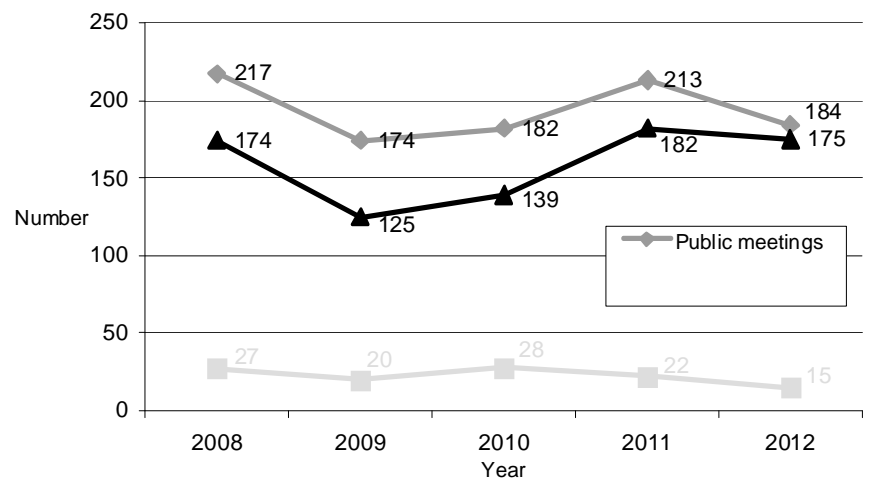


# Highlights of Security Council Practice 2012



## Meetings by month

During 2012 the Security Council held between 8 and 24 public/private meetings, and 9 and 21 consultations per month. November was the busiest month, with 23 public meetings, 1 private meeting and 21 consultations.

## Arria formula meetings/ Informal interactive dialogues

Arria formula meetings and informal interactive dialogues continued to allow Security Council members to exchange views with concerned States and third parties on situations and issues that concern them directly. In 2012, there were 8 Arria formula meetings and 10 informal interactive dialogues. (For a list of Arria formula meetings and informal interactive

## Security Council missions

Missions consisting of members of the Security Council visiting the field have occurred since 1964. Since 2000, the Council has conducted missions to Africa on an annual basis. During 2012, the Council sent missions to Timor-Leste, West Africa and Haiti.

## b) Agenda

During 2012 the Security Council considered a total of 47 agenda items: 25 dealing with country-specific/regional situations and 22 with thematic and other issues (for details regarding agenda items see Annex, Table II). 1 new agenda item, "The situation in Mali", was introduced on the Council's agenda.

## Country-specific and regional situations

During 2012, over two-thirds of the meetings (155 meetings out of 199 meetings) dealt with country-specific or regional situations. Among these meetings, Africa accounted for 68% (90 meetings) of the meetings, followed by the Middle East (15%), Asia (7%), Europe (6%) and the Americas (3%).

## Thematic issues

Out of a total of 199 meetings, 44 meetings considered thematic and other issues. Agenda items discussed include "Women and peace and security", "United Nations peacekeeping operations", "The promotion and strengthening of the rule of law in the ma TD 0 es

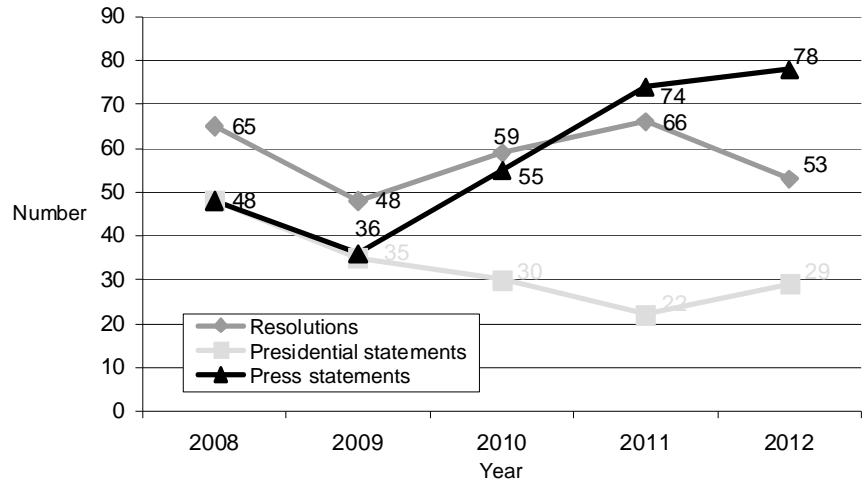


# Decisions and Voting

Article 27 of the United Nations Charter and rule 40 of the provisional rules of procedure govern voting in the Security Council. While neither the Charter nor the provisional rules of procedure of the Council specifically cover decisions, they currently take the form of resolutions, presidential statements, notes by the President and letters. According to Article 27 each Council member has one vote, and an affirmative vote of nine members is required for decisions (other than those on procedural matters), including the concurrent votes of the permanent members

## Overview of decisions in 2012

In 2012, the Security Council adopted 53 resolutions and 29 presidential statements. The Council also adopted 13 notes by the President. Of these, 3 (S/2012/402, S/2012/922, S/2012/937) were adopted based on the work of the Council's Informal Working Group on Documentation and Other Procedural Questions and dealt with the issue of the Council's working methods. The Council also issued 78 press statements.



