

II – SECURITY COUNCIL

The Security Council's membership in 2008 consisted of the five permanent members—China, France, Russia, the United Kingdom, and the United States—and 10 non-permanent members: Belgium, Burkina Faso, Costa Rica, Croatia, Indonesia, Italy, Libya, Panama, South Africa, and Vietnam. The following table summarizes the activity of the Security Council for the year and compares it with the previous 15 years.

YEAR	MEETINGS	RESOLUTIONS CONSIDERED	RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED	U.S. VETOES	PRESIDENTIAL STATEMENTS
2008	243	66	65	0	48
2007	202	57	56	0	50
2006	273	89	87	2	59
2005	235	71	71	0	67
2004	216	62	59	2	48
2003	208	69	67	2	30
2002	238	70	68	2	42
2001	192	54	52	2	39
2000	167	52	50	0	41
1999	124	67	65	0	34
1998	116	73	73	0	38
1997	117	57	54	2	57
1996	114	59	57	1	49
1995	130	67	66	1	63
1994	160	78	77	0	82
1993	171	95	93	0	88

In 2008, the Security Council considered 66 resolutions and adopted 65. The only resolution that was not adopted dealt with the ongoing political and humanitarian crisis in Zimbabwe. China and Russia vetoed that resolution, and Libya, South Africa, and Vietnam voted against. The Council was again heavily engaged in efforts to resolve conflicts and to give direction to UN peacekeeping missions. Much of the Council's attention, as in recent previous years, was focused on Africa, the Middle East, and Iraq.

II—Security Council

Support efforts, including through the Independent Directorate for Local Governance, to improve governance and the rule of law and to combat corruption, in particular at sub-national level, and to promote development initiatives locally;

Play a central coordinating role to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance and build the capacity of the Afghan government, including by providing effective support to national and local authorities in assisting and protecting internally displaced persons, and to create conditions conducive to the voluntary, safe, dignified, and sustainable return of refugees and internally displaced persons;

Continue to cooperate with the Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC), and with relevant international and local non-governmental organizations, to monitor the situation of civilians, to coordinate efforts to ensure their protection, and to assist in the full implementation of the fundamental freedoms and human rights provisions of the Afghan Constitution and international treaties to which Afghanistan is a state party, particularly those regarding the full enjoyment by women of their human rights; and

Support the electoral process, in particular through the Afghan Independent Electoral Commission (AIEC), by providing technical assistance, coordinating other international donors, agencies, and organizations providing assistance, and channeling existing and additional funds earmarked to support the process; and support regional cooperation to work toward a stable and prosperous Afghanistan.

Background and U.S. Position: The United States greatly values the role of the UN Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA), and this resolution extends and updates its mandate, emphasizing its large coordination and support tasks. The resolution also exhorts all of the relevant actors in Afghanistan to fulfill their roles -- particularly with UNAMA -- to bring about a stable, prosperous, and democratic society.

S/Res/1817

June 11

15(US)-0-0

Expresses utmost concern at the high level of opium cultivation, production, and trafficking, particularly involving diversion of chemical precursors, and stresses again the serious harm it causes the security, development, and governance of Afghanistan, regionally, and internationally;

Calls upon all member states to increase international and regional cooperation to counter the illicit drug production and trafficking in Afghanistan;

Invites all member states, in particular chemical-precursors-producing countries, to increase their cooperation with the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB);

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Urges exporting states to ensure systematic notification of all exports of relevant chemical precursors, in accordance with the UN Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (1988), and encourages importing states to request such notification;

Calls upon states that have not done so to consider ratifying or acceding to, and state parties to implement fully, treaties aimed at fighting illicit narcotics trafficking;

Calls upon all member states to adopt adequate national legislation, consistent with relevant international conventions to which they are parties, and to strengthen national capacity in: regulating and monitoring manufacture and trade of chemical precursors, to control their final destination; and specialized enforcement operations against precursor diversion;

Invites the international community to provide financial and technical assistance and support to Afghanistan and neighboring countries; stresses particularly the importance of training and equipping law enforcement agencies;

Reiterates support for the Paris Pact Initiative to facilitate counternarcotics cooperation and coordination among countries seriously affected by the trafficking of narcotics produced in Afghanistan, the outcome of the Second Ministerial Conference organized in Moscow in June 2006, in cooperation with UNODC, and for initiatives such as Project Cohesion, and calls upon Paris Pact partners to promote further initiatives;

Welcomes the Targeted Anti-Trafficking Regional Communication, Expertise and Training (TARCET) initiative, targeting precursors used in heroin manufacture in Afghanistan, and urges Paris Pact partners to cooperate closely to achieve its successful implementation;

Recognizes the legitimate need of industry for access to precursors and its important role in preventing diversion of precursors, and encourages all member states, particularly producing countries, Afghanistan, and its neighbors to partner with the private sector to prevent diversion;

Encourages member states to submit, to the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1267 (1999) for designation as subject to targeted sanctions, the names of individuals and entities financing or supporting acts or activities of al-Qaida, Usama bin-Ladin, and the Taliban, and other individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities associated with them, using proceeds derived from the illicit cultivation, production, and trafficking of narcotic drugs produced in Afghanistan; and

Invites the Commission on Narcotic Drugs to consider, in accordance with its mandate, ways to strengthen regional and international cooperation to prevent the diversion and smuggling of chemical precursors to and within Afghanistan.

II—Security Council

Background and U.S. Position: Afghanistan is the world's leading producer of illicit opiates, with nearly 92 percent of the global total. Continued support to Afghan counternarcotics efforts is an essential component of overall U.S. and international policy there, directly related to the success of Afghanistan's economic development, rule of law, democratic processes, and security efforts against former Taliban regime elements. The United States supports Afghanistan's opposition to terrorism and its counternarcotics efforts, viewing the cultivation, production and trafficking of opium as a destabilizing influence.

S/Res/1833

September 22

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Afghanistan still constitutes a threat to international peace and security; determined to ensure the full implementation of the mandate of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), in coordination with the Afghan government; acting for these reasons under Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter:

Decides to extend the authorization of the ISAF, as defined in Resolutions 1386 (2001) and 1510 (2003), for a period of 12 months beyond October 13, 2008; authorizes the member states participating in ISAF to take all necessary measures to fulfill its mandate; recognizes the further need to strengthen ISAF to meet all its operational requirements, and in this regard calls upon member states to contribute personnel, equipment and other resources to ISAF, and to make contributions to the Trust Fund established pursuant to Resolution 1386 (2001); and

Stresses the importance of increasing, in a comprehensive framework, the functionality, professionalism and accountability of the Afghan security sector, encourages ISAF and other partners to sustain their efforts, as resources permit, to train, mentor and empower the Afghan national security forces, in order to accelerate progress toward the goal of self-sufficient and ethnically balanced Afghan security forces providing security and ensuring the rule of law throughout the country, welcomes in this context the progress achieved by the Afghan authorities in assuming lead security responsibility for Kabul, and stresses the importance of supporting the planned expansion of the Afghan National Army; and calls upon ISAF to continue to work in close consultation with the Afghan government and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, as well as with the Operation Enduring Freedom coalition in the implementation of the force mandate.

Background and U.S. Position: The UN Security Council first authorized the establishment of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) for Afghanistan on December 20, 2001. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) assumed authority over ISAF on August 9, 2003. ISAF's mission is: to assist the Afghan government in extending its authority across the country, conducting stability and security operations in coordination with the Afghan national security forces; to mentor and to support the Afghan

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

national army; and to support Afghan government programs to disarm illegally armed groups. Currently, over 47,000 troops from 40 NATO and non-NATO countries are deployed under ISAF.

The United States is committed to an enduring partnership with Afghanistan. The U.S.-Afghanistan Strategic Partnership is based on the shared interests of the two countries in enhancing Afghanistan's long-term security, democracy, and prosperity.

The United States is the leading donor to Afghanistan and has provided increasing amounts of security, reconstruction, governance, and humanitarian assistance since 2001. Total U.S. security and development assistance appropriated for Afghanistan since 2001 is approximately \$32 billion. U.S. assistance supports priority needs identified in the Afghanistan Compact and the new, five-year Afghanistan National Development Strategy.

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

S/Res/1845

November 20

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in the region continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security; acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Welcomes the European Union's (EU's) intention to maintain an EU military operation to Bosnia and Herzegovina from November 2008;

Authorizes the member states acting through or in cooperation with the EU to establish for a further period of 12 months, starting from the date of the adoption of this resolution, a multinational stabilization force (EUFOR) as a legal successor to the Stabilization Force in Bosnia and Herzegovina (SFOR) under unified command and control, which will fulfill its missions in relation to the implementation of Annex I-A and Annex 2 of the Peace Agreement in cooperation with the NATO Headquarters presence in accordance with the arrangements agreed between NATO and the EU as communicated to the Security Council in their letters of November 19, 2004, which recognize that EUFOR will have the main peace stabilization role under the military aspects of the Peace Agreement;

Welcomes the decision of NATO to continue to maintain a presence in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the form of a NATO Headquarters in order to continue to assist in implementing the Peace Agreement in conjunction with EUFOR, and authorizes the member states acting through or in cooperation with NATO to continue to maintain a NATO Headquarters as a legal successor to SFOR under unified command and control, which will fulfill its missions in relation to the implementation of Annex 1-A and Annex 2 of the Peace Agreement in cooperation with EUFOR in accordance with the arrangements agreed between NATO and the EU as communicated to the Security Council in their letters of November 19, 2004, which recognize that EUFOR will have

II—Security Council

the main peace stabilization role under the military aspects of the Peace Agreement;

Authorizes member states to take all necessary measures, at the request of either EUFOR or the NATO Headquarters, in defense of the EUFOR or NATO presence respectively, and to assist both organizations in carrying out their missions, and recognizes the right of both EUFOR and the NATO presence to take all necessary measures to defend themselves from attack or threat of attack; and

Authorizes the member states acting under the paragraphs above, in accordance with Annex 1-A of the Peace Agreement, to take all necessary measures to ensure compliance with the rules and procedures governing command and control of airspace over Bosnia and Herzegovina with respect to all civilian and military air traffic.

Background and U.S. Position: In December 1995, with the signing of the Dayton Peace Agreement, NATO deployed a 60,000-troop Implementation Force (IFOR) to oversee implementation of the military aspects of the accord. IFOR transitioned into a smaller SFOR in 1996. When SFOR's mission ended in December 2004, the EU assumed primary responsibility for military stabilization operations.

Approximately 2,200 EU troops remain deployed in Bosnia. NATO maintains a small headquarters operation with responsibility to assist with defense reform, counter-terrorism, and efforts against persons indicted for war crimes.

BURUNDI

S/Res/1858

December 22

15(US)-0-0

Having considered the fourth report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Integrated Office in Burundi (BINUB):

Decides to extend until December 31, 2009, the mandate of BINUB, as set out in Resolution 1719 (2006) and renewed in its Resolution 1791 (2007); urges the Government of Burundi and the *Palipehutu-FNL* to make every effort to implement the agreements they reached on December 4, 2008, so as to bring this last phase of the peace process to a successful conclusion; and

Encourages the Government of Burundi to pursue its efforts to broaden the respect and protection of human rights, including through the establishment of an National Independent Human Rights Commission, bearing in mind the Paris Principles outlined in General Assembly resolution 48/134 and further encourages it to end impunity and to take the necessary measures to ensure its citizens fully enjoy their civil, political, social, economic, cultural rights without fear or intimidation, as enshrined in the Constitution of Burundi

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

and provided for by international human rights instruments, including those ratified by Burundi.

Background and U.S. Position: This resolution extended BINUB's mandate through 2009. The resolution was welcomed, especially in light of the deal reached on December 4, 2008, between the *Palipehutu-FNL* and the Government of Burundi which guaranteed the FNL movement 33 positions in Burundi's administration and agreed to release FNL political prisoners.

The FNL, for its part, agreed to change its name to rid it of its ethnic reference, and disarm and join the regular army, a process that has yet to be completed. The government and the FNL signed a ceasefire in 2006, but its implementation stumbled and both sides remained at loggerheads over a number of issues.

CHAD, CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC, AND REGION

S/Res/1834

September 24

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in the region of the border between the Sudan, Chad, and the Central African Republic constitutes a threat to international peace and security:

Decides to extend until March 15, 2009, the mandate of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT), as set out in Resolution 1778; calls on the Secretary-General to complete MINURCAT's deployment as soon as possible, and the Government of Chad, with the support of MINURCAT according to its mandate; to carry out the full deployment of the *Detachement Integre de Securite* (DIS) expeditiously;

Expresses its intention to extend beyond March 15, 2009, the multidimensional presence established in Chad and the Central African Republic to help create the security conditions conducive to a voluntary, secure and sustainable return of refugees and displaced persons and, to this end, expresses its intention to authorize the deployment of a United Nations military component to follow up the European Union Force (EUFOR) Chad/CAR in both Chad and the Central African Republic, taking fully into account the recommendations contained within the Secretary-General's report referred to below and in consultation with the governments of these countries; encourages troop-contributing countries to pledge the necessary force requirements and in particular the helicopters, reconnaissance units, engineers, logistics, and medical facilities;

Requests the Secretary-General to submit a new report by November 15, 2008, on the progress toward the full deployment of MINURCAT and the DIS and on updating the planning and conducting preparations referred to above, including options on the size, structure and mandate of the proposed United Nations military presence in the northeastern Central African Republic

II—Security Council

to take over EUFOR's presence; expresses its intention to adopt the decision previewed above by December 15, 2008; and

Demands that armed groups cease violence immediately and urges all parties in Chad and the Central African Republic, respectively, to respect and implement the Sirte agreement of October 25, 2007, and the comprehensive peace agreement signed in Libreville on June 21, 2008.

Background and U.S. Position: The Security Council established MINURCAT in Chad and the Central African Republic in Resolution 1778 (2007) to help protect refugees, displaced persons, and civilians in danger, and to facilitate humanitarian assistance in eastern Chad and the northeastern Central African Republic by creating favorable security conditions that would also permit the economic and social recovery of those areas.

This resolution extends MINURCAT's authorization by six months, with the additional time to be used to plan establishment of a UN military force that would replace the current EUFOR operation which is scheduled to end in March 2009.

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

S/Res/1795

January 15

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Côte d'Ivoire continues to pose a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to renew the mandates of the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and of the French forces which support it, as determined in Resolution 1739 (2007), until July 30, 2008, in order to support the organization in Côte d'Ivoire of free, open, fair and transparent elections within the time frame set out in the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and the Supplementary Agreements of November 28, 2007;

Requests UNOCI, within its existing resources and mandate, to support full implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and of Supplementary Agreement No. 3;

Calls upon all concerned parties to ensure that the protection of women and children is addressed in the implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement as well as the post-conflict reconstruction and recovery phases, including continued monitoring and reporting of the situation of women and children; also invites the signatories of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement to take the necessary steps to protect vulnerable civilian populations, including by guaranteeing the voluntary return, reinstallation, reintegration, and security of displaced persons, with the support of the UN system, and to fulfill in this regard their commitments in accordance with the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and their obligations under international humanitarian law;

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Gives its full support to the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Côte d'Ivoire and recalls that he shall certify that all stages of the electoral process provide all the necessary guarantees for the holding of open, free, fair, and transparent presidential and legislative elections in accordance with international standards;

Recalls the importance of the provisions of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and of the Supplementary Agreements, including Paragraph 8.1 of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and Paragraphs 8 and 9 of Supplementary Agreement No. 3, and urges the Ivorian political forces to rely on the mediation by the Facilitator, for any major difficulty concerning the electoral process; and

Encourages the Facilitator to continue to support the process to settle the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire, and requests UNOCI to continue to assist him and his Special Representative in Abidjan, Mr. Boureima Badini, in the conduct of the facilitation, including by helping the Facilitator, as appropriate and upon his request, to carry out his arbitration role according to the provisions of Paragraph 8.1 of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and Paragraphs 8 and 9 of the Supplementary Agreement No. 3.

