



# Repertoire of the Practice of the Security Council

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Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs  
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## Part VIII

### Regional arrangements





## Article 54

The Security Council shall at all times be kept fully informed of activities undertaken or in contemplation under regional arrangements or by regional agencies for the maintenance of international peace and security.

Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations provides the constitutional basis for the involvement of regional arrangements in the maintenance of international peace and security. While Article 52 encourages the engagement of regional

both conducted via videoconference on 16 and 17 December 2021, respectively. In addition to the African Union and the League of Arab States, engagement with other regional arrangements such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the Economic Community of West African States, the European Union, the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe featured prominently in Council discussions.

Discussions in the Council focused on various aspects of the cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, including on the role of regional organizations as mediators and guarantors of peace processes, the efforts of regional organizations toward the pacific settlement of disputes as well as on enforcement action and peacekeeping by regional organizations. Discussions also addressed the complementary roles of the United Nations and regional organizations, the comparative advantages of regional organizations to maintain international peace and security and the need for adequate, sustainable and predictable funding for regionally led peacekeeping operations.

In connection with the pacific settlement of disputes, the Council highlighted in its decisions the important role played by regional and subregional organizations, particularly subregional economic communities, including among others, the Economic Community of Central African States, Economic Community of West African States, Group of Five for the Sahel, Intergovernmental Authority on Development, International Conference on the Great Lakes Region and the Southern African Development Community to prevent and avert conflicts, mediate in disputes,

Union Mission in Somalia and the European Union Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina while the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Force in Kosovo continued to operate without any decisions taken with respect to its mandate. The Council also recognized that ad hoc and unpredictable financing arrangements for African Union-led peace support operations authorized by the Council and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter could impact the effectiveness of these peace support operations and encouraged further dialogue on options for addressing this issue.

As in previous periods, the Council authorized enforcement action by regional and subregional organizations beyond the framework of peacekeeping operations, such as in relation to Libya and Somalia, and continued to request reporting by regional organizations, particularly on the implementation of mandates of relevant regional peacekeeping operations and cooperation with the United Nations.

The practice of the Council under Chapter VIII of the Charter in 2021 is illustrated below in five sections. Each section covers both the decisions adopted by the Council and the discussions held during Council meetings and videoconferences. Section I examines the practice of the Council regarding cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security concerning agenda items of a thematic nature. Section II deals with the recognition by the Council of the efforts of regional organizations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, within the framework of Article 52 of the Charter. Section III covers the practice of the Council relating to its cooperation with regional organizations in the area of peacekeeping. Section IV describes the practice of the Council in authorizing enforcement action by regional organizations outside the context of regional peacekeeping operations. Section V refers to the reporting on the activities of regional organizations in the maintenance of international peace and security.

## I. Consideration of the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations under thematic items

Note

Section





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Decision and date	Paragraphs	Provisions
		work closely with the African Union, and African regional organisations and arrangements, as well as Memb

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between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in promoting confidence-building and dialogue.

organizations, including through regional initiatives, strategies and action plans, in support of the effective implementation of arms embargoes imposed by the Council, and in capacity building to prevent and address the illicit trade in, and destabilizing accumulation of, small arms and light weapons, and to prevent their illicit diversion in violation of Council-mandated embargoes.<sup>15</sup>

On 24 May 2021, in connection with the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, the Council issued a presidential statement by which it reaffirmed its determination to take effective steps to further enhance the partnership between the United Nations and regional as well as subregional organizations in relation to the safety and security of peacekeepers and encouraged partnerships to support the African Union’s efforts to continue to develop policy, guidance and training to ensure the safety and security of its peacekeepers.<sup>16</sup> By resolution [2589 \(2021\)](#) of 18 August 2021 adopted under the same item, the Council affirmed its determination to take effective steps to further enhance the partnership between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, including the African Union, to provide capacity building assistance to host States for the prevention investigation and prosecution of cases of killing of, and all acts of violence against United Nations personnel serving in peacekeeping operations, including, but not limited to, their detention and abduction.<sup>17</sup> Furthermore, by resolution [2594 \(2021\)](#) of 9 September 2021, also in connection with the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, the Council recognized the contribution of regional and subregional organizations to peacebuilding and peacekeeping transitions, and called

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In 2021, at meetings and open videoconferen Council members and other

## Case 1

### Maintenance of international peace and security

On 6 January 2021, at the initiative of Viet Nam which held the presidency of the Council for the month,<sup>29</sup> Council members held a high-level open videoconference in connection with the item entitled “Maintenance of international peace and security” focusing on challenges of maintaining peace and security in fragile contexts.<sup>30</sup> Council members heard a briefing by the Secretary-General, Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the former President of Liberia, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf.

