary-General to cease his periodic reporting on the situation in Burundi.¹⁰⁴ In the same

statement, the Council also encouraged the discussions between the Secretary-General and the Government of Burundi to allow sufficient time for a smooth transition of the Office of the Special Envoy for Burundi, while taking note of the report of the Secretary-General on the strategic assessment mission for United Nations engagement in Burundi with respect to its relevant recommendations.¹⁰⁵

Decisions of the Council acknowledging the appointment of special envoys, advisers and representatives of the Secretary-General, their mandate and any developments that occurred during the period under review are listed in table 5.

¹⁰³ [S/2020/1217](#) and [S/2020/1218](#).

¹⁰⁴ [PRST/2020/12](#), last paragraph. For more information on the Council's discussions on Burundi, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2019*, part I, sect. 3.

¹⁰⁵ [PRST/2020/12](#), third paragraph. See also [S/2020/1078](#), para. 50.

Table 5
Developments relating to special advisers, envoys and representatives, 2020

Establishment/appointment *Decisions*

Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara

[S/1997/236](#) Resolution [2548 \(2020\)](#), second, third, fourth, sixth, thirteenth and fourteenth preambular
19 March 1997 paragraphs and paras. 3 and 6

Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on Cyprus

[S/1997/320](#) There were no developments in 2020^a
17 April 1997

[S/1997/321](#)
21 April 1997

Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Prevention of Genocide

[S/2004/567](#) Resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), nineteenth preambular paragraph and para. 8 (d) (iii)
12 July 2004

[S/2004/568](#)
13 July 2004

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the implementation of Security Council resolution [1559 \(2004\)](#)

[S/PRST/2004/36](#) There were no developments in 2020
19 October 2004

[S/2004/974](#)
14 December 2004

[S/2004/975](#)
16 December 2004

Special Adviser to the Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect

[S/2007/721](#) There were no developments in 2020
31 August 2007

[S/2007/722](#)
7 December 2007

Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict

- Resolution 1888 (2009) Resolution 2521 (2020), para. 21
30 September 2009 Resolution 2551 (2020), para. 21
- S/2010/62 Resolution 2552 (2020), fourteenth preambular paragraph
29 January 2010 Resolution 2556 (2020), para. 10
- S/2010/63 Resolution 2556 (2020), para. 10
2 February 2010

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa

- S/2018/955 Resolution 2519 (2020), fourth preambular paragraph
24 October 2018 Resolution 2524 (2020), para. 12
- S/2018/979 Resolution 2550 (2020), fifth preambular paragraph and paras. 10, 30 and 33
31 October 2018

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Yemen

- S/2012/469 Resolution 2505 (2020), paras. 3–4
18 June 2012 Resolution 2511 (2020), seventh preambular paragraph
- S/2012/470 Resolution 2534 (2020), paras. 3–4
21 June 2012

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region

- S/2013/166 Resolution 2556 (2020), sixth preambular paragraph and paras. 14, 26, 29 (ii) (b) and 56
15 March 2013
- S/2013/167 Resolution 2556 (2020), sixth preambular paragraph and paras. 14, 26, 29 (ii) (b) and 56
18 March 2013

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Burundi

- S/2017/396 S/PRST/2020/12, third and last paragraphs
3 May 2017
- S/2017/397 S/PRST/2020/12, third and last paragraphs
4 May 2017

Special Adviser and Head of the United Nations Investigative Team to Promote Accountability for Crimes Committed by Da'esh/Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant

- Resolution 2379 (2017) Resolution 2522 (2020), para. 2 (d)
21 September 2017 Resolution 2544 (2020), paras. 1–4
- S/2018/118 Resolution 2544 (2020), paras. 1–4
9 February 2018
- S/2018/119 Resolution 2544 (2020), paras. 1–4
13 February 2018

Special Envoy of the Secretary-General on Libya and Head of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya

- S/2020/1217 Resolution 2542 (2020), sixth, seventh, ninth, eleventh and twenty-fifth preambular paragraphs and paras. 2–3
19 November 2020
- S/2020/1218 Resolution 2542 (2020), sixth, seventh, ninth, eleventh and twenty-fifth preambular paragraphs and paras. 2–3
15 December 2020

^a In 2020, the Council referred to the senior United Nations official in resolution 2537 (2020) (fifteenth preambular paragraph and para. 2).