Background and U.S. Position: With this resolution, the United States welcomed the steps taken by the parties to the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and supplemental agreements to carry out their obligations. Particularly noteworthy were documents issued by the mobile courts and progress toward creating an integrated armed forces.

The United States sought to congratulate the parties for restoring civil administration to much of Cote d'Ivoire, while urging them to move rapidly to solve possible stumbling blocks to stability and reconciliation. The United States looked to spur progress toward disarming and demobilizing combatants, energize the process of citizen identification for election purposes, and set a date for elections.

The United States also wanted to encourage all parties to work with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNOCI to ensure free, fair, transparent, and inclusive elections.

S/Res/1826

July 29

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Cote d'Ivoire continues to pose a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Renews the mandates of the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and of its supporting French forces, until January 31, 2009, particularly to support free, open, fair, and transparent elections in Cote d'Ivoire;

Requests UNOCI, within its mandate, to support full implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and its Supplementary Agreements,

II—Security Council

and to contribute to the security needed by the peace and electoral processes, and to provide logistical support to the Independent Electoral Commission; strongly encourages the Defense and Security Force of Cote d'Ivoire and the New Forces jointly to develop a comprehensive election security plan, in close coordination with the Facilitator, with UNOCI's technical and logistical support;

Encourages the Ivoirian parties to make further progress in: population identification; voter registration; disarming and dismantling militias; the cantonment and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration program; the unification and restructuring of defense and security forces; and the restoration of state authority throughout the country; urges the political parties to comply fully with the Code of Good Conduct for elections, and urges the Ivoirian authorities to allow equitable access to public media;

Calls upon all concerned parties to ensure that women and children are protected in implementing the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, as well as in post-conflict reconstruction and recovery phases; stresses the importance of ensuring the equal protection of and respect for human rights of every Ivoirian regarding the electoral system, particularly of removing obstacles and challenges to women's participation and full involvement in public life; invites the signatories of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement to protect vulnerable civilian populations, including by guaranteeing the voluntary return, reinstallation, reintegration, and security of displaced persons, with the support of the UN system;

Reiterates its full support for the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) in Cote d'Ivoire, recalls that he shall certify that all stages of the electoral process provide all necessary guarantees to hold open, free, fair, and transparent presidential and legislative elections in accordance with international standards; calls upon the Independent Electoral Commission, the technical operators, Ivoirian authorities and the political parties to redouble their efforts to publish the electoral list, and requests the SRSG to certify it explicitly; and

Recalls the importance of the provisions of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and of the Supplementary Agreements, and urges the Ivoirian political forces to rely on the Facilitator's mediation for any major difficulty concerning the electoral process; and commends the Facilitator for continuing to support the process to settle the crisis in Cote d'Ivoire, and requests UNOCI to continue to assist him and his Special Representative in Abidjan in the conduct of the facilitation, including in his arbitration role.

Background and U.S. Position: In March 2007, President Laurent Gbagbo and New Forces Secretary-General Guillaume Soro signed the Ouagadougou Political Agreement (OPA) and a new unity government was formed in April 2007 with Soro as Prime Minister. The OPA is a roadmap for the country's emergence from its political crisis. The result of direct

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

negotiations between the government and the New Forces, the OPA was facilitated by President Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso, who continues to play a critical role in overseeing its implementation.

The agreement's significance is that it provides a procedure for previously disenfranchised Ivoirians to be documented and registered to vote, commits to the return of central government authority throughout the country, and lays out the principles of a demobilization, disarmament, and reintegration process leading to the creation of a new integrated army.

Since signature of the OPA, UNOCI has withdrawn from the Zone of Confidence and several mixed brigades of New Forces and national army soldiers, supported as necessary by French forces, carry out joint patrols in its place. Government ministries and officials are returning to their posts in the north, as are important economic actors, such as banks and utilities.

From September 2007 through May 2008 a series of mobile courts began issuing birth certificates to those who never had them. In April 2008, the government announced elections would be held on November 30, 2008. The disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration (DDR) of former combatants began on a limited scale, but probably will not be completed before elections.

The United States assists Cote d'Ivoire by providing approximately a quarter of the funding for UNOCI to help maintain the cease-fire. The United States imposed sanctions after a December 1999 coup; these were not lifted following the 2000 election due to government interference in the election. The United States supports Cote d'Ivoire's desire for rapid, orderly economic development, as well as its moderate stance on international issues.

S/Res/1842

October 29

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Cote d'Ivoire continues to pose a threat to international peace and security in the region; and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to renew until October 31, 2009, the measures on arms and the financial and travel measures imposed by Paragraphs 7-to-12 of Resolution 1572 (2004), and the measures preventing the importation by any state of all rough diamonds from Cote d'Ivoire imposed by Paragraph 6 of Resolution 1643 (2005);

Calls upon the Ivoirian parties to the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and all states, in particular those in the sub-region, to fully implement the measures renewed above, and calls also upon the UN Operation in Cote d'Ivoire (UNOCI) and the French forces which support it to bring their full support in particular to the implementation of the measures on arms within their capacities and respective mandates, as determined in Resolution 1739 (2007) and renewed in Resolution 1826 (2008);

II—Security Council

Reiterates its demand in particular that the Ivoirian authorities take the necessary measures to put an immediate end to any violation of measures imposed by Paragraph 11 of Resolution 1572 (2004) including those violations mentioned by the Group of Experts in its reports dated September 21, 2007, and October 15, 2008;

Reiterates also its demand that the Ivoirian parties to the Ouagadougou Political Agreement, in particular the Ivoirian authorities, provide unhindered access, particularly to the Group of Experts, to equipment, sites and installations referred to in Paragraph 2 (a) of Resolution 1584 (2005), when appropriate without notice and including those under the control of Republican guard units, and to UNOCI and the French forces which support it in order to carry out their respective mandates as set out in Paragraphs 2 and 8 of Resolution 1739 (2007) and renewed in Resolution 1826 (2008);

Decides that any threat to the electoral process in Cote d'Ivoire shall constitute a threat to the peace and national reconciliation process for the purposes of Paragraphs 9 and 11 of Resolution 1572 (2004);

Decides that any serious obstacle to the freedom of movement of UNOCI and of the French forces which support it, or any attack or obstruction of the action of UNOCI, of the French forces, of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, of the Facilitator mentioned in Paragraph 10 of Resolution 1765 (2007) or his Special Representative in Cote d'Ivoire shall constitute a threat to the peace and national reconciliation process for the purposes of Paragraphs 9 and 11 of Resolution 1572 (2004); and

Decides to extend the mandate of the Group of Experts as set out in Paragraph 7 of Resolution 1727 (2006) until October 31, 2009, and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures.

Background and U.S. Position: The Security Council decided to extend various sanctions (arms embargo, travel ban, assets freeze, and diamond ban) which were due to expire at the end of October, citing among its reasons the continued contribution of these measures to Cote d'Ivoire's stability. The Security Council also expressed its concern regarding "the persistence of cases of human rights violations against civilians, including numerous acts of sexual violence."

The Security Council also based its actions on the October 15, 2008, report (updating its prior report of April 2008) of the UN Group of Experts on Côte d'Ivoire. The report noted a lack of full cooperation in a number of investigations, and therefore recommended that all member states tell all public and private entities in their territories to cooperate fully with the Group.

Among other topics, the Group of Experts report recommended that: UNOCI strengthen its arms embargo-monitoring capabilities, improve information-sharing timeliness with the embargo cell, and establish comprehensive procedures to secure any unaccounted for military equipment;

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

and that the Ivoirian government use the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme to institute a basic diamond control mechanism. It also recommended that member states where violations had occurred investigate the complete financial activities of sanctioned persons immediately.

CYPRUS

S/Res/1818

June 13

15(US)-0-0

Expresses full support for the UN Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) and decides to extend its mandate through December 15, 2008.

Acknowledges that the Cypriots themselves are responsible for finding a solution, and notes the primary UN role in assisting the parties to bring the conflict and division of the island to a comprehensive and durable settlement. Takes note of the Secretary-General's assessment that the security situation on the island and along the Green Line remains generally stable, and urges both sides to avoid any provocative action;

Welcomes the coordination arrangements agreed with the United Nations to address unauthorized construction within the buffer zone, including large-scale commercial projects. Welcomes the agreement with the Turkish forces to proceed with de-mining activities;

Acknowledges the continued progress of the Committee on Missing Persons; and hopes it will promote reconciliation. Welcomes all efforts to promote bi-communal contacts and events, and urges the two sides actively to engage civil society and to encourage economic and commercial cooperation and to remove all obstacles to such contacts; and

Reaffirms the importance of the Secretary-General continuing to keep the operations of the UNFICYP under close review while continuing to take into account developments on the ground and the views of the parties.

Background and U.S. Position: The opening of the Ledra Street crossing in the middle of the old city of Nicosia has helped foster greater trust and interaction between the two communities, reaffirmed the importance of continued crossings of the Green Line by Cypriots, and has encouraged the opening of other crossing points.

The agreement of March 21, 2008, and the Joint Statement of May 23, 2008, demonstrated a renewed political willingness to support and engage fully and in good faith with UN efforts. They reaffirmed a commitment of the leaders to a bi-communal, bi-zonal federation with political equality, as set out in the relevant Security Council resolutions.

The Government of Cyprus agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island it was necessary to keep the UNFICYP beyond June 15, 2008. The United States welcomed the leadership of the two sides in

II—Security Council

initiating a positive and constructive dialogue, and hoped it would result in full-fledged negotiations and a comprehensive, lasting settlement.

The United States welcomed the joint vision of a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation, with two politically equal constituent states sharing one federal government and enjoying one international personality, and is committed to supporting the leaders as they strive to achieve it.

S/Res/1847

December 12

15(US)-0-0

Noting that the Government of Cyprus is agreed that in view of the prevailing conditions on the island it is necessary to keep the UN Peacekeeping force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) beyond December 15, 2008;

Encouraging continued momentum in negotiations and the maintenance of goodwill and trust, looking forward to substantive progress and the full exploitation of the current opportunity, commending the Greek and Turkish Cypriot leaders for the political leadership they have shown so far; reaffirming the importance of continued crossings of the Green Line by Cypriots, reiterating its welcome for the opening of the Ledra Street crossing, encouraging the opening by mutual agreement of other crossing points, and noting in this context the commitment in the leaders' joint statements to pursue the opening of the Limnitis/Yesilirmak crossing point;

Welcoming the progress made in proceeding with demining activities, echoing the Secretary-General's call for the remaining minefields to be cleared, and noting with concern that funding is urgently required by the Mine Action Centre beyond 2008 to allow this work to continue; welcoming the progress and continuation of the important activities of the Committee on Missing Persons, and trusting that this process will promote reconciliation between the communities:

Welcomes the launch of fully fledged negotiations on September 3, 2008, and the prospect of a comprehensive and durable settlement that this has created; urges full exploitation of this opportunity, including by intensifying the momentum of negotiations, preserving the current atmosphere of trust and goodwill, and engaging in the process in a constructive and open manner; welcomes the announcement on confidence-building measures and the cancellation of military exercises, and looks forward to these measures being fully implemented as well as to agreement on further such steps; reaffirms all its relevant resolutions on Cyprus, in particular Resolution 1251 (1999); and

Expresses its full support for UNFICYP and decides to extend its mandate for a further period ending June 15, 2009; calls on both sides to continue to engage, as a matter of urgency and while respecting UNFICYP's mandate, in consultations with UNFICYP on the demarcation of the buffer zone, and on the United Nations 1989 *aide-memoire*, with a view to reaching early agreement on outstanding issues; and calls on the Turkish Cypriot side

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

and Turkish forces to restore in Strovia the military *status quo* which existed there prior to June 30, 2000.

Background and U.S. Position: Following his election in February 2008, Republic of Cyprus President Demetris Christofias pledged to renew settlement efforts through UN auspices. Following a March 21 meeting between Greek Cypriot leader Christofias and Turkish Cypriot leader Mehmet Ali Talat, the two community leaders agreed to form six working groups and seven technical committees to meet prior to having full-fledged negotiations.

These bodies met through July; on July 25 the two leaders announced that negotiations would begin in September. The talks began on September 3, focusing on governance and power sharing. The negotiations have continued with 13 meetings through the end of December 2008, with the next session scheduled for January 5, 2009.

The United States supported the extension of UNFICYP, continues wholeheartedly to support the joint vision of a bi-zonal, bi-communal federation, with political equality, and is committed to supporting the leaders as they strive to achieve it.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

S/Res/1797

January 30

15(US)-0-0

Authorizes the United Nations Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), in close coordination with international partners and the UN country team, to provide assistance to the Congolese authorities, including the National Independent Electoral Commission, in the organization, preparation and conduct of local elections, as recommended in the letters of the Secretary-General dated October 11, and November 30, 2007.

Background and U.S. Position: MONUC was established to help implement the Lusaka Accord of 1999. Currently, it is the largest fully deployed UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations Mission, with a budget surpassing \$1 billion. The Security Council adopted this resolution to allow MONUC to provide assistance to Congolese authorities in the holding of local elections.

S/Res/1799

February 15

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to extend until March 31, 2008: the measures on arms imposed by Resolution 1493 (2003) as amended and expanded by Resolution 1596 (2005); the measures on transport imposed by Resolution 1596; the financial and travel measures imposed by Resolution 1596, Resolution 1649

II—Security Council

(2005), and Resolution 1698 (2006); and the mandate of the Group of Experts referred to in Resolution 1771.

Background and U.S. Position: This was an interim resolution to provide the Security Council with six additional weeks to craft and gain support for a sanctions resolution concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

S/Res/1807

March 31

15(US)-0-0

Decides, for the period ending December 31, 2008, that all states shall prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer, from their territories or by their nationals, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, of arms and any related *materiel*, and the provision of any assistance, advice or training related to military activities, including financial assistance, to all non-governmental entities and individuals in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

Decides that the measures on arms shall no longer apply to the supply, sale or transfer of arms and related *materiel*, and the provision of any assistance, advice or training related to military activities to the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, as notified in advance to the Sanctions Committee;

Decides that all governments in the region, particularly the Democratic Republic of the Congo and states bordering Ituri and the Kivus, shall take the necessary measures:

To ensure that aircraft operate in the region in accordance with the Convention on International Civil Aviation, signed in Chicago on December 7, 1944, particularly by verifying the validity of documents carried in aircraft and the licenses of pilots; to prohibit immediately in their territories operation of any aircraft inconsistent with the conditions in that Convention or the standards established by the International Civil Aviation Organization, particularly concerning the use of falsified or out-of-date documents; to ensure that all use of airports or airfields in their territories will be consistent with the measures imposed above; and

Decides that the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and those of states bordering Ituri and the Kivus shall take the necessary measures: to strengthen customs controls on the borders between Ituri or the Kivus and the neighboring states; to ensure that use of all means of transport in their territories will not violate the arms embargo.