Noting that the linkages between conflict and fragility were particularly visible on the African continent, the Secretary-General stated that the United Nations-African Union joint frameworks on peace and security and sustainable development had been











relevant special representatives and envoys of the Secretary-General and a representative of the League.

Given the significant number of issues that the Council was seized with from all over Africa and the Arab world, the representative of Kenya<sup>34</sup> believed that a trilateral consultative exchange among the African Union, League of Arab States and the Council could contribute to a more effective partnership and could yield even greater reach and capability in delivering the peace that the people of the League and African States craved. Such a trilateral approach could also have increased momentum in the various situations in Africa, including in Libya, the Sudan, Somalia, counterterrorism initiatives and operations in the Horn of Africa, the Lake Chad basin and the Sahel, as well as help promote collective and coordinated measures to secure the maritime domain, especially in the Red Sea, the Gulf of Aden and the Indian Ocean. The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates recommended more formal and informal consultations and meetings between the Council and members of the League<sup>35</sup> and stressed the need for this cooperation to include all stages of early warning about crises and be given a high priority to prevent the onset of further crises, developing ways of exchanging information between the two bodies and building capacity in the area of preventive diplomacy.

### Case 3

#### Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security

On 19 April 2021, at the initiative of Viet Nam which held the presidency of the Council for the month<sup>34</sup>, Council members held a high-level open videoconference in connection with the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security”<sup>35</sup>. Council members heard a briefing by the Secretary-General and former Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon.

In his briefing, the Secretary-General noted that cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations had grown exponentially

<sup>34</sup> A concept note was circulated by a letter dated 25 March 2021 (S/2021/297).

<sup>35</sup> See S/2021/394.

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The representative of the Republic of Korea noted that given the intertwined and complex nature of global crises, the United Nations needed to forge more effective and stronger partnerships with regional and subregional organizations in the context of Chapter VIII of the Charter.

A number of delegations discussed the comparative advantages of regional and subregional organizations as the basis for their contribution to the maintenance of international peace and security.<sup>38</sup> The Special Representative of President Xi Jinping, State Councillor and Minister for Foreign Affairs of China opined that the United Nations and the Security Council needed to play a useful overall coordination role and provide more assistance to regional organizations, which in turn could leverage their own advantages and help resolve regional disputes in a manner that was suited to regional realities. The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Mexico recognized that owing to their familiarity with the realities of their respective geographical areas and their experience and knowledge of local dynamics, regional organizations needed to be a first instance for prevention and for attention to potential conflicts and crises that could spill over a country's borders. The delegation of Malta affirmed that the local know-how and expertise of regional organizations could assist the work of the Council in conflict prevention and resolution through the regional promotion of confidence-building measures.

Speakers reflected on the complementary roles of the Council and regional and subregional organizations and the principle of subsidiarity as provided under Chapter VIII of the Charter. Some underlined that while the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security remained with the Council, regional and subregional organizations also had a role in that regard Chapter VIII.<sup>39</sup> The representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran expressed a view that neither could the Council disregard the potential of regional arrangements in conflict prevention and resolution, nor could such arrangements substitute for the Council, adding that resorting to regional organizations needed to be considered as a subsidiary and complementary means for the Council in discharging its Charter duties. The representative added that all regional arrangements or agencies that intended to

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<sup>38</sup> Ibid., Viet Nam, Estonia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, China, India, Ireland, Mexico, Tunisia, Norway, United Kingdom, Russian Federation, European Union, Afghanistan, Argentina, Egypt, Ghana, Guatemala, International Organization of la Francophonie, Lebanon, Liechtenstein, Malta, Pakistan, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Rwanda and Ukraine

<sup>39</sup> Ibid., Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan and South Africa.