VII. Peacebuilding Commission

Note

The Peacebuilding Commission was established by the Council in resolution 1645 (2005) of 20 December 2005.¹⁰⁶ During the period under review, the Commission implemented a substantive programme of work with the highest number of meetings since its inception, including a series of electronic consultations on the 2020 review of the peacebuilding architecture.¹⁰⁷ Its programme of work was also adjusted to serve as a platform in support of national and regional responses to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.¹⁰⁸ In 2020, the Commission addressed the situations in Burkina Faso, Burundi, the Central African Republic, Colombia, the Gambia, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Papua New Guinea, Sierra Leone and Somalia and the regional situations in Central Africa, West Africa, the Sahel, the Great Lakes region, the Lake Chad basin and, for the first time, the Pacific islands.¹⁰⁹

Appointments to the Organizational Committee

In 2020, the Dominican Republic and the Niger were the two elected members of the Council that were selected to participate in the Organizational Committee of the Peacebuilding Commission.¹¹⁰

Developments in 2020

In 2020, consistent with past practice, the Council invited the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Chairs of its country-specific configurations to provide briefings on their activities,

and on the situations on the agenda of the Commission, as described below.¹¹¹

(i) Briefings and discussions

The Chair of the Central African Republic configuration delivered a briefing after his visit to the country concerning, inter alia, the presidential, legislative and local elections in the country scheduled to take place in December 2020, the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic, and the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan.¹¹² During the briefing, the Chair also presented his observations emphasizing the need for adequate funding for the upcoming elections, the firm support of the Council and the provision of human and financial resources to MINUSCA for the implementation of resolution 2499 (2019). He also said that it was advisable to reflect on ways to simplify the monitoring processes for both the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation and the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan, and emphasized the potential of partnerships between the United Nations and regional organizations as well as international financial organizations.¹¹³

The Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration delivered a briefing to the Council on two occasions, pertaining to the political developments in the country and the drawdown of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS).¹¹⁴ During his first briefing on 14 February 2020, he noted that the Peacebuilding Commission could assist UNIOGBIS and the Government of Guinea-Bissau by providing a platform for coherence and coordination among stakeholders,

¹⁰⁶ In its resolution 1645 (2005), the Council, acting concurrently with the General Assembly, decided that the main purposes of the Peacebuilding Commission would be to, inter alia, bring together all relevant actors within and outside the United Nations involved in peacekeeping and peacebuilding to marshal the resources and advise on and propose integrated strategies for post-conflict peacebuilding and recovery, to focus attention on the reconstruction and institution-building efforts necessary for recovery from conflict, and to provide recommendations and information to improve the coordination of all relevant actors within and outside the United Nations. For more information, see part I, sect. 33.

¹⁰⁷ Report of the Peacebuilding Commission on its fourteenth session (S/2021/139, para. 3).

¹⁰⁸ S/2021/139, para. 3.

¹⁰⁹ Ibid., paras. 5–19.

¹¹⁰ See S/2020/76.

¹¹¹ The practice of inviting the Chairs of country-specific configurations of the Peacebuilding Commission to participate in formal Council meetings was established in the note by the President of the Council dated 26 July 2010 (S/2010/507, para. 61) and was reaffirmed in the note by the President dated 30 August 2017 (S/2017/507, para. 95).

¹¹² See S/PV.8728. For more information, see part I, sect. 5. The Chair of the Central African Republic configuration also shared the report on the Chair's visit to the country in a letter dated on 20 February 2020 (S/2020/131), as well as advice pertaining to the renewal of the mandate of MINUSCA through a letter dated 30 October 2020 (S/2020/1068).

¹¹³ See S/PV.8728.