Background and U.S. Position: In this resolution the Security Council condemned the continuing flow of weapons into the DRC and decided to extend and adjust the arms embargo and targeted sanctions regime (asset freeze and travel ban with limited exemptions) until December 31, 2008. This resolution lifted the arms embargo as it applied to the DRC government.

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

The Security Council also extended the mandate of the Group of Experts concerning the monitoring of sanctions implementation and expressed its concern regarding the presence of armed groups and militia in the eastern part of the DRC, particularly in the provinces of North and South Kivu and the Ituri district.

S/Res/1843

November 20

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) continues to pose a threat to international peace and security in the region; acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to authorize, as recommended by the Secretary-General in his letter dated October 31, 2008, a temporary increase of the UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's (MONUC's) authorized military strength by up to 2,785 military personnel, and the strength of its formed police unit by up to 300 personnel;

Authorizes the immediate deployment of those additional capacities until December 31, 2008, and expresses its intention to extend this authorization on the occasion of MONUC's mandate renewal, underlining that the duration of stay of the additional forces will depend on the security situation in the Kivus; and

Stresses that this temporary increase in personnel aims at enabling MONUC to reinforce its capacity to protect civilians, to reconfigure its structure and forces and to optimize their deployment; underscores the importance of MONUC implementing its mandate in full, including through robust rules of engagement; and emphasizes that MONUC will be reviewed in view of the recent developments by December 31, 2008.

Background and U.S. Position: The Council adopted this resolution in response to a worsening humanitarian situation in the eastern provinces of the DRC. Violence had driven tens of thousands of civilians from their homes and placed their lives at risk – the United Nations estimated that about 250,000 had been displaced since the most recent wave of violence began in August 2008.

An early-November cease-fire resulted in some humanitarian aid being delivered to those in need, but it soon was violated by the rebel Laurent Nkunda's National Congress for the Defense of the People (CNDP). Rebel forces had advanced very near to the provincial capital of Goma, making it particularly vulnerable.

The U.S. calls on all parties to the Goma Agreements and the Nairobi Communiqué to respect their commitments and renounce the use of arms, calls on the countries of the Great Lakes region to work together to enhance stability and respect each other's sovereignty, on CNDP leader Nkunda to resume discussions with the democratically elected and internationally recognized Congolese government, to avoid further fighting, to rescind its

II—Security Council

previous call for open revolt against the Congolese government, and to return to its pre-August 28th position, calls on the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) to lay down its arms, disband, and demobilize, and reaffirms its strong support for MONUC, which has played a vital role in protecting civilian populations in the DRC.

S/Res/1856 December 22 15(US)-0-0

Decides to extend the deployment of the UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) until December 31, 2009, and authorizes the continuation until that date of up to 19,815 military personnel, 760 military observers, 391 police personnel and 1,050 personnel of formed police units;

Requests MONUC to attach the highest priority to addressing the crisis in the Kivus, in particular the protection of civilians, and to concentrate progressively during the coming year its action in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and

Decides that MONUC shall, from the adoption of this resolution, have the mandate, in this order of priority, working in close cooperation with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, for: protection of civilians, humanitarian personnel and United Nations personnel and facilities; disarmament, demobilization, monitoring of resources of foreign and Congolese armed groups; training and mentoring of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) in support for security sector reform; and territorial security of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

Background and U.S. Position: The previous resolution concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo (1843, November 2008) authorized a temporary increase of troop and police levels by more than 3,000 for MONUC. This resolution authorized the continuation of the increase of troop and police levels and extended MONUC's mandate for an additional year, while rearranging its priorities.

The resolution also prioritized MONUC's mandate, identifying the protection of civilians as the Mission's top priority. The Security Council emphasized the importance of MONUC using "all necessary means" to ensure the protection of civilians, humanitarian personnel, and UN staff and facilities.

S/Res/1857 December 22 15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to renew until November 30, 2009, the measures on:

Arms imposed by Paragraph 1 of Resolution 1807 (2008) and reaffirms the provisions of Paragraphs 2, 3, and 5 of that resolution;

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Transport imposed by Paragraphs 6 and 8 of Resolution 1807 (2008), and reaffirms the provisions of Paragraph 7 of that resolution;

Financial and travel measures imposed by Paragraphs 9 and 11 of Resolution 1807 (2008) and reaffirms the provisions of Paragraphs 10 and 12 of that resolution;

Decides that the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1533 (2004) (“the Committee”) may designate, for the financial and travel measures: those violating the arms embargo; political and military leaders of foreign armed groups operating in the DRC who impede the disarmament and the voluntary repatriation or resettlement of combatants belonging to those groups; political and military leaders of Congolese militias receiving support from outside the DRC, who impede the participation of their combatants in disarmament, demobilization and reintegration processes; political and military leaders operating in the DRC and recruiting or using children in armed conflicts in violation of applicable international law; individuals operating in the DRC and committing serious violations of international law involving the targeting of children or women in situations of armed conflict, including killing and maiming, sexual violence, abduction and forced displacement; individuals obstructing the access to or the distribution of humanitarian assistance in the eastern part of the DRC;

Decides further to expand the mandate of the Committee to include the following tasks:

Review regularly the list of individuals and entities designated by the Committee above with a view to keeping the list as updated and accurate as possible, and to confirm that listing remains appropriate, and to encourage member states to provide any additional information whenever such information becomes available; and

Promulgate guidelines in order to facilitate the implementation of the measures imposed by this resolution and keep them under active review as may be necessary.

Requests the Secretary-General to extend, for a period expiring on November 30, 2009, the Group of Experts established pursuant to Resolution 1771 (2007);

Requests the Group of Experts to: focus its activities in North and South Kivu and in Ituri; fulfill its mandate as set out in Paragraph 18 of Resolution 1807 (2008) and expanded to include: providing information relevant to those individuals and entities designated by the Committee and to assist the Committee in updating the publicly available reasons for listing and identifying information for individuals and entities designated; and, to report to the Council in writing, through the Committee by May 15, 2009, and again before October 15, 2009; and

II—Security Council

Encourages member states to take measures, as they deem appropriate, to ensure that importers, processing industries and consumers of Congolese mineral products under their jurisdiction exercise due diligence on their suppliers and on the origin of the minerals they purchase.

Background and U.S. Position: This resolution expanded and extended until November 30, 2009, the DRC sanctions regime. The Security Council also extended the mandate of the Group of Experts which monitors implementation of the sanctions. It took these measures because of serious concerns over the continued presence of armed groups in the eastern part of the country.

The sanctions regime includes: a ban on weapons for armed groups that are not part of the government's security forces or the UN Organization Mission in the DRC (MONUC); and a travel ban and assets freeze on those who violate the embargo, commit human rights violations, impede the disarmament and demobilization of armed groups, or support them through illegal exploitation of natural resources.

This resolution also laid out more specifically the process that listed persons and entities can undertake to be removed from the DRC Sanctions Committee's travel ban and assets freeze list. Further, it established a review mechanism of the sanctions regime to ensure that fair and clear procedures exist for those listed as well as for granting humanitarian exemptions.

ETHIOPIA/ERITREA

S/Res/1798

January 30

15(US)-0-0

Decides to extend the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) for a period of six months, until July 31, 2008;

Reiterates its call on Eritrea and Ethiopia to maintain their full commitment to the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities, and to de-escalate the situation, including by returning to the December 16, 2004, levels of deployment;

Underlines that Eritrea and Ethiopia bear the primary responsibility for achieving a comprehensive and lasting settlement of the border dispute and normalizing their relations; demands that they immediately take concrete steps in order to complete the process launched by the Peace Agreement of December 12, 2000, by enabling physical demarcation of the border; and urges them to normalize their relations;

Reiterates its demands on Eritrea to withdraw immediately all troops and heavy military equipment from the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ); to provide UNMEE with the necessary access, assistance, support, and protection required for the performance of its duties; and to remove immediately and without preconditions the restrictions on UNMEE; reiterates its call on

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Ethiopia to reduce the number of military forces in the areas adjacent to the TSZ;

Notes with grave concern UNMEE’s critical fuel levels; demands that the Government of Eritrea immediately resume fuel shipments to UNMEE, or allows UNMEE to import fuel without restrictions, and requests the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council informed of developments;

Reiterates its call on both parties to cooperate fully with UNMEE with a view to reactivating urgently the work of the Military Coordination Commission, which remains a unique forum to discuss pressing military and security issues; and

Calls on member states to provide contributions to the Trust Fund, established pursuant to Resolution 1177 (1998) and referred to in Article 4 (17) of the Peace Agreement of December 12, 2000; and expresses its deep appreciation for the contribution and dedication of the troop-contributing countries to the work of UNMEE.

Background and U.S. Position: In 2007, the stalemate continued between Ethiopia and Eritrea on demarcation of the border. The Ethiopia-Eritrea Boundary Commission (EEBC), still not able to gain the cooperation of the parties, issued a demarcation decision by map coordinates in November 2006, giving the parties one year to resume cooperation with the EEBC or the decision would become final. No progress was made, so in November 2007 the EEBC ended its substantive activities, and the demarcation decision became final by its terms.

Eritrea continued to restrict the Mission’s operations, and on December 1, 2007 cut off all fuel supplies to UNMEE. Due to a fuel crisis brought on by Eritrea’s refusal to allow UNMEE to purchase or import fuel, in early 2008 the Mission began “temporary relocation” from the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ). UNMEE’s mandate will expire on July 31, 2008, and the Security Council continued to consult on its way forward on the conflict along the Ethiopia-Eritrea border.

S/Res/1827

July 30

15(US)-0-0

Decides to terminate the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) effective on July 31, 2008; emphasizes that this termination is without prejudice to Ethiopia and Eritrea's obligations under the Algiers Agreements; and calls upon both countries to cooperate fully with the United Nations including in the process of liquidation of UNMEE;

Demands Ethiopia and Eritrea to comply fully with their obligations under the Algiers Agreements, to show maximum restraint and refrain from any threat or use of force against each other, and to avoid provocative military activities;

II—Security Council

Strongly supports the ongoing efforts by the Secretary-General and the international community to engage with Ethiopia and Eritrea to help them to implement the Algiers Agreements, to normalize their relations, to promote stability between them, and to lay the foundation for a comprehensive and lasting peace between them; and urges again Ethiopia and Eritrea to accept the Secretary-General's good offices; and

Requests the Secretary-General to further explore with Ethiopia and Eritrea the possibility of a United Nations presence in Ethiopia and Eritrea in the context of the maintenance of international peace and security; and requests the Secretary-General to keep the Council regularly informed of the situation between Ethiopia and Eritrea and to make recommendations as appropriate.

Background and U.S. Position: This resolution ended UNMEE's mandate. UNMEE had earlier withdrawn from Eritrea as restrictions placed on it by Eritrea made it impossible to execute its mandate.

Eritrea and Ethiopia have not resolved their boundary dispute. The Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) demarcation decision by map coordinates became final on November 30, 2007. Eritrea accepted the decision and has called on the Security Council to expel Ethiopia from territory given to Eritrea by the EEBC. Ethiopia rejected the decision as lacking a basis in international law and called for steps against Eritrea for violating the Temporary Security Zone (TSZ) and its actions against UNMEE. Ethiopia has consistently said direct talks were necessary to resolve the impasse. Eritrea persistently rejected talks until after demarcation was completed.

Political initiatives to resolve the impasse have not gained traction. The United States attempted without success to break the impasse in 2005-2006. The United States remains actively engaged but does not plan to lead a new initiative.

Restrictions imposed by Eritrea had made it impossible for UNMEE to execute its mandate. Therefore, the Security Council decided to close UNMEE and terminate its mandate. The United States regrets that this step became necessary, but will continue to support UN and other efforts to resolve differences between the parties.

GEORGIA

S/Res/1808

April 15

15(US)-0-0

Extends the mandate of the UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) through October 15, 2008;

Reaffirms Georgia's sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity within its internationally recognized borders and supports all efforts by the United Nations and the Group of Friends of the Secretary-General to

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

promote a peaceful settlement of the Georgian-Abkhaz conflict within the framework of the Security Council resolutions, and encourages the Group of Friends to continue their steadfast and unified support;

Strongly supports UNOMIG and the efforts of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG), and again urges the parties to cooperate fully with the Mission and to engage in the political process led by the SRSG; welcomes the recent improvements in the overall security situation; calls on both sides to consolidate and broaden those improvements; underlines the need for a period of sustained stability along the ceasefire line and in the Kodori Valley; and stresses the necessity to keep under close observation the situation in the Upper Kodori Valley in line with the Moscow agreement on cease-fire and separation of forces of May 14, 1994;

Welcomes the renewed commitment given by both sides during the meeting chaired by the United Nations in Geneva on February 18-19, 2008, to resume regular consultations within the Quadripartite meetings on security issues without delay, and again urges them to comply;

Expresses its concern at any violation of the cease-fire and separation-of-forces regime in the Zone of Conflict; strongly urges all parties to consider and address seriously each other's legitimate security concerns, to refrain from any acts of violence or provocation, to comply fully with previous agreements regarding cease-fire and non-use of violence, and to maintain the security zone and the restricted-weapons zone free of any unauthorized military activities;

Calls on both sides to finalize, without delay, the documents on the non-use of violence and on the return of refugees and internally displaced persons; and stresses anew the urgent need to alleviate their plight; regrets the lack of progress in confidence-building measures and urges again the Georgian and Abkhaz sides to implement these measures without conditions;

Supports the principles contained in the "Paper on Basic Principles for the Distribution of Competencies between Tbilisi and Sukhumi," and any additional ideas for conducting creatively and constructively a political dialogue under UN aegis; welcomes existing and encourages further contacts between representatives of civil society;

Underlines the primary obligations of both sides to provide appropriate security and to ensure the freedom of movement throughout the zone of conflict of UNOMIG, the CIS peacekeeping force and other international personnel; and

Requests the Secretary-General to make use of this mandate to encourage and support the parties in implementing measures to build confidence and to establish an intensive and meaningful dialogue, to achieve a lasting and comprehensive settlement.

II—Security Council

Background and U.S. Position: UNOMIG’s mandate was previously extended for six months in October 2007 by Resolution 1781. The Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) imposed economic and military sanctions on the separatist regime in Abkhazia in 1996. In March 2008, Russia announced its unilateral withdrawal from those sanctions, positing constructive Abkhaz behavior and the return of Georgian refugees. In fact, only about 40,000 of the more-than 250,000 pre-war Georgian population have been able to return, with no net return since CIS sanctions were imposed.

S/Res/1839

October 9

15(US)-0-0

Recalling all its relevant resolutions including Resolution 1808 (2008); taking note of the reports of the Secretary-General of July 23, 2008, and October 3, 2008:

Decides to extend the mandate of the United Nations mission for a new period terminating on February 15, 2009.

Background and U.S. Position: The mandate of the UN Observer Mission in Georgia (UNOMIG) was due to expire October 15, 2008. Resolution 1839 extended it to mid-February 2009. On August 8 Russian troops invaded Georgia, seized Georgian territory, including territory well beyond South Ossetia and Abkhazia, in violation of Georgia’s sovereignty and territorial integrity, and attacked and destroyed Georgian military infrastructure.

In response the United States called for an immediate cessation of hostilities by all parties to avert further risk of escalation and to stop the suffering of the people of the region, leading to a restoration of the *status quo ante* by all concerned.