undertake activities authorized under Chapter VIII needed to act in full conformity with the Charter, strictly observe the principle of transparency and seriously avoid politicization and selective approaches. The Minister of State for the Commonwealth, the United Nations and South Asia of the United Kingdom said that if and when national and regional efforts failed, it was the Council that had the primary responsibility to ensure international peace and security, and that when prevention failed or there was no regional consensus, it was the Council that needed to lead the international community. Similarly, the representative of Pakistan opined that regional and subregional organizations in certain parts of the world had been either ineffective or unable to play any meaningful role towards resolving longstanding and festering disputes as well as situations of foreign occupation and that, under such circumstances, the Council had to discharge its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security by resolving such conflicts.

On the other hand, the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines stated that the Council was required to always lend its full support and encouragement to all regional mechanisms and refrain from any actions that could circumvent or undermine the legitimate role of regional bodies. The representative of South Africa said that his country subscribed to the principles of subsidiarity and complementarity in addressing eruptions of conflict, further stressing that it was of paramount importance that the relevant regions were afforded an opportunity, in line with Chapter VII of the Charter, to participate adequately in addressing conflict situations in their regions. The Permanent Observer of the African Union said that the lack of clarity on how to operationalize the principles of non-interference and subsidiarity continued to inhibit the African Union's ability to respond to and intervene in emerging crises across the continent, as Member States continued to invoke the principle of non-interference, limiting the ability of the African Union to address or prevent conflicts in a timely manner. The principle of subsidiarity on the other hand, recognized the primacy of regional organizations in leading interventions in Member States. She added that the continued lack of clarity around these two principles had posed a critical challenge to coordination among the United Nations, the African Union and regional mechanisms. The representative of Ethiopia stated that, in responding to challenges, the international community must always be guided by the Charter which called for particular resort to regional agencies

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## Case 4

### Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security

On 28 October 2021, at the initiative of Kenya which held the presidency of the Council for the month,<sup>48</sup> Council members held a high-level open videoconference in connection with the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security” focusing on cooperation with the African Union.<sup>49</sup> Council members heard briefings by the Deputy Secretary-General and the AfErgP/Corngn-14 (cy)-4 the



Legal Affairs and Information of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines underscored the need to further broaden the strategic partnership between the United Nations and the African Union with the systematic engagement of various subregional organizations and mechanisms on the African continent. The President of Viet Nam affirmed that the United Nations and the African Union needed to be the vanguards in jointly implementing the Silencing the Guns in Africa initiative, Agenda 2063 of the African Union and the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Similarly, with respect to addressing the root causes of conflict, the President of Timor-Leste called for a comprehensive approach to peace that addressed not only the security aspect, but also the developmental, social and environmental dimensions, in line with the two agendas of the two organizations. Several Council members also specifically discussed the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>54</sup>

Regarding cooperation between the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, the President of Viet Nam stated that the strategic partnership between them needed to be promoted in a comprehensive and effective manner, particularly in enhancing the early warning capacity of traditional and non-traditional security risks for peacekeeping missions in Africa. The Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, National Security, Legal Affairs and Information of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines noted that joint institutional engagement between the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union needed to be pursued, in a consultative and pragmatic fashion, to address emerging and consequential challenges such as climate change and environmental degradation, while other areas for coordinated action included mine action, terrorism, piracy and organized crime. The Prime Minister of Norway said that it was a shared responsibility to strengthen the cooperation between the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and recommended that they meet on a more regular basis, carry out more joint visits and for the Security Council to invite representatives from the African Union and the regional economic communities to provide more frequent briefings. The representative of India observed that the African members of the Security Council could play an important role in resolving the issues that divide the Security Council and the Peace and Security

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<sup>54</sup> Ibid., Norway, China, France and Mexico.



## II. Recognition of the efforts of regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes

### Note

Section II deals with recognition by the Council of the efforts by regional and subregional organizations in the pacific settlement of local disputes, within the framework of Article 52 of the Charter. The section is divided into two subsections. Subsection A covers decisions concerning efforts of regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes and subsection B covers discussions concerning the pacific settlement of disputes by regional arrangements.