¹¹⁴ The Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration also provided advice on peacebuilding priorities in the country and the mandate of UNIOGBIS through a letter dated 24 February 2020 (S/2020/144).

and noted that the Peacebuilding Fund had been instrumental in furthering political inclusion.¹¹⁵ During his second briefing on 10 August, the Chair updated the Council on the configuration's consultations and highlighted the fact that the challenges to stability and development in the country had deepened with the COVID-19 pandemic during a year of three transitions: the drawdown of UNIOGBIS, the country's transition to new political leadership and the closure of the mission of the Economic Community of West African States in the country.¹¹⁶

During a videoconference held on 12 August 2020 in connection with the item entitled "Peacebuilding and sustaining peace", which focused on pandemics and the challenges of sustaining peace, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission submitted a written statement in which she described the continuing efforts of the Commission to support national and regional stakeholders in addressing peacebuilding challenges exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic in conflict-affected contexts.¹¹⁷ The Chair of the Commission also submitted a written statement in connection with a videoconference regarding the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security", which focused on the humanitarian effects of environmental degradation and peace and security, in which she shared the Commission's observations and recommendations on different regions on its agenda, including on the Lake Chad basin, the Sahel and the Pacific islands.¹¹⁸

During an open videoconference, held on 16 November 2020 in connection with the item entitled "Peace and security in Africa", on the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission briefed the Council on the challenges in the region, the elements of the discussions and the recommendations from women peacebuilders and business leaders from the region and the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in mobilizing support for the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel.¹¹⁹

Consistent with established practice, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission was also invited to an

informal interactive dialogue of the Security Council in 2020.¹²⁰

(ii) Decisions

The Council referred to the Peacebuilding Commission and to its mandate in several decisions adopted under thematic as well as country- and region-specific items.

Thematic decisions

In connection with the item entitled "Children and armed conflict", in its presidential statement of 12 February 2020, the Council renewed its call to the Peacebuilding Commission, and to Member States and other United Nations entities concerned, to integrate child protection provisions from the early stages of all peace processes,¹²¹ and to ensure that the protection, rights, well-being and empowerment of children affected by armed conflict were fully incorporated and prioritized in all post-conflict recovery and reconstruction planning, programmes and strategies, as well as in efforts on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and to encourage and facilitate the consideration of the views of children in these processes.¹²²

On 14 July 2020, under the item entitled "Maintenance of international peace and security", the Security Council adopted resolution [2535 \(2020\)](#), in which it welcomed the efforts of the Peacebuilding Commission to advance the youth, peace and security agenda and its increased engagement in support of young peacebuilders and include, in its discussion and advice, ways to engage with youth in a meaningful manner.¹²³ In the same resolution, the Council also encouraged the Commission to continue to support the important peacebuilding role that young people play, and the participation and views of youth-led organizations, in planning and stabilization efforts with regard to peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and to continue to bring its observations and advice to the attention of the Council, as appropriate.¹²⁴ Under the same item, on 3 December 2020, the Council adopted resolution [2553 \(2020\)](#), in which it noted the important work of the Peacebuilding Commission as a dedicated

¹¹⁵ See [S/PV.8724](#). For more information, see part I, sect. 6.

¹¹⁶ See [S/PV.8754](#).

¹¹⁷ See [S/2020/799](#), annex 44. For more information, see part I, sect. 33.

¹¹⁸ See [S/2020/929](#), annex 30. For more information, see part I, sect. 35.

¹¹⁹ See [S/2020/1126](#), annex IV. For more information, see part I, sect. 10.

¹²⁰ On 22 July 2020, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission provided a briefing to the Council at an informal interactive dialogue on the implications of the COVID-19 pandemic on peacebuilding and sustaining peace. For further information on informal interactive dialogues, see part II, sect. I.C.

¹²¹ [S/PRST/2020/3](#), seventh paragraph.

¹²² *Ibid.*, eighth paragraph.

¹²³ Resolution [2535 \(2020\)](#), para. 15.

¹²⁴ *Ibid.*

intergovernmental advisory body that brought a strategic approach and coherence to international peacebuilding efforts,¹²⁵ and stressed the important role of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Peacebuilding Fund in supporting security sector reform.¹²⁶ Acknowledging the important role of the United Nations, including its Peacebuilding Commission, and Member States, regional and subregional organizations in assisting States in that regard, the Council encouraged Member States to take the lead in defining an inclusive national vision and strategy on security sector reform and to continue to be engaged and to facilitate strategic discussions on strengthening the United Nations approach and role in that critical area.¹²⁷

On 4 December 2020, the Council issued a presidential statement under the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security”, in which it encouraged the continued engagement of the Peacebuilding Commission as a viable platform for dialogue between Burundi and its partners.¹²⁸