The United States worked actively with others to secure a cease-fire, supported French-led mediation to calm the situation, and sought Russia’s support for those efforts. The United States also called on all parties to facilitate access for humanitarian assistance, and reiterated support for Georgia’s sovereignty and territorial integrity as a fundamental tenet of the Security Council’s engagement on issues that affect Georgia.

The United States supported the extension of the UNOMIG mandate and successfully resisted Russian attempts to hold the four-month extension of UNOMIG’s mandate hostage to changing the name of the UN Mission and bringing South Ossetian and Abkhaz separatist leaders to the United Nations, either to address the Security Council or to participate in an informal “Arria-style” meeting.

The United States considered the extension important as it preserved a UN presence in Georgia as the international community sought through the Geneva talks and other negotiations to develop an appropriate international mechanism to address ongoing security and humanitarian concerns in Georgia.

GREAT LAKES REGION

S/Res/1804

March 13

15(US)-0-0

Demands that all members of the *Forces démocratiques de libération du Rwanda* (FDLR), ex-Rwandan Armed Forces (ex-FAR/*Interahamwe*), and other Rwandan armed groups operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo immediately lay down their arms and present themselves without any further delay or preconditions to Congolese authorities and the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC) for their disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration (DDRRR);

Demands also that the FDLR, ex-FAR/*Interahamwe*, and other Rwandan armed groups operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo immediately stop recruiting and using children, release all children associated with them, and put an end to gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, and all other forms of violence, and stresses the need for those responsible to be brought to justice;

Recalls MONUC's mandate to facilitate the voluntary demobilization and repatriation of disarmed foreign combatants and their dependants, and to use all necessary means available to support operations led by the integrated brigades of the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC) to disarm recalcitrant armed groups to ensure their participation in the disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration process;

Calls upon the Governments of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Rwanda to intensify their cooperation to implement their commitments under the Nairobi *Communiqué*, in particular to create conditions conducive to the repatriation of demobilized combatants;

Recalls that targeted measures including a travel ban and an asset freeze imposed and extended previously to apply in particular to political and military leaders of armed groups operating in the Democratic Republic of the Congo who impede the disarmament and the voluntary repatriation or resettlement of combatants belonging to those groups are applicable to leaders of the FDLR, ex-FAR/*Interahamwe* and other Rwandan armed groups; undertakes to consider expanding the measures described above to other members of the FDLR, ex-FAR/*Interahamwe* or other Rwandan armed groups operating in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo or to persons providing other forms of assistance to them;

Stresses that the arms embargo imposed and expanded previously prohibits the provision of arms and any related *materiel* or technical training and assistance to all foreign armed groups and illegal Congolese militias in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including the FDLR, ex-FAR/*Interahamwe*, and other Rwandan armed groups; and

II—Security Council

Calls upon member states to consider preventing the provision by their nationals or from their territories of any financial, technical or other forms of support to or for the benefit of the FDLR, ex-FAR/*Interahamwe* or other Rwandan armed groups operating in the territory of the Democratic Republic of the Congo; and reiterates its call on all states to intensify cooperation with and render all necessary assistance to the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda.

Background and U.S. Position: In this resolution, the Security Council expressed grave concern at the continued illegal presence of the ex-FAR, *Interahamwe*, FDLR, and other foreign armed groups in DRC and called for them to be disarmed and repatriated. It also recalled the targeted measures, including a travel ban and asset freeze, applying to those who impede the disarmament and the voluntary repatriation or resettlement of the combatants belonging to those groups. The resolution also laid down a marker for possibly expanding the measures that would apply to these groups.

HAITI

S/Res/1840

October 14

15(US)-0-0

Decides to extend the mandate of the United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) until October 15, 2009, with the intention of further renewal;

Endorses the recommendation made by the Secretary-General in Paragraph 20 of his report of August 27, 2008, to maintain the current Mission configuration until the planned substantial increase of the Haitian National Police (HNP) capacity allows for a reassessment of the situation;

Decides, therefore, that MINUSTAH will continue to consist of a military component of up to 7,060 troops of all ranks and of a police component of a total of 2,091 police;

Reaffirms its call upon MINUSTAH to support the political process under way in Haiti, including through the good offices of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, and, in cooperation with the Government of Haiti, to promote an all-inclusive political dialogue and national reconciliation, and to provide logistical and security assistance for the upcoming electoral process;

Requests that MINUSTAH continue its support of the Haitian National Police as deemed necessary to ensure security in Haiti, and encourages MINUSTAH and the Government of Haiti to continue to undertake coordinated deterrent actions to decrease the level of crime and violence; recognizes the need for improving and enhancing the efforts in the implementation of the HNP Reform Plan and requests MINUSTAH, consistent with its mandate, to remain engaged in assisting the Government of Haiti to reform and restructure the HNP;

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Encourages also the implementation of the strategic plan of the National Prison Administration, and supports the strengthening of the Mission's capacity, as referred to in the Secretary-General's report of August 27, 2008, in particular to address prison overcrowding;

Requests MINUSTAH to continue to pursue its community violence reduction approach; reaffirms MINUSTAH's human rights mandate and calls on the Haitian authorities to continue their efforts to promote and protect human rights, and calls on MINUSTAH to continue to provide human rights training to the HNP;

Strongly condemns the grave violations against children affected by armed violence, as well as widespread rape and other sexual abuse of girls, and requests MINUSTAH to continue to promote and protect the rights of women and children; and

Calls upon MINUSTAH and the United Nations country team to further enhance their coordination and, in concert with the Government of Haiti and international partners, help ensure greater efficiency in the implementation of the National Strategy for Growth and Poverty Reduction Paper (DSNCRP); and recognizes the need for a high-level donor conference to lend its support to the DSNCRP.

Background and U.S. Position: In April 2004, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution 1542, which created the UN Stability Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH) that replaced a U.S.-led Multilateral Interim Force, made up of troops from the United States, Canada, France, and Chile. Since that time, the Security Council has consistently and unanimously approved the renewal of MINUSTAH's mandate at six-month intervals.

IRAN

S/Res/1803

March 3

14(US)-0-1(Indonesia)

Acting under Article 41 of Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Reaffirms that Iran shall take the steps required by the IAEA to build confidence in the exclusively peaceful purpose of its nuclear program and to resolve outstanding questions. Affirms its decision that Iran shall without delay comply Resolution 1737 (2006) by suspending its uranium enrichment-related, reprocessing, and heavy water-related activities and cooperating fully with the IAEA;

Decides that all states shall prevent the supply, sale or transfer directly or indirectly from their territories or by their nationals or using their flag vessels or aircraft to, or for use in or benefit of, Iran, and whether or not originating in their territories, of: (a) all items, materials, equipment, goods and technology set out in INFCIRC/254/Rev.7/Part 2 of document

II—Security Council

S/2006/814, with an exception; and (b) all items, materials, equipment, goods and technology set out in 19.A.3 of Category II of document S/2006/815;

Calls upon all states to exercise vigilance in entering into new commitments for publicly provided financial support for trade with Iran, to their nationals or entities involved in such trade, to avoid such financial support contributing to the proliferation-sensitive nuclear activities, or to the development of nuclear weapon delivery systems;

Calls upon all states to exercise vigilance over the activities of financial institutions in their territories with all banks domiciled in Iran, in particular Bank Melli and Bank Saderat, and their branches and subsidiaries abroad, to avoid such activities contributing to the proliferation-sensitive nuclear activities, or to the development of nuclear weapon delivery systems;

Calls upon all states to inspect ocean and air cargoes to and from Iran, owned or operated by Iran Air Cargo and Islamic Republic of Iran Shipping Line, provided there is reasonable belief that the goods being transported are prohibited under Resolution 1803 (2008) or Resolutions 1737 (2006) or 1747 (2007); and when inspection is undertaken, to report to the Security Council; and

Requests within 90 days a report from the IAEA; and reaffirms that it shall review Iran's actions in light of the report, and determine next steps.

Background and U.S. Position: Resolution 1803 (2008) was adopted with a vote of 14-0 (with one abstention, Indonesia) against a backdrop of Iran's continued and deepened violations of two previous Chapter VII, legally binding UN Security Council resolutions. Instead of suspending its enrichment and reprocessing activities as required by the Security Council, Iran chose to expand the number of its operating centrifuges and to develop a new generation of centrifuges, testing one of them with nuclear fuel. Iran continued to construct its heavy-water research reactor at Arak, a potential source of weapons-useable plutonium. Iran still had not implemented the IAEA Additional Protocol (AP), and the latest IAEA report of February 22, 2008, said Iran had not met its obligation to fully disclose its past nuclear weapons program, or to suspend its proliferation-sensitive nuclear activities. Iran's behavior gave the Security Council no choice but to act, so it imposed additional measures through adoption of Resolution 1803.

The United States recognizes Iran's right to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, but absent IAEA verification that all weapons-related work has ceased, assurances that there are no undeclared nuclear activities in Iran, and Iranian suspension of proliferation-sensitive nuclear activities, Iran's nuclear activities cannot be considered exclusively peaceful in nature.

S/Res/1835

September 27

15(US)-0-0

Taking note of the September 15, 2008, report by the Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) on the

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Implementation of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Safeguards Agreement (in Iran) and relevant provisions of Security Council resolutions; and reaffirming its commitment to the NPT:

Reaffirms the Statement of its President of March 29, 2006, and its Resolution 1696 (2006), its Resolution 1737 (2006), its Resolution 1747 (2007), and its Resolution 1803 of March 3, 2008;

Takes note of the March 3, 2008, statement of the Foreign Ministers of China, France, Germany, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America, with the support of the High Representative of the European Union, describing the dual-track approach to the Iranian nuclear issue; and

Reaffirms its commitment within this framework to an early negotiated solution to the Iranian nuclear issue and welcomes the continuing efforts in this regard; and calls upon Iran to comply fully and without delay with its obligations under the above-mentioned resolutions of the Security Council, and to meet the requirements of the IAEA Board of Governors.

Background and U.S. Position: The IAEA Director General reported on September 15, 2008, that Iran had failed to comply with its Security Council obligations and the IAEA Board of Governors requirement to suspend all proliferation-sensitive nuclear activities, including enrichment-related activities, and had not undertaken full and complete transparency with the IAEA. Instead, Iran continued to expand its enrichment activities and continued to construct a heavy-water research reactor at Arak, capable of producing weapons-useable plutonium when operational. The Director General also noted that only through the resolution of all outstanding issues regarding Iran's nuclear activities could doubts about the exclusively peaceful nature of Iran's nuclear program be dispelled, "particularly in light of the many years of clandestine nuclear activities by Iran."

The Security Council adopted this resolution quickly and by consensus, making clear that Iran's nuclear weapons ambitions remain both a serious concern and a priority issue for the international community. Indonesia voted in favor of this resolution after abstaining on Resolution 1803. This resolution sends a very strong message of international resolve and unity for the goal of preventing Iran from developing a nuclear weapons capability.

The P5+1 (permanent Security Council members plus Germany) remains fully committed to a dual-track strategy toward Iran. It also remains united in its serious concerns about Iran's refusal to comply with its UNSC obligations and the requirements of the IAEA, its pursuit of a nuclear weapons capability, and its lack of cooperation with the IAEA. The P5+1 incentives package remains on the table. The Secretary's historic offer to sit down with her Iranian counterpart – at any time and any place – to discuss any issue, once Iran has fully and verifiably suspended its uranium enrichment-related and reprocessing activities also remains on the table.

II—Security Council

The United States recognizes Iran's right to develop nuclear energy for peaceful purposes. Nonetheless, without IAEA verification that all weapons-related work has ceased, assurances that there are no undeclared nuclear activities in Iran, and Iranian suspension of proliferation-sensitive nuclear activities, Iran's nuclear program cannot be considered exclusively peaceful in nature

IRAQ

S/Res/1830

August 7

15(US)-0-0

Extends the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) for 12 months from August 7, 2008;

Decides that the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and UNAMI shall continue to pursue their expanded mandate as stipulated in Resolution 1770 (2007);

Recognizes that the security of UN personnel is essential for UNAMI to carry out its work for the benefit of the people of Iraq, and calls upon the Iraqi government and other member states to continue to provide security and logistical support to the UN presence in Iraq; welcomes contributions of member states in providing UNAMI with the financial, logistical, and security resources and support to fulfill its mission, and calls upon member states to continue to contribute; and

Expresses its intent to review UNAMI's mandate in 12 months or sooner, if requested by the Iraqi government; and requests the Secretary-General to report quarterly on the progress made toward the fulfillment of all UNAMI's responsibilities.

Background and U.S. Position: UNAMI was established by Resolution 1500 (2003), and was subsequently renewed and expanded by Resolutions 1546 (2004), 1557 (2004), 1619 (2005), 1700 (2006) and 1770 (2007). UNAMI's presence in Iraq when this resolution was adopted included over 400 UN personnel operating in Baghdad, Basrah, Erbil, and Kirkuk. The United States drafted and sponsored Resolution 1830, and welcomed its unanimous adoption, extending UNAMI's mandate for an additional 12 months.

S/Res/1859

December 22

15(US)-0-0

Noting the letter from the Prime Minister of Iraq to the President of the Security Council, dated December 7, 2008, which is annexed to this resolution, welcoming the Prime Minister's affirmation of Iraq's commitment to living in peace with its neighbors in a manner that contributes to the security and stability of the region; recognizing the expiration of the mandate of the multinational force at the end of December 31, 2008; recognizing that the letter from the Prime Minister also reaffirms the commitment by the government to resolve the debts and settle the claims inherited from the

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

previous regime and to continue to address these debts and claims until they are resolved or settled, and requests the continued assistance of the international community, as the Government of Iraq works to complete this process; and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to extend until December 31, 2009, the arrangements established in Paragraph 20 of Resolution 1483 (2003) for the depositing into the Development Fund for Iraq of proceeds from export sales of petroleum, petroleum products and natural gas and the arrangements referred to in Paragraph 12 of Resolution 1483 (2003) and Paragraph 24 of Resolution 1546 (2004) for the monitoring of the Development Fund for Iraq by the International Advisory and Monitoring Board and further decides that, subject to the exception provided for in Paragraph 27 of Resolution 1546 (2004), the provisions of Paragraph 22 of Resolution 1483 (2003) shall continue to apply until that date, including with respect to funds and financial assets and economic resources described in Paragraph 23 of that resolution;

Decides further that the provisions above for the deposit of proceeds into the Development Fund for Iraq and for the role of the International Advisory and Monitoring Board and the provisions of Paragraph 22 of Resolution 1483 (2003) shall be reviewed at the request of the Government of Iraq or no later than June 15, 2009; and

Decides to review resolutions pertaining specifically to Iraq, beginning with the adoption of Resolution 661 (1990), and in that regard requests the Secretary-General to report, after consultations with Iraq, on facts relevant to consideration by the Council of actions necessary for Iraq to achieve international standing equal to that which it held prior to the adoption of such resolutions.

Background and U.S. Position: This resolution recognized the progress Iraq has made in security and political reconciliation; facilitated further progress by protecting oil and gas and other Development Fund revenues for use in implementing development plans while Iraq works to resolve debts and settle claims inherited from the previous regime; and, recognizing that the situation in Iraq is significantly different from that which existed in 1990, called for a review of all Security Council resolutions on Iraq since then.