#### A. Decisions concerning efforts of regional arrangements in the pacific settlement of disputes

During the period under review, the Council did not explicitly refer to Article 52 of the Charter in any of its decisions. The Council, however, acknowledged and expressed support for the engagement of regional and subregional arrangements in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention, resolution and sustaining peace, as well as the implementation of peace agreements, political dialogue and transitions, reconciliation processes and addressing the root causes of conflict. The Council did so in relation to a wide variety of items on its agenda, as featured in detail in table 2 below.

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Item	Decision and date	Paragraphs	Regional organizations mentioned
The question concerning Haiti	<a href="#">S/PRST/2021/7</a> 24 March 2021	Tenth paragraph	

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During the period under review, the discussions among Council members relation to the situation in the Central African Republic, focused on the good offices and mediation efforts of the African Union, the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the International Conference on the Great Lakes in the Central African Republic support of the

## The situation in Mali

At the 8794<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Council, held on 14 June 2021 under the item entitled “The situation in Mali,” the Council heard a briefing by the Special



and that the rule of law was upheld. The representative of Mexico urged regional organizations, in particular ECOWAS, to exert their utmost influence on the new authorities in order to avoid further setbacks in the transition process and in the implementation of the 2015 Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in Mali. The representative of France recognized that the mediation efforts of ECOWAS had seen some progress, in particular the appointment of a civilian Prime Minister and the formation of a Government. Speaking on behalf of Kenya, Tunisia and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, the representative of Niger expressed support for the recommendations and decisions taken at the ECOWAS summit, but added that

Case 6  
Peace and security in Africa

At the 8816<sup>th</sup> meeting

comprehensive agreement in this regard.<sup>70</sup> The representative of Mexico held that based on Chapter VIII of the Charter, it was particularly important that the international community supported the efforts of the African Union to bring the positions of Egypt, Ethiopia and the Sudan closer together and resume negotiations, taking into account the proven capacity of that organization to seek African solutions to problems that affected the continent.

Council members also exchanged views on how the United Nations and the Council could support the African Union-led negotiations. The representative of Tunisia said that it was important for the United Nations and the Council to support the African Union by sending a clear message on the issue, as part of cooperation and integration between the United Nations and regional organizations. The representative of the Russian Federation proposed that all the interested parties hold a round of negotiations in New York, brokered by the presidency of the African Union, which would be the best possible contribution of the Council to resolving the situation in the spirit of the shared principle of African solutions to African problems.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt expressed the view that, despite the highly appreciated good offices of two Chairs of the African Union, the African Union-led process had failed to yield the desired agreement and that the process, in this format, had reached an impasse. He called upon the Council to adopt the draft

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Irrigation and Energy of Ethiopia said that his country looked forward to continuing the African Union-

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Mission's drawdown by resolution [2579 \(2021\)](#),<sup>80</sup> as well as the progress achieved in Darfur since its deployment in 2007 by a presidential statement assessment of lessons learned from the Mission's experience was circulated to the Council at the end of 2021, as requested in resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#).

#### African Union Mission in Somalia

In 2021, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted resolutions [2563 \(2021\)](#) of 25 February, [2568 \(2021\)](#) of 12 March, [2592 \(2021\)](#) of 30 August, [2607 \(2021\)](#) of 15 November and [2614 \(2021\)](#) of 21 December 2021 addressing the mandate and reconfiguration of AMISOM. By resolution [2563 \(2021\)](#) the Council authorized the members of the African Union to maintain the deployment of AMISOM for a period of two weeks, until 14 March 2021, without any changes to the mandate as set out in resolution [2520 \(2020\)](#).<sup>84</sup>

In terms of composition, by resolution [2568 \(2021\)](#), the Council authorized the Member States of the African Union to maintain the deployment of 19,626 uniformed AMISOM personnel until 31 December 2021, inclusive of a minimum of 1,040 police personnel including five Formed Police Units, as well as 70 civilian personnel supported by the United Nations Support Office in Somalia to conduct tasks in line with the Somalia Transition Plan and the phased handover of security to Somali security forces commencing in 2021.<sup>85</sup>

Concerning its mandate, the Council authorized AMISOM to take all necessary measures to carry out its mandate and largely maintained the Mission's strategic objectives.<sup>86</sup> By the resolution, the Council specifically requested AMISOM to: (i) reduce the threat posed by Al-Shabaab and armed opposition groups with a view to enabling a stable, federal, sovereign and united Somalia; (ii) support actively the transfer of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the Somali Security Forces through training and mentoring, by facilitating the handover of responsibility for