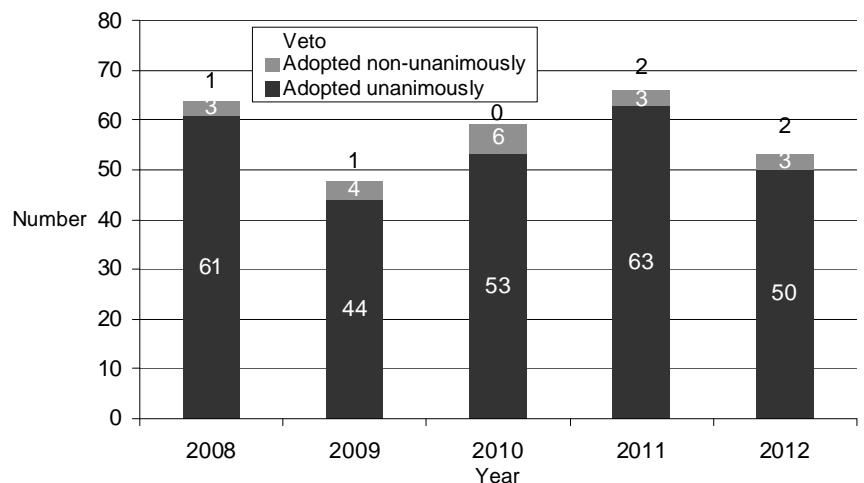
[Chart 9] Resolutions, presidential statements and press statements

## Resolutions under Chapter VII

Of the 53 resolutions adopted by the Council, 32 were adopted "acting under Chapter VII of the Charter". Many of these concerned the mandates of United Nations and regional peacekeeping missions or multinational forces, and sanctions measures (For a list of resolutions adopted under Chapter VII see Annex, Table V).

## Voting

The Council continued to adopt the vast majority of its resolutions unanimously. Out of 53 resolutions, 50 were adopted unanimously. 2 draft resolutions concerning the Syrian Arab Republic (S/2012/77 and S/2012/538) were not adopted due to the negative vote of a permanent member.



[Chart 10] Voting on draft resolutions

# Subsidiary bodies

The powers of the Security Council to establish subsidiary organs is set out in Article 29 of the Charter and reflected in rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure. These include: field-based missions such as peacekeeping missions, political and peacebuilding offices; sanctions committees; committees overseeing other Chapter VII measures; international tribunals; and working groups. In 2012, the Council established two new subsidiary organs: one observer mission and one sanctions committee.

## a) Peacekeeping operations/Observer missions

### UNSMIS (Syrian Arab Republic)

The United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS) was authorized by the Security Council on 21 April 2012 by resolution 2043 (2012), for an initial period of 90 days. The mandate of the Mission was to monitor a cessation of armed violence by all parties and support the implementation of the six-point proposal of the Joint Special Envoy for the UN and the League of Arab States. By resolution 2059 (2012) of 20 July 2012, the mandate of the Mission was renewed for a final period of 30 days.

### UNMIT (Timor-Leste)

The United Nations Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) was established by the Security Council on 25 August 2006 by resolution 1704 (2006), as a follow-on mission to the United Nations Office in Timor-Leste (UNOTIL). Following the April 2012 presidential and parliamentary elections and the transfer of its responsibilities to the Government of Timor-Leste, UNMIT completed its mandate on 31 December 2012.

● UNSMIS

UNMIT ●

## b) Sanctions committees

### 2048 Committee concerning Guinea-Bissau

By resolution 2048 (2012), the Council established a new sanctions committee to oversee the travel ban imposed against individuals associated with the coup d'état of 12 April 2012 in Guinea-Bissau.

# Annex

## I. High-level meetings in 2012

	Formal agenda item	Date and meeting number
1	Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security	12 January 2012 (6702)
2	The situation in the Middle East	31 January 2012 (6710)
3	Peace and security in Africa	21 February 2012 (6717)

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	
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9	Democratic Republic of the Congo	29 August 2012
10	Afghanistan	26 November 2012

V. Chapter VII resolutions adopted in 2012