LIBERIA

S/Res/1819

June 18

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Liberia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the UN Charter:

Requests that the Secretary-General renew the mandate of the Panel of Experts until December 20, 2008, and that he reappoint the panel members;

II—Security Council

requests that the Panel of Experts report to the Council through the Committee established by Resolution 1521 (2003) ("the Committee") by December 1, 2008, on all issues listed in Resolution 1792 (2007), and informally before then;

Calls upon all states to cooperate fully with the panel, and encourages the Government of Liberia to implement the recommendations of the most recent Kimberley Process review and to strengthen controls on rough diamond trade; encourages the Kimberley Process to inform the Security Council through its Committee of its assessment of Liberian government implementation of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme; and

Reiterates the importance of the UN Mission in Liberia's (UNMIL's) continuing assistance to the Government of Liberia, the Committee, and the Panel of Experts, including in monitoring the implementation of the measures in Resolution 1521 (2003), and recalls its request that UNMIL inspect inventories of weapons and ammunition obtained in accordance with Resolution 1683 (2006) to ensure all such weapons and ammunition are accounted for, and to make periodic reports to the Committee on its findings.

Background and U.S. Position: In June 2008, the Secretary-General extended the mandate for the Panel of Experts, which includes investigating and reporting on the implementation and violations of the UN sanctions regime for Liberia. The Panel of Experts was also tasked with assessing the implementation of forestry legislation signed into law in October 2007, and with gauging the government's compliance with the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, a mechanism established to keep "blood diamonds" from reaching world markets. The UN Peacekeeping Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) was tasked with assisting the work of the Panel and the Security Council's Liberia Sanctions Committee in the inspection of weapons and ammunition.

The United States noted Liberia's progress in consolidating peace, stability, democracy, and promoting economic recovery. It also recognized Liberia's continued challenges to completing its economic and democratic transitions, and in increasing governmental authority throughout the country. The United States concurred with extending the Panel of Experts' mandate for six months.

S/Res/1836

September 29

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Liberia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region; and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides that the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL) shall be extended until September 30, 2009;

Reaffirms its intention to authorize the Secretary-General to redeploy troops, as may be needed, between UNMIL and the UN Operation in Côte

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

d'Ivoire (UNOCI) on a temporary basis in accordance with the provisions of Resolution 1609 (2005);

Endorses the Secretary-General's recommendation for a reduction of an additional 1,460 personnel deployed as part of UNMIL's military component and for the streamlining of the current four sectors into two, and authorizes the Secretary-General to implement this recommendation during the period October 2008 to March 2009; and

Further endorses, with immediate effect, the Secretary-General's recommendation for an increase of 240 in the authorized number of personnel deployed as part of UNMIL's police component in order to provide strategic advice and expertise in specialized fields, provide operational support to regular policing activities and react to urgent security incidents, as well as his plans for internal adjustments in the composition of the police component within the overall ceiling, including an increase in the number of formed police units.

Background and U.S. Position: Reporting to the Security Council about UNMIL on August 15, 2008, the UN Secretary-General said that he had observed broad progress on governance and economic development during his recent trip to Liberia, but also noted that security and rule-of-law challenges indicate that Liberia's progress remains fragile.

In his report he recommended a reduction of almost 1,500 UNMIL military personnel, while increasing UNMIL police forces by 240. The result would be just over 10,000 troops and 845 police by September 2009. (UNMIL's total security strength stood at almost 13,000 troops, police officers, and military observers as of the end of July 2008.)

In her 2008 address to the General Assembly, Liberian President Johnson-Sirleaf said UNMIL's presence had been critical to the country's progress in revitalizing its economy, rebuilding basic infrastructure, tackling corruption and consolidating peace and security after years of civil war. The United States strongly supported the extension of UNMIL for an additional 12 months, along with the proposed changes in its security composition.

S/Res/1854

December 19

15(US)-0-0

Determining that, despite significant progress having been made in Liberia, the situation there continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides, on the basis of its assessment of progress made to date toward meeting the conditions for lifting the measures imposed by Resolution 1521 (2003): To renew the measures on arms imposed by Paragraph 2 of Resolution 1521 (2003) and modified by Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Resolution 1683 (2006) and by Paragraph 1(b) of Resolution 1731 (2006), and to renew the measures on travel imposed by Paragraph 4 of Resolution 1521 (2003) for

II—Security Council

a further 12 months; that member states shall notify the Committee established by Paragraph 21 of Resolution 1521 (2003) ("the Committee") upon delivery of all arms and related *materiel* supplied in accordance with Paragraph 2(e) or 2(f) of Resolution 1521 (2003), Paragraph 2 of Resolution 1683 (2006), or Paragraph 1(b) of Resolution 1731; and to review any of the above measures at the request of the Government of Liberia once the Government reports to the Council that the conditions set out in Resolution 1521 (2003) for terminating the measures have been met, and provides the Council with information to justify its assessment;

Decides to extend the mandate of the current Panel of Experts appointed pursuant to Paragraph 1 of Resolution 1819 (2008) until December 20, 2009, to undertake the following tasks: to conduct two follow-up assessment missions to Liberia and neighboring states, to investigate and compile reports on the implementation, and any violations, of the measures imposed by Resolution 1521 (2003) and renewed above; to assess the impact of and effectiveness of the measures imposed by Paragraph 1 of Resolution 1532 (2004), particularly with respect to the assets of former President Charles Taylor; to assess the implementation of forestry legislation passed on September 19, 2006, and signed into law on October 5, 2006; and to assess the Government of Liberia's compliance with the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme, and to coordinate with the Kimberley Process in assessing compliance;

Provide a midterm report to the Council through the Committee by 1 June 2009 and a final report to the Council through the Committee by 20 December 2009 on all the issues within its mandate, and to provide informal updates to the Committee as appropriate before those dates, especially on progress in the timber and diamond sectors;

Cooperate actively with other relevant groups of experts, in particular that on Côte d'Ivoire, and with the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme; identify and make recommendations regarding areas where the capacity of States in the region can be strengthened to facilitate the implementation of the travel ban and asset freeze; and

Assist the Committee in updating the publicly available reasons for listing for entries on the travel ban and assets freeze lists; and requests the Secretary-General to reappoint the current members of the Panel of Experts and to make the necessary arrangements to support the work of the Panel.

Background and U.S. Position: This resolution renewed for an additional year the Liberia sanctions regime (arms embargo and targeted measures against individuals and entities designated by the Committee) dating to 2003. It also renewed until December 20, 2009, the mandate of the Panel of Experts that monitors the implementation of the sanctions, and requested the Secretary-General to reappoint the panel's current members.

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

MIDDLE EAST

S/Res/1815

June 2

15(US)-0-0

Reaffirms its strongest condemnation of the February 14, 2005, terrorist bombing that killed former Lebanese Prime Minister Hariri and others, as well as of all other attacks in Lebanon since October 2004, and reaffirms also that those involved in these attacks must be held accountable for their crimes;

Commends the International Independent Investigation Commission for its outstanding professional work and continued progress under difficult circumstances in assisting the Lebanese investigation of this terrorist attack. Takes note of the request to extend the mandate of the Commission expressed by the Commissioner in his briefing to the Security Council on April 8, 2008, to ensure investigative stability and continuity; and

Agrees to continue to assist Lebanon in the search for the truth and in holding all those involved accountable. Decides to extend the mandate of the Commission until December 31, 2008, and declares its readiness to terminate the mandate earlier if the Commission reports that it has completed its mandate.

Background and U.S. Position: The former Prime Minister of Lebanon, Rafiq Hariri, was assassinated on February 14, 2005, in a terrorist bombing. In April 2005, the Security Council decided to establish the International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIC) to assist the Lebanese authorities in their investigation of all aspects of this terrorist attack. Since then, the Security Council has renewed the UNIIC's mandate before it expired. In December 2005, the then-Prime Minister of Lebanon requested establishment of an international tribunal in a letter to the Secretary-General.

By February 2006, the United Nations and the Government of Lebanon had agreed to establish a Special Tribunal for Lebanon. The Netherlands has offered to host the tribunal, and the Dutch parliament is considering the Headquarters Agreement between the United Nations and the Netherlands.

The United States condemned the terrorist attacks as a threat to international peace and security. The United States affirms the necessity for accountability for what happened in Lebanon, and joined consensus on this resolution.

S/Res/1821

June 27

15(US)-0-0

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force dated June 16, 2008, and also reaffirming its Resolution 1308 (2000):

II—Security Council

Calls upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its Resolution 338, first passed on October 22, 1973; and decides to renew the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for a period of six months, that is, until December 31, 2008.

Background and U.S. Position: Security Council Resolution 338 (1973) directed a cease-fire to stop the 1973 Yom Kippur War involving Israel, Egypt, and Syria. Besides a cease-fire, the resolution also affirmed that a just and lasting Middle East peace should include the principles, listed in Security Council Resolution 242 (first passed on November 22, 1967), of Israeli withdrawal from “territory occupied in the recent conflict” and the end of belligerency toward Israel and its right to live in peace within secure, recognized boundaries. Resolution 1821 is the current embodiment of Resolutions 242 and 338.

S/Res/1832

August 27

15(US)-0-0

Responding to the request of the Government of Lebanon to extend the mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) for a new period of one year without amendment presented in a letter from the Lebanese Prime Minister to the Secretary-General of August 18, 2008, and welcoming the letter from the Secretary-General to its President of August 21, 2008, recommending this extension, and determining that the situation in Lebanon continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security:

Decides to extend the present mandate of UNIFIL until August 31, 2009;

Commends the positive role of UNIFIL, whose deployment together with the Lebanese armed forces has helped to establish a new strategic environment in southern Lebanon, and welcomes the expansion of coordinated activities between UNIFIL and the Lebanese armed forces and encourages further cooperation;

Calls upon all parties concerned to respect the cessation of hostilities and the Blue Line in its entirety and to cooperate fully with the United Nations and UNIFIL and to abide scrupulously by their obligation to respect the safety of UNIFIL and other UN personnel, avoiding any course of action which endangers UN personnel and according UNIFIL full freedom of movement within its area of operation; and

Calls upon all parties to cooperate fully with the Security Council and the Secretary-General to achieve a permanent cease-fire and a long-term solution as envisioned in Resolution 1701 (2006), and emphasizes the need for greater progress in this regard; and stresses the importance of achieving a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East, based on all its relevant resolutions including Resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), and 1515 (2003).

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Background and U.S. Position: Despite progress, Lebanon continues to confront significant challenges. On the positive side, the Doha Agreement led to the election of Michel Suleiman as President, as well as the formation of a National Unity Government. The recent announcement in Paris that Syria and Lebanon agreed to exchange diplomatic missions is also welcome.

However, events in Lebanon in early May demonstrated yet again the serious threat posed by armed militias outside the control of the state. Reports of breaches of the arms embargo persist and Hizballah claims that it has rebuilt its military capacity since the 2006 war.

The international community must continue to work toward the full implementation of Resolutions 1559 and 1701 and the Doha Agreement, in order to safeguard Lebanon's independence and security, and must continue strongly to support efforts of the Lebanese Armed Forces and Internal Security Forces to restore calm and support the legitimate government of Lebanon. The United States also calls on outside parties to cease arming illegal militias in Lebanon. UNIFIL's role in Lebanon is not finished.

The United States believes that although much remains to be done to achieve the goal of a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, there is movement in the right direction. Responsible, coordinated, and effective support from the international community can help the parties secure the peace that has so far eluded them.

S/Res/1848 December 12 15(US)-0-0

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) of November 26, 2008, and also reaffirming its Resolution 1308 (2000):

Calls upon the parties concerned to implement immediately its Resolution 338 (1973); and decides to renew the mandate of UNDOF for a period of six months, that is, until June 30, 2009.

Background and U.S. Position: Security Council Resolution 338 (1973) directed a cease-fire to stop the 1973 Yom Kippur War involving Israel, Egypt, and Syria. Besides a cease-fire, the resolution also affirmed that a just and lasting Middle East peace should include the principles, listed in Security Council Resolution 242 (first passed on November 22, 1967), of Israeli withdrawal from "territory occupied in the recent conflict" and the end of belligerency toward Israel and its right to live in peace within secure, recognized boundaries. Resolution 1848 is the current embodiment of Resolutions 242 and 338.

S/Res/1850 December 16 15(US)-0-0

Recalling all its previous relevant resolutions, in particular Resolutions 242, 338, 1397, and 1515, and the Madrid principles; reiterating

II—Security Council

its vision of a region where two democratic states, Israel and Palestine, live side-by-side in peace within secure and recognized borders;

Welcoming the November 9, 2008, statement from the Quartet and the Israeli-Palestinian Joint Understanding announced at the November 2007 Annapolis Conference, including in relation to implementation of the Performance-Based Roadmap to a Permanent Two-State Solution to the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict;

Noting also that lasting peace can only be based on an enduring commitment to mutual recognition, freedom from violence, incitement, and terror, and the two-state solution, building upon previous agreements and obligations;

Noting the importance of the 2002 Arab Peace Initiative; encouraging the Quartet's ongoing work to support the parties in their efforts to achieve a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East:

Declares its support for the negotiations initiated at Annapolis, Maryland, on November 27, 2007, and its commitment to the irreversibility of the bilateral negotiations; supports the parties' agreed principles for the bilateral negotiating process and their determined efforts to reach their goal of concluding a peace treaty resolving all outstanding issues, including all core issues, without exception, which confirm the seriousness of the Annapolis process;

Calls on both parties to fulfill their obligations under the Performance-Based Roadmap, as stated in their Annapolis Joint Understanding, and refrain from any steps that could undermine confidence or prejudice the outcome of negotiations; calls on all states and international organizations to contribute to an atmosphere conducive to negotiations and to support the Palestinian government that is committed to the Quartet principles and the Arab Peace Initiative and respects the commitments of the Palestinian Liberation Organization, to assist in the development of the Palestinian economy, to maximize the resources available to the Palestinian Authority, and to contribute to the Palestinian institution-building program in preparation for statehood; and

Urges an intensification of diplomatic efforts to foster, in parallel with progress in the bilateral process, mutual recognition and peaceful coexistence between all states in the region in the context of achieving a comprehensive, just, and lasting peace in the Middle East; and welcomes the Quartet's consideration, in consultation with the parties, of an international meeting in Moscow in 2009.

Background and U.S. Position: The Secretary of State attended a ministerial-level meeting of the Security Council to craft and pass this resolution. In her remarks, she noted four important elements in the resolution: It confirms the irreversibility of the bilateral negotiations and

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

endorses the parties' brave efforts; it reiterates the importance of fulfilling obligations under the Roadmap; it underscores that peace will be built upon mutual recognition, freedom from violence and terror, the two-state solution, and previous agreements and obligations, building upon Quartet principles and codifying the Security Council's backing of these fundamental principles; and it underlines that the solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict should be aligned with efforts toward broader regional peace. As regional Arab states reach out to Israel, Israel should reach out to regional Arab states.

The United States and Russia co-sponsored the resolution. Secretary Rice noted the U.S. view that "the threat of extremism and terrorism posed by Hamas is a threat to the Annapolis process and to the fulfillment of legitimate Palestinian aspirations."