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<sup>80</sup> Resolution [2579 \(2021\)](#), eighteenth preambular paragraph. For information on the history and

security functions from AMISOM to Somali authorities in liberated areas, and by conducting jointly planned and agreed operations with the Somali Security Forces with increasing emphasis on these being Somali and (iii) assist the Federal Government of Somalia, federal member states and Somali Security Forces in providing security for the political process at all levels, including stabilization efforts, reconciliation and peacebuilding, and by providing relevant support to Somali police and civilian authorities.<sup>87</sup> The Council modified the functions of AMISOM in support of the strategic objectives by reconfiguring the Mission to work towards the operational timetables and objectives identified within the transition plan, conduct jointly planned integrated operations with the Somali Security Forces to secure and recover areas from Al-Shabaab, and allow for the transfer of security responsibilities to the latter forces in these areas when appropriate; realign AMISOM sectors with the federal member states boundaries by the end of 2021; and provide mobile capabilities, assisting the posture of the Somali Security Forces to become more offensive.<sup>88</sup> Furthermore, the Council welcomed the envisaged reconfiguration of AMISOM from the beginning of 2022 so that it focused on enabling and supporting the Somali Security Forces and the protection of the United Nations in Somalia authorized the Mission to commence initial work to do so.<sup>89</sup>

Regarding the way forward, the Council recognized the need for a reconfigured African Union mission, from the beginning of 2022 and took note of the request of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union to enable the African



on supporting and enabling the Somali security forces to take primary responsibility for security.

The Council requested the Secretary-General, jointly with the African Union and in consultation with the Federal Government of Somalia and donors, to produce a proposal on the strategic objectives, size and composition of a reconfigured African Union mission by the end of September 2021.<sup>81</sup> The Council further requested the Secretary-General to present options for continuing United Nations logistical support from 2022, to include continued United Nations support for the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and to the Somali Security Forces alongside a reconfigured African Union mission, for consideration by the Council by the end of October 2021.<sup>82</sup> Furthermore, underlining the need to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing for African Union-led peace support operations authorized by the Council and under the Council's authority consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter, the Council encouraged the Secretary-General, African Union and Member States to continue efforts to explore in earnest funding arrangements for AMISOM, bearing in mind the full range of options available to the United Nations, African Union, European Union and to other partners, and considering the limitations of voluntary funding, in order to establish secure future funding arrangements for AMISOM.<sup>83</sup>

By resolution [2592 \(2021\)](#),<sup>84</sup> the Council took note of the publication of the United Nations-mandated independent assessment in January 2021, and anticipated the publication of the African Union-mandated independent assessment.<sup>84</sup> By resolution [2607 \(2021\)](#),<sup>85</sup> acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council reiterated the mandate of AMISOM to support the implementation of the sanctions measures on Somalia and the work of the Panel of Experts.<sup>85</sup> Finally, by resolution [2614 \(2021\)](#),<sup>86</sup> acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council extended the existing mandate of AMISOM, as set out in resolution [2568 \(2021\)](#), until 31 March 2022.<sup>96</sup>

<sup>81</sup> Resolution [2568 \(2021\)](#), para. 9. See also [S/2021/858](#) and [S/2021/859](#).

<sup>82</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 21. For more information on the mandate of UNSOM, see part X, sect. II.

<sup>83</sup> Resolution [2568 \(2021\)](#), para. 25.

<sup>84</sup> Resolution [2592 \(2021\)](#), seventeenth preambular paragraph. See also [S/2021/858](#).

<sup>85</sup> Resolution [2607 \(2021\)](#), paras. 7, 35 and 40.

<sup>86</sup> Resolution [2614 \(2021\)](#), para. 1.