On 21 December 2020, under the item entitled “Peacebuilding and sustaining peace”, the Council adopted resolution 2558 (2020), in which it welcomed in particular the important role of the Peacebuilding Commission, and called on the Commission to continue strengthening its advisory, bridging and convening roles in support of nationally owned priorities and efforts in the countries and regions under its consideration, as well as to continue strengthening its working methods to enhance its efficiency and impact in support of peacebuilding and sustaining peace,¹²⁹ while encouraging the Peacebuilding Commission and relevant United Nations bodies and organs to consider the input from thematic and regional consultations for the 2020 review of

the peacebuilding architecture of the Peacebuilding Commission.¹³⁰

Country- and region-specific decisions

Decisions of the Council with regard to country- and region-specific items also mentioned the Peacebuilding Commission. In connection with the item entitled “Peace consolidation in West Africa”, the Council issued a presidential statement on 12 February 2020 in which it encouraged joint annual reporting to the Peacebuilding Commission on the work to strengthen United Nations integrated efforts, particularly as they related to the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel.¹³¹

In connection with the situation in Guinea-Bissau, the Council recognized the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in enhancing the continued efforts of international partners in helping to sustain and promote peace, stability and development, with a view to supporting the long-term peacebuilding priorities of Guinea-Bissau.¹³² Welcoming the continued engagement of the Commission with the authorities of Guinea-Bissau and other relevant stakeholders in the country, as well as its regular briefings to the Council on its work, the Council encouraged the Commission to follow closely and support the UNIOGBIS transition process and the long-term peacebuilding efforts in the country.¹³³

In addition, in a letter dated 27 April 2020, the Chair of the Peacebuilding Commission transmitted the Commission’s advice on youth and peace and security, stressing the full, effective and meaningful participation of youth in peace processes, public decision-making mechanisms and national governing bodies, and encouraging the Council to consult youth and include their perspectives, when relevant and as appropriate.¹³⁴

¹²⁵ Resolution 2553 (2020), fourteenth preambular paragraph.

¹²⁶ *Ibid.*, eighteenth preambular paragraph.

¹²⁷ *Ibid.*, paras. 3 and 16.

¹²⁸ S/PRST/2020/12, fourth paragraph.

¹²⁹ Resolution 2558 (2020), para. 2.

¹³⁰ *Ibid.*, eighth preambular paragraph.

¹³¹ S/PRST/2020/2, nineteenth paragraph.

¹³² Resolution 2512 (2020), ninth preambular paragraph.

¹³³ *Ibid.*, para. 17.

¹³⁴ See S/2020/335.

VIII. Subsidiary organs of the Security Council proposed but not established

During the period under review, there were no instances in which a subsidiary organ was formally proposed but not established.

In a letter dated 27 August 2020 addressed to the Secretary-General, the Chargé d’affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Germany to the United Nations

transmitted a letter, on behalf of 10 members of the Council,¹³⁵ stating that they would convene an informal

¹³⁵ The following 10 Council members signed a letter annexed to the letter dated 27 August 2020 (S/2020/849): Belgium, Dominican Republic, Estonia, France, Germany, Niger, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Tunisia, Viet Nam and United Kingdom.

expert group of the Council on climate and security, which would be advisory and non-decision-making and be open to all Council members. The 10 Council members noted that the informal expert group would improve the flow of information and analysis with regard to the peace and security implications of climate change in country- and region-specific situations and sharpen the focus and specificity of Council deliberations and actions. The 10 Council members suggested that the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs act as the secretariat of the informal expert group, coordinating the provision of information to Council members and facilitating its meetings.¹³⁶ In a letter dated 21 September 2020

¹³⁶ See [S/2020/849](#).

addressed to the Secretary-General, the Permanent Representatives of China and the Russian Federation expressed their objection to the request that the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs fulfil that role, stating that it was inappropriate for the Secretariat to fulfil such a role owing to the absence of a specific intergovernmental mandate. The representatives also disagreed with providing such a mandate to the Secretariat under any pretext and expressed concern that the initiative to convene the informal expert group was creating a precedent whereby certain “voluntary” expert bodies would be established without official decisions of the Council.¹³⁷

¹³⁷ See [S/2020/934](#).