S/Res/1852

December 17

15(US)-0-0

Reaffirming its strongest condemnation of the February 14, 2005, terrorist bombing, as well as of all other attacks in Lebanon since October 2004, and reaffirming also that those involved in these attacks must be held accountable for their crimes;

Having examined the report of the International Independent Investigation Commission ("The Commission"); taking note of the Secretary-General's announcement that the Special Tribunal for Lebanon ("The Tribunal") is fully on track to commence functioning on March 1, 2009; taking note of the Commission's request to extend its mandate up to February 28, 2009, so that it can continue its investigation without interruption and gradually transfer operations, staff, and assets to The Hague with a view to completing the transition by the time the Tribunal starts functioning; taking note of the letter of the Prime Minister of Lebanon of December 4, 2008, (Enclosure) to the Secretary-General, expressing the hope that the Security Council will respond favorably to the Commission's request;

Commending the Commission for its extensive work and the progress it continues to achieve in the investigation on all cases within its mandate, and looking forward to further progress in this regard by the Commission, as well as by the Office of the Prosecutor, once it begins to operate and takes over the continuation of the investigation into the death of former Prime Minister Rafiq Hariri and other cases which may be connected with the attack of February 14, 2005, in conformity with the Statute of the Tribunal; and

Welcomes the report of the Commission; and decides to extend the mandate of the Commission until February 28, 2009.

Background and U.S. Position: The former Prime Minister of Lebanon, Rafiq Hariri, was assassinated on February 14, 2005, in a terrorist bombing. In April 2005, the Security Council established the International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIC) to assist the Lebanese authorities in their investigation of all aspects of this terrorist attack.

II—Security Council

This resolution extends UNIIC's Chapter VII mandate up to the start of the Special Tribunal for Lebanon on March 1, 2009, after which Commissioner Bellemare will continue the investigation as prosecutor, albeit without Chapter VII authority, in preparation for the possible issuance of indictments.

The United States condemned the terrorist attack on Hariri as a threat to international peace and security, has repeatedly affirmed the necessity for accountability for what happened in Lebanon, and led efforts to ensure Commissioner Bellemare's request for a brief mandate extension to allow a smooth transition from UNIIC to the Tribunal was met.

NEPAL

S/Res/1796

January 23

15(US)-0-0

Decides, following the request from the Government of Nepal and based on the Secretary-General's recommendation, to renew the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), as set out in Security Council Resolution 1740 (2007), until July 23, 2008;

Expresses full support for the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and calls upon all parties to maintain momentum in implementation of the Agreement; to continue constructive engagement with the United Nations, including reaching an early status of mission agreement, and to work together to progress to Constituent Assembly elections; and

Encourages all parties to take full advantage of the expertise and readiness of UNMIN, within its existing mandate, to support the peace process; requests the Secretary-General to keep the Council regularly informed of progress toward the implementation of this resolution, and in particular to review the activities of UNMIN in light of the elections scheduled for April 10, 2008, taking into account the views of the Government of Nepal and the developments on the ground; and requests the parties in Nepal to take the necessary steps to promote the safety, security, and freedom of movement of UNMIN and associated personnel in executing the tasks defined in the mandate.

Background and U.S. Position: In 1996, the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist) [CPN (M)] launched an insurgency, resulting in violations of international humanitarian law committed by both sides, disappearances, the displacement of tens of thousands of civilians, and sexual violence. To deal with the crisis, King Gyanendra directed a crackdown on mainstream democratic parties, the media, and civil society beginning in February 2005.

Massive, pro-democracy public demonstrations resulted in the end of the king's direct rule, restoration of Parliament, and a mutual cease-fire in April 2006. On November 21, 2006, the Government of Nepal and the CPN (M) signed a Comprehensive Peace Agreement. Both parties committed to

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

transforming the existing cease-fire into a permanent and sustainable peace and sought the assistance of the United Nations to attain that goal.

Toward that end, the Security Council passed Resolution 1740 on January 23, 2007, establishing UNMIN. With Constituent Assembly elections scheduled for April 10, 2008, the Security Council viewed the continuance and success of UNMIN as critical in assisting Nepal to hold a free and fair election for a constituent assembly. The Security Council, through this resolution, not only sought to extend UNMIN's mandate a further six months, but to signal its full support for UNMIN and UN support staff in fulfilling their mandate to facilitate the election and the peace process.

The U.S. goal in Nepal has been to encourage the interim government to schedule Constituent Assembly elections in a timely manner. The United States supported this resolution as a means to assist the government in having free, fair, and transparent elections, as well as helping the Nepalese people to establish stability and prosperity.

S/Res/1825

July 23

15(US)-0-0

Welcoming the July 11 report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in Nepal (UNMIN), in accordance with his mandate; taking note of the Government of Nepal's July 8 letter to the Secretary-General, which recognizes UNMIN's contribution and requests an extension of UNMIN at a smaller scale to carry out the remainder of the mandate for six months:

Decides to renew the mandate of UNMIN as established under Resolution 1740 (2007) until January 23, 2009; concurs with the Secretary-General's view that the current monitoring arrangements should not be necessary for a substantial further period and expects to see them concluded within the period of this mandate; endorses the Secretary-General's recommendations for a phased, gradual, drawdown and withdrawal of UNMIN staff, including arms monitors;

Calls upon the Government of Nepal to continue to take the necessary decisions to create conditions conducive to completion of UNMIN's activities by the end of the current mandate, including through implementation of the June 25 Agreement, in order to facilitate UNMIN's withdrawal from Nepal; and

Calls upon all parties in Nepal to work together in a spirit of cooperation, consensus, and compromise to continue the transition to a durable, long-term solution to enable the country to move to a peaceful, democratic, and more prosperous future; and requests the parties in Nepal to take the necessary steps to promote the safety, security, and freedom of movement of UNMIN and associated personnel in executing the tasks defined in the mandate.

Background and U.S. Position: A Maoist insurgency began in Nepal in 1996 and lasted 10 years. In 2006 Nepal's king reinstated Parliament, and

II—Security Council

the Maoists declared a unilateral cease-fire which the new government reciprocated. The Seven-Party Alliance (SPA) and the Maoists signed five agreements, culminating in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of November 21, 2006, effectively ending the insurgency. However, Maoist violence and intimidation continued in spite of the agreement.

The major goal of the SPA and the Maoists was to hold a Constituent Assembly (CA) election, with the primary responsibility of drafting and promulgating a new constitution defining the future political system in Nepal. The CA election was held on April 10, 2008. None of the parties succeeded in getting a simple majority in the CA. The first session of the CA was convened on May 28, 2008. In this session, the CA voted to declare Nepal a federal democratic republic by abolishing the monarchy.

UNMIN was established to support Nepal's peace process. It was created in response to August 2006 letters to the Secretary-General from the then-Seven-Party Alliance Government and the Communist Party of Nepal (Maoist), requesting UN assistance to create conditions for a free and fair election of the CA, and for the entire peace process.

The United States strongly supports UNMIN and looks forward to completion of the remainder of its mandate, especially regarding management of arms and armed personnel. It urges all of Nepal's political parties to settle differences through dialogue, so that Nepal's future may be characterized by democracy and economic development.

The United States also strongly encourages the new government to address the concerns of historically disadvantaged groups, so that all parties and groups committed to a new, democratic Nepal will share equally in the process of nation-building.

The United States has committed to provide nearly \$10 million in support of Nepal's transition to democracy in areas such as security sector reform, conflict resolution, civil society, supporting legal institutions, and political parties. It urges other donors to offer maximum support to ensure Nepal's successful transition.

RWANDA

S/Res/1823

July 10

15(US)-0-0

Stressing the importance of the cooperation of all states, in particular those in the region, with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo and with the Group of Experts established by Resolution 1533 (2004), while carrying out its mandate as renewed by Resolution 1807 (2008);

Stressing further the need for states in the region to ensure that arms and related *matériel* delivered to them are not diverted to or used by illegal armed groups;

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Recalling the joint *communiqué* of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Government of the Republic of Rwanda signed in Nairobi November 9, 2007, and the outcome of the Conference for Peace, Security and Development in North and South Kivu, held at Goma in January 2008, which together represent a major step toward the restoration of lasting peace and stability in the Great Lakes region, and looking forward to their full implementation;

Welcoming the entry into force of the Pact on Security, Stability, and Development in the Great Lakes Region and stressing the importance of its full implementation; and

Decides to terminate the prohibitions imposed by Paragraphs 9 and 10 of Resolution 1011 (1995); and decides further to dissolve the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 918 (1994) concerning Rwanda.

Background and U.S. Position: In this resolution the Security Council lifted the remaining measures designed to prohibit the sale and supply of arms and related *materiel* for use in Rwanda that were imposed after the savage genocide that took place there in 1994. Paragraph 9 of Resolution 1011 required member states to prevent the sale or supply to Rwanda, or to persons in neighboring states if for use within Rwanda, of arms and related *materiel* of all types (including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary police equipment and spare parts), other than to the Rwandan government.

Paragraph 10 of Resolution 1011 – whose strictures were also terminated by this new resolution – barred reselling, transferring or making available arms or related *materiel* sold or supplied to the Government of Rwanda for use by any neighboring state or person not in the service of the Rwandan government. The Security Council also decided to dissolve the Committee established by Resolution 918 in 1994 that monitored the Rwandan arms embargo.

SIERRA LEONE

S/Res/1829

August 4

15(US)-0-0

Requests the Secretary-General to establish the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL), as recommended in his April 29, 2008, report, for 12 months beginning on October 1, 2008, with the key tasks as specified below;

Welcomes the Secretary-General's recommendation in the report that UNIPSIL should be headed by an Executive Representative of the Secretary-General who would also serve as the Resident Representative of the UN Development Program and UN Resident Coordinator; and underlines the need for appropriate expertise and adequate material resources, so the Office can implement its mandate effectively and efficiently;

II—Security Council

Requests that UNIPSIL focus on and support the Government of Sierra Leone in:

Providing political support to national and local efforts for identifying and resolving tensions and threats of potential conflict, whatever the source; monitoring and promoting human rights, democratic institutions, and the rule of law, including efforts to counter transnational organized crime and drug trafficking;

Consolidating good governance reforms, focusing especially on instruments such as the Anti-Corruption Commission; supporting decentralization, reviewing the Constitution, and enactment of relevant legislation; closely coordinating with and supporting the work of the Peacebuilding Commission, as well as implementing the Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework and projects supported through the Peacebuilding Fund;

Underlines the importance of establishing a fully integrated office with effective coordination of strategy and programs among UN agencies, funds, and programs in Sierra Leone, and emphasizes the need for the UN system to support and cooperate fully with UNIPSIL, in accordance with the Executive Representative's function as Resident Representative and Resident Coordinator; stresses the need for close cooperation between UNIPSIL, ECOWAS, the Mano River Union, international partners, and other UN missions in the region;

Emphasizes the Government of Sierra Leone's primary responsibility for peacebuilding, security, and long-term development in the country, and encourages it to continue engaging closely with the Peacebuilding Commission, including by monitoring implementation of the Sierra Leone Peacebuilding Cooperation Framework, and further encourages international partners to continue supporting the government and cooperating with the Peacebuilding Commission; and

Calls upon the Government of Sierra Leone and all other stakeholders to: increase promoting good governance, including through effective local government and continuing to combat corruption and improve accountability; promote private-sector development to generate wealth and employment, particularly for young people; strengthen the judiciary; and to advance human rights, including by implementing the Truth and Reconciliation Commission recommendations.

Background and U.S. Position: On October 22, 1999, the Security Council established UNAMSIL to cooperate with the Sierra Leonean government and the other parties in implementing the Lome Peace Agreement and to assist in the implementation of the disarmament, demobilization, and reintegration plan. On February 7, 2000, the Council revised UNAMSIL's mandate. It also expanded its size, as it did once again on May 19, 2000, and on March 30, 2001.

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

UNAMSIL successfully completed its mandate in December 2005. It was succeeded by a new mission -- the United Nations Integrated Office for Sierra Leone (UNIOSIL) -- established by the Security Council to help consolidate peace in the country. With UNIOSIL successfully completing its mission, Resolution 1829 established the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Sierra Leone (UNIPSIL).

Progress has been made in Sierra Leone. Nationwide presidential and parliamentary elections in 2007 were successful. Nationwide local elections were held on July 5, 2008. The Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC), though so far it has not secured convictions of high-level government officials, has worked to raise national awareness of corruption and build in safeguards in “corruption hotspot” ministries.

In late August 2008, the parliament greatly strengthened the ACC by passing the Anti-Corruption Act, which provides the ACC Commissioner with full prosecutorial powers, giving him authority to initiate corruption investigations without needing the permission of the Attorney General and Minister of Justice. The Special Court for Sierra Leone indicted individuals from all three warring factions of its civil conflict, issuing its first verdicts in June 2007.

In addition, the Special Court indicted former Liberian President Charles Ghankay Taylor, who was apprehended in Nigeria and transferred to Freetown under UN guard. Taylor is being tried before the Special Court on 11 indictments of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

SOMALIA

S/Res/1801

February 20

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Somalia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to renew the authorization of member states of the African Union to maintain a mission in Somalia for a further period of six months, and underlines, in particular, that the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) is authorized to take all necessary measures as appropriate to provide security for key infrastructure and to contribute to the creation of the necessary security conditions for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

Urges member states of the African Union to contribute to AMISOM; reaffirms its intention to take measures against those who seek to prevent or block a peaceful political process, or those who threaten the Transitional Federal Institutions or AMISOM by force, or take action that undermines stability in Somalia or the region;

Requests the Secretary-General to continue and intensify his efforts to promote an inclusive, ongoing political process; calls upon all international

II—Security Council

organizations and member states to support the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in his work, and requests that they work through him at all times so that a coordinated effort can be attained;

Urges the Transitional Federal Institutions and all parties in Somalia to respect the conclusions of the National Reconciliation Congress (NRC) and to sustain an equally inclusive, ongoing political process thereafter; welcomes the efforts of the Transitional Federal Government toward producing a plan for implementing the NRC conclusions, including the completion of the constitutional process, and reiterates the need for agreement on a comprehensive and lasting cessation of hostilities and a road map of the critical path for the remainder of the transitional process, including free and democratic elections in 2009 as set out in Somalia's Transitional Federal Charter;

Emphasizes the continued contribution made to Somalia's peace and security by the arms embargo imposed by Resolution 733 (1992), as elaborated and amended by subsequent resolutions, demands that all member states, in particular those of the region, comply fully with it, and reiterates its intention to consider ways to strengthen its effectiveness;

Encourages member states whose naval vessels and military aircraft operate in international waters and airspace adjacent to the coast of Somalia to be vigilant to any incidents of piracy therein and to take appropriate action to protect merchant shipping, in particular the transportation of humanitarian aid, against any such act, in line with relevant international law, and welcomes the contribution made by France to protect the World Food Program naval convoys and the support now provided by Denmark to this end;

Reaffirms its previous Resolutions 1325 (2000) on women, peace, and security, and 1674 (2006) and 1738 (2006) on the protection of civilians in armed conflict, and stresses the responsibility of all parties and armed groups in Somalia to take appropriate steps to protect the civilian population in the country, consistent with international humanitarian, human rights and refugee law, in particular by avoiding any indiscriminate attacks on populated areas; and

Strongly supports and encourages the ongoing humanitarian relief efforts in Somalia, recalls its Resolution 1502 (2003) on the protection of humanitarian and United Nations personnel, calls on all parties and armed groups in Somalia to take appropriate steps to ensure the safety and security of AMISOM and humanitarian personnel, and grant timely, safe, and unhindered access for the delivery of humanitarian assistance to all those in need, and urges the countries in the region to facilitate the provision of humanitarian assistance by land or via air- and sea ports.