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and EUCAP Sahel missions, including by developing further complementarity between the missions and by exploring modalities for potential mutual support.<sup>110</sup>

(iii) Other regional missions and security forces

In 2021, the Council also made reference in its decisions to the role and mandates of other regional missions and security forces as the Multinational Joint Task Force and the Southern Africa Development Community Mission in Mozambique

AMISOM,<sup>115</sup> and the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel.<sup>116</sup> The most detailed discussions in this regard were held under the item entitled “Peace and security in Africa” on the support of the United Nations to the counterterrorism efforts of the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel (see case 8) under the item entitled “The situation in Somalia” in relation to the reconfiguration of the

Group of Five for the Sahel in a number of crosscutting areas, including the pooling  
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By contrast, the representative of the United Kingdom stated that his delegation had hoped that the Secretary-General's letter would have proposed options for bilateral and multilateral support mechanisms other than just the United Nations. Furthermore, noting the fundamental concern of the United Kingdom with United Nations involvement in offensive, national counterterrorism operations, the representative stated that his delegation did not believe that the Organization was the right vehicle to provide durable support to the Joint Force. Similarly, the representative of the United States stated that the United Nations, regardless of the mechanism, was not an appropriate vehicle to provide logistical support to the Joint Force, adding that his country looked forward to working with fellow Council members to identify additional bilateral and United Nations multilateral options to fill the critical gaps. Furthermore, the representative of the United States stated that the focus of the Council had to remain squarely on political solutions and tying security responses to effective political strategies, including addressing problems with governance.

Other Council members underscored their willingness to hold further discussions within the Council to come up with a solution that ended sustainable, predictable and adequate funding for the Joint Force.<sup>121</sup> The representative of the Russian Federation noted that both options presented by the Secretary-General required a clear understanding of their timing and feasibility, effectiveness, the costs involved and the sources of funding.

The representative of Mexico stated that his delegation did not understand the reservations that were expressed in connection with the legitimate needs of the countries of the Group of Five for the Sahel, adding that if all terrorist acts were indeed threats to international peace and security, as was established in resolutions [1368 \(2001\)](#) and [1373 \(2001\)](#), the United Nations had a role to play in addition to bilateral efforts. The representative of India stated that over the past three years the Council was grappling with the issue of support to regional security initiatives such as the Joint





2021.<sup>124</sup> The communiqué endorsed the report of the African Union independent assessment of the African Union's engagement in and with Somalia<sup>2021</sup> and its first option, namely, to establish an African Union-United Nations multidimensional stabilization mission in Somalia, deployed under Chapter VII of the Charter, which would ensure predictable and sustainable <sup>125</sup> financing for the future mission through United Nations assessed contributions. He also said that there was a need to thoroughly address the financing challenges of any engagement of the African Union in Somalia post-2021 through the provision of adequate, sustainable and predictable financing, including access to assessed contributions. The representative of the United Kingdom stated that the support for Somalia's security transition needed to be both realistic and affordable and to support the progressive transition to Somali led security. She added that the African Union-United Nations multidimensional stabilization mission model that had been endorsed by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union would not achieve that and would run counter to the idea of progressive transition to full Somali security responsibility. The representative of



## IV. Authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements

### Note

Section IV concerns the practice of the Council in utilizing regional and subregional arrangements for enforcement action under its authority, as provided for in Article 53 of the Charter. This section focuses on the authorization of enforcement action by regional and other organizations outside the context of regional peacekeeping operations which are covered in section III above. Cooperation with regional arrangements in the implementation of measures adopted by the Council under Chapter VII not involving the use of force is also covered in this section. The section is divided into two subsections. Subsection A covers decisions concerning the authorization of enforcement action by regional arrangements and subsection B covers

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**Table 3**  
Decisions by which the Council requested the cooperation of regional  
arrangements in the implementation of enforcement action

Item	Decision and date	Paragraphs
The situation in the Central African Republic		

between the United Nations and regional organizations in its resolution, the representative of the Russian Federation underscored that priority should be given to

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security<sup>143</sup> and EUNAVFOR Atalanta off the coast of Somalia in connection with the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security” “Maintenance of international peace and security” and “The situation in Somalia”<sup>144</sup> In both cases, participants at those meetings and videoconferences discussed the roles of the operations in support of the arms embargoes imposed by the Council concerning Libya and Somalia respectively<sup>145</sup>