Background and U.S. Position: The United States considered AMISOM's mission to be critically important because of the security challenges faced by the Somali Transitional Federal Government, and had

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

provided more than \$57 million in bilateral assistance in the previous two years for its support. The extension of its mission for a further six months was believed essential. The United States actively supported the resolution, and helped to forge consensus in the Security Council.

S/Res/1811

April 29

15(US)-0-0

Extends the mandate of the Monitoring Group referred to in Resolution 1558 (2004), requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures as expeditiously as possible to re-establish the Monitoring Group for a further six months; and requests the Secretary-General to make necessary financial arrangements to support the Monitoring Group.

Background and U.S. Position: Somalia's Transitional Federal Government (TFG) continues to require international assistance. In March 2008 Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon urged the Security Council to seize "the strategic moment" by redoubling efforts to support UN political and security initiatives. The U.S. supports efforts by the Somali Prime Minister Nur "Adde" Hassan Hussein and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Somalia Ahmedou Ould-Abdullah to foster political reconciliation in Somalia. The Security Council has continually threatened sanctions on those who threatened to undermine the political process in Somalia.

The United States voted for the resolution, and supports the efforts of the Somali Prime Minister and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to reach out to the opposition. Political spoilers and extremist organizations like the U.S.-designated terrorist group Al-Shabab need to be held accountable for their actions, which was the purpose of this resolution.

The United States continues to support the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) to help stabilize the situation and create the dynamics for lasting peace in Somalia, and continues to encourage the international community to increase financial and logistical support for AMISOM in order to help raise its force strength. It also continues to engage its Security Council partners regarding a possible transition to a UN peacekeeping operation.

S/Res/1814

May 15

15(US)-0-0

Requests the Secretary-General to continue and intensify efforts to promote an ongoing, all-inclusive political process, including by assisting Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) and in delivering services to the Somali people; welcomes the Secretary-General's intent to provide an updated, comprehensive, integrated UN Strategy for peace and stability in Somalia, aligning and integrating political, security, and programmatic efforts; and approves his proposal to establish a joint planning unit in the office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General (SRSG) to help implement it;

Welcomes the Secretary-General's recommendation to relocate the UN Political Office for Somalia (UNPOS) and the country team headquarters from Nairobi to Somalia to help deliver the UN Strategy, and requests him to

II—Security Council

establish the necessary security arrangements; decides that UNPOS and the UN country team shall enhance their support to the TFIs to develop a constitution and hold a constitutional referendum and free and democratic elections in 2009, as required by the Transitional Federal Charter (TFC); and shall facilitate international support for these efforts;

Expresses its intention to take measures against those who seek to prevent a peaceful political process, or who threaten the TFIs or the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) by force, or who take action undermining stability in Somalia or the region, or who breach the UN arms embargo on Somalia, and therefore requests the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 751 (1992) to recommend specific measures to take against such individuals or entities;

Requests the Secretary-General to continue contingency planning for deployment of a UN peacekeeping operation in Somalia after AMISOM, in close contact with UNPOS, the UN country team, and other UN stakeholders; and expresses its willingness to consider a UN peacekeeping operation to succeed AMISOM, given political and security improvements;

Reiterates its call upon member states to provide financial resources, personnel, equipment and services to deploy AMISOM fully, and upon AU members to contribute to AMISOM to facilitate withdrawal of other foreign forces and create conditions for lasting peace and stability; urges states which have offered to contribute to AMISOM to follow through, recognizes that more needs to be done to increase support for AMISOM, and notes the Secretary-General's proposals to increase it;

Reiterates its support for the contribution of states to protect World Food Program maritime convoys, calls upon states and regional organizations to protect transport and delivery of humanitarian aid to Somalia and UN-authorized activities; strongly supports and encourages ongoing humanitarian relief efforts in Somalia, calls on all parties and armed groups in Somalia to ensure the safety and security of AMISOM, UN and humanitarian personnel, and timely, safe, and unhindered delivery of humanitarian aid; and

Requests the Secretary-General to establish an effective capacity within UNPOS to monitor and enhance human rights protections, and to ensure coordination among UNPOS, the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, and the Human Rights Council Independent Expert; and supports the ongoing efforts of the United Nations, the African Union, and interested member states to develop security-sector institutions, and requests the SRSG to enhance his coordination role, aligning relevant UN programs and member states' activities.

Background and U.S. Position: At the time of this resolution's adoption, only Uganda and Burundi had deployed troops to AMISOM. Uganda had deployed one battle group of 1,750 soldiers, and Burundi had deployed a single battalion of 850 soldiers. The United States trained and

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

equipped both units and continued to sustain their operations by providing food, water and fuel, as well as contract flights for rotating units and supply shipments.

Additional units had been committed to AMISOM, but had not yet deployed. Burundi had offered a second battalion of 850 troops, but it lacked equipment and logistics support required to deploy. Britain provided £4.5 million to support U.S. efforts to equip this unit; equipment procurement got underway, and was expected to be delivered in full to Mogadishu by mid-October 2008.

Nigeria offered a battalion of 750 peacekeepers, but also lacked necessary equipment and logistics support. The United States offered \$3 million to help equip this unit. The Nigerians had given varying and sometimes contradictory timelines for the unit's deployment. Uganda said it might be willing to deploy an additional battalion, but the offer was contingent upon other operational requirements. The United States promised to provide logistics support for all additional units once deployed.

Other countries offered training teams to help rebuild the Somali security sector. Uganda and Ethiopia were already involved in training efforts, and Tanzania said it would provide trainers if it received donor assistance.

The United States believes the key to long-term peace and stability in Somalia is a process of inclusive political dialogue and reconciliation between the Transitional Federal Government and key stakeholders in Somalia leading to the restoration of effective governance. It also supports further contingency planning for a possible UN peacekeeping operation to Somalia. It therefore supported the resolution.

S/Res/1816

June 2

15(US)-0-0

Acknowledges its grave concern at the threat that acts of piracy and armed robbery against vessels pose to the prompt, safe and effective delivery of humanitarian aid to Somalia, the safety of commercial maritime routes and to international navigation; takes into account the crisis situation in Somalia, and the lack of capacity of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) to interdict pirates or patrol and secure its territorial waters;

Deplores the recent attacks and hijacking of vessels in Somalia's territorial waters and on the high seas off its coast, including upon vessels operated by the World Food Program and numerous commercial vessels, and their serious adverse impact on the prompt, safe, and effective delivery of food aid and other humanitarian assistance to the Somali people, and the grave dangers they pose to vessels, crews, passengers, and cargo;

Determines that these incidents exacerbate the situation in Somalia, which continues to be a threat to international peace and security in the region, and authorizes action under Chapter VII of the UN Charter; urges states whose naval vessels and military aircraft operate on the high seas and airspace off the

II—Security Council

coast of Somalia to be vigilant to acts of piracy and armed robbery, and to increase and coordinate their efforts to deter acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea in cooperation with the TFG; calls upon states and interested organizations, including the International Maritime Organization (IMO), to provide technical assistance to Somalia and nearby coastal states upon their request to enhance the capacity of these states to ensure coastal and maritime security, including combating piracy and armed robbery off the Somali and nearby coastlines;

Decides that for a period of six months from the date of this resolution, states cooperating with the TFG in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia may: a.) enter the territorial waters of Somalia for the purpose of repressing acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea, in a manner consistent with such action permitted on the high seas; with respect to piracy under relevant international law; and b.) use, within the territorial waters of Somalia, in a manner consistent with action permitted on the high seas with respect to piracy, all necessary means to repress acts of piracy and armed robbery; and

Calls upon all states, and in particular flag, port and coastal states, states of the nationality of victims and perpetrators of piracy and armed robbery, and other states with relevant jurisdiction under international law and national legislation, to cooperate in determining jurisdiction, and in the investigation and prosecution of persons responsible for acts of piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia and to render assistance by, among other actions, providing disposition and logistics assistance with respect to persons under their jurisdiction and control, such victims and witnesses and persons detained as a result of operations conducted under this resolution.

Background and U.S. Position: Over the past few years piracy and armed robbery against vessels off the coast of Somalia have increased dramatically, as reported quarterly by the IMO since 2005. The IMO Secretary-General sent letters to the UN Secretary-General in July and September 2007 alerting the United Nations to the ongoing piracy problems off Somalia's coast and urging Security Council action.

In addition, an IMO Assembly resolution strongly urged governments to prevent and repress acts of piracy and armed robbery against vessels irrespective of where they occur. In November 2007, the UN Secretary-General sent a letter to the Security Council President reporting that the TFG needed and would welcome international help to combat piracy.

A letter from the Permanent Representative of the Somali Republic to the President of the UN Security Council in February 2008 conveyed the consent of the TFG for urgent assistance in securing the territorial and international waters off Somalia's coast for the safe conduct of shipping and navigation.

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

The United States remains deeply concerned by incidents of piracy and armed robbery against vessels in Somali territorial waters and the high seas off its coast, which continues to threaten international peace, the safety of life at sea, and the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia. The United States drafted the text of this resolution to combat piracy off the Somali coast and facilitated its adoption.

The United States has actively engaged other countries to implement this resolution effectively by encouraging them to undertake actions to repress piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia and by urging them to commit to take into custody, investigate, and prosecute persons detained in the course of counterpiracy operations, including, victims, suspects, and witnesses.

S/Res/1831

August 19

15(US)-0-0

Welcoming the communiqué of the African Union Peace and Security Council of June 29, 2008, which states that the African Union will extend the mandate of the African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) for an additional six months;

Welcoming the August 19, 2008, signing of the agreement between the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia and the Alliance of the Re-Liberation of Somalia and noting that this agreement calls for the United Nations to authorize and deploy an international stabilization force;

Recalling its willingness to consider, at an appropriate time, a peacekeeping operation to take over from AMISOM, subject to progress in the political process and improvement in the security situation on the ground;

Determining that the situation in Somalia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to renew the authorization of member states of the African Union (AU) to maintain a mission in Somalia (AMISOM) for a further period of six months, which shall be authorized to take all necessary measures as appropriate to carry out the mandate set out in Resolution 1772 (2007) and underlines that AMISOM is authorized to provide security for key infrastructure and to contribute to the creation of the necessary security conditions for the provision of humanitarian assistance;

Affirms that the arms embargo exemption set out in Paragraphs 11 and 12 of Resolution 1772 (2007) shall continue to apply to AMISOM; and

Urges AU member states to contribute to AMISOM to facilitate the full withdrawal of other foreign forces from Somalia and help create conditions for lasting peace and stability there; urges member states to provide

II—Security Council

financial resources, personnel, equipment and services for the full deployment of AMISOM; and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to explore with the AU Commission Chairperson, coordinating with donors, ways and means to strengthen UN logistical, political, and technical support for the African Union, to build its institutional capacity to carry out its commitments to support AMISOM, and to assist AMISOM's full deployment at UN standards.

Background and U.S. Position: The United States considered AMISOM's mission to be critically important because of the security challenges faced by the Somali TFG, and had provided more than \$57 million in bilateral assistance in the previous two years for its support.

The extension of its mission for six more months was considered essential. This resolution was a technical "rollover" in which AMISOM's mandate was extended for six months. The United States actively supported the resolution, and helped to forge consensus in the Security Council.

S/Res/1838

October 7

15(US)-0-0

Calls upon states interested in the security of maritime activities to take part actively in the fight against piracy on the high seas off the coast of Somalia, in particular by deploying naval vessels and military aircraft, in accordance with international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (1982) ("the Convention");

Calls upon states whose naval vessels and military aircraft operate on the high seas and airspace off the coast of Somalia to use on the high seas and airspace off the coast of Somalia the necessary means, in conformity with international law, as reflected in the Convention, for the repression of acts of piracy;

Urges states that have the capacity to do so to cooperate with the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia (TFG) in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea in conformity with the provisions of Resolution 1816 (2008); urges also states and regional organizations, in conformity with the provisions of Resolution 1814 (2008), to continue to take action to protect the World Food Program maritime convoys, which are vital to bring humanitarian assistance to the affected populations in Somalia; and

Urges states, as requested in particular by International Maritime Organization resolution (IMO) A-1002(25), to issue to ships entitled to fly their flag, as necessary, advice and guidance on appropriate precautionary measures to protect themselves from attack or actions to take if under attack or the threat of attack when sailing in waters off the coast of Somalia; and calls upon states and regional organizations to coordinate their actions.

Background and U.S. Position: The Somali government has repeatedly asked for assistance combating piracy in Somali territorial waters. In February 2008, the Permanent Representative of the Somali Republic to the

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

United Nations wrote to the Security Council conveying the consent of the TFG for urgent assistance in securing the territorial and international waters off the coast of Somalia for the safe conduct of shipping and navigation.

In June the Security Council passed Resolution 1816, authorizing states cooperating with the TFG, and for which advance notification had been provided by the TFG to the UN Secretary-General, to use all necessary means to repress acts of piracy and armed robbery within the territorial waters of Somalia.

Pursuant to Resolution 1816, the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia wrote to the UN Secretary-General on September 1, to notify him that Canada, Denmark, France, Spain, and the United States were cooperating with the TFG in the fight against piracy and armed robbery off the coast of Somalia.

On September 26, during the United Nations 63rd General Assembly Session, Somalia's Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation reiterated the TFG's request to the international community to take resolute action against piracy off the coast of Somalia, consistent with the provisions in Resolution 1816. On October 22, the Permanent Representative of the TFG informed the President of the Security Council that the Russian Federation was now taking part in the implementation of measures aimed at the repression of piracy off the coast of Somalia in accordance with Resolution 1816. The United States co-sponsored this resolution, which was drafted by France.

S/Res/1844

November 20

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Somalia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides that all member states shall take the necessary measures to prevent the entry into or transit through their territories of individuals designated pursuant to the criteria set out below by the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 751 (1992), provided that nothing in this paragraph shall oblige a state to refuse its own nationals entry into its territory;

Decides that all member states shall freeze without delay the funds, other financial assets and economic resources which are on their territories, which are owned or controlled, directly or indirectly, by the individuals or entities designated by the Committee pursuant to the criteria set out below, or by individuals or entities acting on their behalf or at their direction, or by entities owned or controlled by them, as designated by the Committee, and decides further that all member states shall ensure that any funds, financial assets or economic resources are prevented from being made available by their nationals or by any individuals or entities within their territories, to or for the benefit of such individuals or entities;

II—Security Council

Reaffirms the general and complete arms embargo against Somalia imposed by Resolution 733 (1992), as elaborated and amended by Resolutions 1356 (2001), 1425 (2002), 1725 (2006), 1744 (2007), and 1772 (2007);

Decides that all member states shall take the necessary measures to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer of weapons and military equipment and the direct or indirect supply of technical assistance or training, financial, and other assistance related to the transfer, manufacture or use of such items to the individuals or entities designated by the Committee pursuant to the criteria set out below;

Decides that the targeted measures (travel ban, asset freeze, and arms embargo) shall apply to individuals and to entities designated by the Committee: as engaging in or providing support for acts that threaten the peace, security or stability of Somalia, including acts that threaten the Djibouti Agreement of August 18, 2008, or the political process, or threaten the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) or the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) by force; as having acted in violation of the general and complete arms embargo; and/or as obstructing the delivery of humanitarian assistance to Somalia, or access to, or distribution of, humanitarian assistance in Somalia; and

Establishes clear procedures for the Committee to list and delist individuals and entities on the Committee's list of designees and for removing them as well as for granting humanitarian exemptions.