Concerning the Operation IRINI, in an open videoconference held on 28 January 2021 in connection with the item entitled “The situation in Libya”, the representative of Estonia maintained that the Council had tools at its disposal to support the implementation of the arms embargo through relevant authorizations.<sup>146</sup> He welcomed the efforts of Operation IRINI that acted strictly under those authorizations, was impartial in its activities and offered an important contribution to the implementation of the sanctions regime that the Council had put in place. The

IRINI would further contribute to the fight against breaches of the arms embargo on Libya and to combating the smuggling of migrants in the Mediterranean.<sup>148</sup> The representative of Mexico expressed hope that Operation IRINI could soon take concrete steps in coordination with the Libyan authorities to protect the human rights and dignity of migrants in the Mediterranean. Cautioning that the efforts of the European Union should not go beyond the frameworks set forth in Council mandates, the representative of the Russian Federation underlined that his delegation still had questions about Operation IRINI, as one of its objectives was to assist in the fulfilment of the United Nations arms embargo on Libya.

Regarding the EUNAVFOR Operation Atalanta, at an open videoconference held on 22 February 2021 in connection with the item entitled “The situation in Somalia”, the Managing Director of the European External Action Service noted that the mandate of Operation Atalanta had been expanded to include the secondary executive and non-executive tasks of countering trafficking in weapons and narcotic drugs and monitoring various illegal activities at sea.<sup>149</sup> With those adjustments, Operation Atalanta would support the United Nations arms embargo on Somalia and the ongoing fight against Al-Shabaab and its funding streams, while at the same time maintaining its core effort to counter piracy and protect the World Programme and other vulnerable shipments to Somalia. At the 8917<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 3 December 2021, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council unanimously adopted [2608 \(2021\)](#), renewing for a further period of three months the authorizations set out in paragraph 14 of resolution [2554 \(2020\)](#), granted to States and regional organizations cooperating with Somali authorities in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia.<sup>150</sup> In their statements after the vote, several Council members expressed regret about the length of the mandate extension provided in resolution [2608 \(2021\)](#). In that regard, the representative of France stated that the three-month extension was too brief to allow Operation Atalanta to carry out its tasks in proper conditions.<sup>151</sup> She further underlined that Operation Atalanta did not just focus on



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Council further requested the Secretary-General to report eleven months after the adoption of the resolution on its implementation.<sup>155</sup>

With regard to the situation in Mali, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report every three months after the adoption of resolution [2584 \(2021\)](#) the coordination, exchange of information and mutual operational and logistical support between MINUSMA, the Malian Defence and Security Forces, the Joint Force of the Group of Five for the Sahel, the French Forces and European partners including Task Force Takuba and the European Union missions in Mali.<sup>156</sup>

In relation to Somalia, by resolution [2568 \(2021\)](#) the Council requested the African Union to keep it informed every 90 days, through the Secretary-General, on the implementation of the AMISOM mandate.<sup>157</sup> In that regard, the Council requested the African Union to report to the Council through no fewer than three detailed written reports with specific reporting on progress on joint operations in support of the Somalia Transition Plan, progress against the Mission's revised objectives and functions, accountability measures taken to address underperformance, measures taken to protect civilians and staffing of the civilian component. Further, the Council requested the Secretary-General to keep it regularly informed on the implementation of the resolution through his regular reports which had been requested in resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#).<sup>158</sup> In addition, by resolution [2608 \(2021\)](#) the Council requested the Secretary-General to

Mechanism and encouraged the Intergovernmental Authority on Development to share reports with the Council rapidly.<sup>160</sup> By the same resolution, the Council invited the African Union to share information on progress made in the establishment of the Hybrid Court for South Sudan with the Secretary-General.<sup>161</sup> By resolution [2609 \(2021\)](#), the Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to inform it of progress in implementing the mandate of the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei .



### C. Communications concerning the reporting by regional arrangements

In six letters addressed to the President of the Council, the representatives of Kuwait<sup>165</sup> and Qatar<sup>166</sup> citing Article 54 of the Charter and in their respective capacities as Chairs of the Council of the League of Arab States, transmitted the decisions of the Council of the League on a variety of peace and security issues affecting the Arab region.

Further, the Executive Secretary of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) informed the Council about the deployment to Mozambique of the SADC Standby Force Mission for an initial period of three months from 15 July 2021.<sup>167</sup>

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<sup>165</sup> See [S/2021/790](#) and [S/2021/810](#).