Background and U.S. Position: The Security Council in this resolution sought to strengthen the arms embargo imposed on Somalia beginning in 1992 with Resolution 733 by giving its Somalia Sanctions Committee authority to impose targeted sanctions against individuals or entities engaging in or providing support for a range of activities threatening the peace or stability of Somalia, including acts that constitute violations of the arms embargo, impede a peaceful Somali political process, or threaten force against the TFIs or AMISOM.

The expanded sanctions regime is an additional tool available to the international community to prevent spoilers from adversely affecting the political process, security, or stability in Somalia.

S/Res/1846

December 2

15(US)-0-0

Taking into account the crisis situation in Somalia, and the lack of capacity of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) to interdict pirates or patrol and secure either the international sea lanes off the coast of Somalia or Somalia's territorial waters, taking note of the requests from the TFG for international assistance to counter piracy off its coasts;

Determining that the incidents of piracy and armed robbery against vessels in the territorial waters of Somalia and the high seas off the coast of Somalia exacerbate the situation in Somalia, which continues to constitute a

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

threat to international peace and security in the region; acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Welcomes initiatives by Canada, Denmark, France, India, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Spain, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, and by regional and international organizations to counter piracy off the coast of Somalia pursuant to Resolutions 1814, 1816, and 1838 (all 2008), the decision by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to counter piracy off the Somalia coast, including by escorting vessels of the World Food Program (WFP), and in particular the decision by the EU on November 10, 2008, to launch, for a period of 12 months from December 2008, a naval operation to protect WFP maritime convoys bringing humanitarian assistance to Somalia and other vulnerable ships, and to repress acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia; and

Decides that, for a period of 12 months from the date of this resolution, states and regional organizations cooperating with the TFG in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, for which advance notification has been provided by the TFG to the Secretary-General, may: enter into the territorial waters of Somalia for the purpose of repressing acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea, in a manner consistent with such action permitted on the high seas with respect to piracy under relevant international law; and within the territorial waters of Somalia, in a manner consistent with such action permitted on the high seas with respect to piracy under relevant international law, use all necessary means to repress acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea.

Background and U.S. Position: This resolution renewed for 12 months the authorities provided by the Security Council in Resolution 1816. The European Union was adamant about extending the authorities of the resolution for 12 months instead of the usual six to cover the extent of their anti-piracy mission in the area, *Operation Atalanta*.

This resolution supports a comprehensive approach for dealing with piracy in the region, including by addressing the issue of jurisdiction. It urges states parties to the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA) to implement fully their obligations under the Convention to criminalize, establish jurisdiction, and accept delivery of persons suspected of committing these kinds of acts. The resolution lauded the efforts of the EU naval mission off the coast of Somalia, the NATO initiative to escort WFP shipments, and independent efforts by other countries participating in counter-piracy operations off the coast of Somalia.

The United States took the lead for this resolution, and was very pleased to have 18 cosponsors. The resolution is part of a comprehensive strategy to reinforce security and stability in Somalia, which in addition to dealing with piracy off the coast of Somalia, includes strengthening and enlarging the existing African Union Mission to Somalia (AMISOM) forces

II—Security Council

deployed in and around Mogadishu and eventually transitioning AMISOM to a UN Peacekeeping Operation in order to create the conditions necessary to build the capacity of TFG institutions, establish an international security sector reform program, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, and address the root cause of piracy in the region.

S/Res/1851

December 16

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the incidents of piracy and armed robbery at sea in the waters off the coast of Somalia exacerbate the situation in Somalia, which continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region; and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Calls upon states, regional, and international organizations that have the capacity to do so, to take part actively in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, in particular consistent with this resolution, Resolution 1846 (2008), and international law, by deploying naval vessels and military aircraft and through seizure and disposition of boats, vessels, arms and other related equipment used in the commission of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, or upon reasonable grounds for suspecting such use;

Invites all states and regional organizations fighting piracy off the coast of Somalia to conclude special agreements or arrangements with countries willing to take custody of pirates in order to embark law enforcement officials ("shipriders") from the latter countries, in particular countries in the region, to facilitate the investigation and prosecution of persons detained as a result of operations conducted under this resolution for acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia;

Encourages all states and regional organizations fighting piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia to establish an international cooperation mechanism to act as a common point of contact between and among states, regional, and international organizations on all aspects of combating piracy and armed robbery at sea off Somalia's coast, and to consider creating a center in the region to coordinate information relevant to piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, to increase regional capacity with assistance of the UN Office on Drugs and Crime to arrange effective shiprider agreements or arrangements consistent with the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea, and to implement the Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts Against the Safety of Maritime Navigation (SUA), the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and other relevant instruments to which states in the region are party;

In response to the letter from the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of December 9, 2008, encourages member states to continue to cooperate with the TFG in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea, notes the primary role of the TFG in rooting out piracy and armed robbery at sea, and decides that for a period of 12 months from the date of adoption of

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Resolution 1846, states and regional organizations cooperating in the fight against piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia, for which advance notification has been provided by the TFG to the Secretary-General, may undertake all necessary measures that are appropriate in Somalia, for the purpose of suppressing acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea; and

Notes with concern the findings of the Monitoring Group on Somalia that escalating ransom payments are fueling the growth of piracy in waters off the coast of Somalia, and urges states in collaboration with the shipping and insurance industries and the International Maritime Organization to continue to develop avoidance, evasion, and defensive best practices to take when under attack or when sailing in waters off the coast of Somalia.

Background and U.S. Position: The Secretary of State participated in a Ministerial Meeting of the Security Council on Piracy off the Somalia Coast that unanimously adopted Resolution 1851. The resolution authorizes states cooperating with the Somali Transitional Federal Government (TFG) to extend counter-piracy efforts to include potential operations in Somali territorial land and airspace, with advance notification from the TFG provided to the Secretary-General, to suppress acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea.

The resolution urges countries to establish an international cooperation mechanism as a common point of contact for counter-piracy activities near Somalia, and endorses efforts to enhance the judicial capacity of regional states to combat piracy, including the judicial capacity to prosecute pirates effectively.

The United States authored this resolution that was also co-sponsored by Croatia, France, Liberia, Greece, Belgium, the Republic of Korea, Panama, and Spain. The United States believes this resolution is an important step forward in the international community's efforts to suppress and prevent acts of piracy off the coast of Somalia.

S/Res/1853

December 19

15(US)-0-0

Determining that the situation in Somalia continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region; acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to extend the mandate of the Monitoring Group referred to in Paragraph 3 of Resolution 1558 (2004), and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures as expeditiously as possible to re-establish the Monitoring Group for a period of 12 months, drawing, as appropriate, on the expertise of the members of the Monitoring Group established pursuant to Resolution 1811 (2008), and with the addition of a fifth expert, in consultation with the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 751 (1992) (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee"), in order to fulfill its expanded mandate, this mandate being to:

II—Security Council

Continue to investigate the implementation of the arms embargo by member states and violations, *inter alia*, through field-based investigations in Somalia, where possible, and, as appropriate, in other states, in particular, those in the region; assess actions taken by Somali authorities, as well as member states, in particular, those in the region, fully to implement the arms embargo; and make specific recommendations based on detailed information in relevant areas of expertise related to violations and measures to give effect to and strengthen the implementation of the arms embargo in its various aspects;

Assist the Committee in monitoring implementation of Resolution 1844 (2008) by providing any information on violations, of the measures; include in its reports to the Committee any information relevant to the Committee's designation of the individuals and entities; and to assist the Committee in compiling narrative summaries;

Continue to investigate, in coordination with relevant international agencies, all activities, including in the financial, maritime and other sectors, which generate revenues used to commit arms embargo violations;

Continue to investigate any means of transport, routes, seaports, airports and other facilities used in connection with arms embargo violations; to continue refining and updating information on the draft list of those individuals and entities who violate the measures implemented by member states in accordance with Resolution 733 (1992) and Resolution 1844 (2008), inside and outside Somalia, and their active supporters, for possible future measures by the Council, and to present such information to the Committee as and when the Committee deems appropriate;

Continue making recommendations based on its investigations, on the previous reports of the Panel of Experts and the Monitoring Group;

Work closely with the Committee on specific recommendations for additional measures to improve overall compliance with the arms embargo, as well as the measures (travel ban, asset freeze, and targeted arms embargo) imposed by Resolution 1844 (2008);

Assist in identifying areas where the capacities of states in the region can be strengthened to facilitate the implementation of the arms embargo, as well as the targeted measures imposed by Resolution 1844 (2008);

Provide the Council, through the Committee, a midterm briefing by June 2009, and submit monthly progress reports to the Committee;

Submit, for the Security Council's consideration, through the Committee, a final report covering all of the tasks set out above, no later than 15 days prior to the termination of the Monitoring Group's mandate; and

Requests the Committee, in accordance with its mandate and in consultation with the Monitoring Group and other relevant UN entities, to

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

consider the recommendations in the reports of the Monitoring Group dated April 5, 2006; October 16, 2006; July 17, 2007; April 24, 2008; and December 10, 2008; and recommend to the Council ways to improve implementation of and compliance with the arms embargo as well as the targeted measures imposed by Resolution 1844 (2008), in response to continuing violations.

Background and U.S. Position: In its endeavor to resolve the conflict in Somalia, the Security Council has expanded the sanctions regime, evidenced most recently by its adoption of Resolution 1844. In furtherance of the Security Council Council's efforts, Resolution 1853 authorized the re-establishment of the Monitoring Group, which oversees the implementation of the Somalia sanctions regime, for one year and added a fifth expert to handle the additional tasks assigned.

SUDAN

S/Res/1812

April 30

15(US)-0-0

Extends the mandate of the UN Mission in Sudan (UNMIS) until April 30, 2009, with intention to renew it for further periods;

Stresses the importance of full and expeditious implementation of all elements of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA,) the Darfur Peace Agreement, and the October 2006 Eastern Sudan Peace Agreement, and calls for all the parties to respect their commitments to these agreements without delay;

Welcomes the parties' sustained commitment to work together in the Government of National Unity (GNU), and urges the cooperation of the National Congress Party (NCP) and the Sudan Peoples Liberation Movement (SPLM) in carrying out their responsibilities to implement further the CPA; stresses the critical role of the Assessment and Evaluation Commission (AEC) in overseeing and reporting on implementation of the CPA, and calls for strengthening the Commission's autonomy, and urges all parties to cooperate fully with the AEC, and to implement its recommendations;

Calls upon the parties to cooperate fully with UNMIS and to find a mutually agreeable solution to the Abyei issue; and further urges all parties to redeploy their forces away from the disputed border of January 1, 1956, and fully to establish a CPA-concordant interim administration in Abyei; stresses the important role of the Joint Integrated Units (JIUs) to implement the CPA fully; and urges donors to offer support, both *materiel* and training, coordinated by UNMIS in consultation with the Joint Defense Board, to enable the full establishment and operational effectiveness of JIUs as soon as possible;

Encourages the parties to agree swiftly on a date to launch implementation of the National Strategic Plan for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR), and urges UNMIS to assist in

II—Security Council

voluntary disarmament, and weapons collection and destruction efforts in implementing CPA plans for DDR; requests UNMIS, in coordination with the relevant parties and taking into account the need to pay particular attention to the protection, release, and reintegration of all children associated to armed forces and armed groups, to increase its support for the National DDR Coordination Council and the Northern and Southern DDR Commissions; urges donors to respond to calls for assistance from the joint UN-DDR Unit;

Encourages UNMIS to continue to assist the CPA parties in promoting the rule of law, and in restructuring the police and corrections services in all Sudan, and to assist in training civilian police and corrections officers; urges the GNU to complete an inclusive, national census, and to prepare expeditiously to conduct free and fair elections in all of the Sudan; urges UNMIS to begin immediate preparations to support the conduct of national elections, including support for the development of a national strategy for the conduct of elections, in close collaboration with the UN Development Program and the CPA parties, and further urges the international community to provide technical and material assistance for electoral preparations;

Calls upon the parties to the CPA and to the UN-GNU *communiqué* to support, protect, and facilitate all humanitarian operations and personnel in the Sudan; welcomes the continuing, organized returns of internally displaced persons to Southern Kordofan and Southern Sudan, and that of refugees to Southern Sudan, and encourages the provision of necessary resources to the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees and implementing partners, to ensure that such returns are voluntary and sustainable; and requests UNMIS to help to establish necessary security conditions;

Expresses concern at the persistence of localized conflict and violence, especially in the border area, mostly affecting civilians and with the potential for escalation; urges full cooperation of the NCP and the SPLM in carrying out the obligations of the GNU to protect civilians in armed conflict; and supports UNMIS's intent to strengthen its capacity to support local conflict-resolution mechanisms to maximize protection of civilians;

Urges UNMIS to coordinate closely with the African Union/United Nations Hybrid operation in Darfur (UNAMID), the AU/UN Joint Mediation Support Team, and other stakeholders in support of CPA implementation and of peace in Sudan; calls upon the GNU to cooperate fully with all UN operations within its territory in implementing their mandates; requests the Secretary-General to submit a report on possible measures UNMIS could take to assist implementation of a future Final Peace Agreement between the Government of Uganda and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA); and

Reiterates its concern over the restrictions and all impediments placed on the movements of UNMIS personnel and *materiel* in Sudan; and calls for all parties to cooperate fully with UNMIS in performance of its mandate, and to abide by their obligations under international humanitarian law.

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Background and U.S. Position: UNMIS is charged with overseeing implementation of the CPA, which ended the 21-year civil war between North and South. The United States led negotiations on the CPA and considers the agreement a cornerstone of our policy in Sudan. Democratic elections, to be held at all levels in 2009, are a key component of the CPA that the United States strongly supports.

S/Res/1828

July 31

14-0-1(US)

Determining that the situation in Darfur, Sudan, continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security:

Decides to extend the mandate of the African Union/United Nations Hybrid operation in Darfur (UNAMID) as set out in Resolution 1769 (2007) for a further 12 months to July 31, 2009;

Welcomes the agreement of the Government of Sudan, during its meeting with the Security Council on June 5, 2008, to the African Union (AU)-United Nations (UN) troop deployment plan; underlines the importance of raising the capability of those UNAMID battalions formerly deployed by the African Union Mission in Sudan and other incoming battalions; and requests the continuing assistance of donors in ensuring that these battalions are trained and equipped to UN standards;

Welcomes the signing of the Status of Forces Agreement; demands the Sudanese government's full, immediate compliance with it; and further demands that the Government of Sudan and all armed groups in Sudan ensure full, expeditious deployment of UNAMID and remove all obstacles to the proper discharge of its mandate, including by ensuring its security and freedom of movement; stresses that any attack or threat on UNAMID is unacceptable; and demands there be no recurrence of previous attacks;

Demands an end to violent attacks on civilians, peacekeepers and humanitarian personnel, and to other violations of human rights and international humanitarian law in Darfur; further demands that all parties cease hostilities and immediately commit to a sustained, permanent cease-fire; and encourages mediation with all relevant parties on security issues to promote a more effective cease-fire commission working closely with UNAMID to monitor the cessation of hostilities;

Calls on Sudan and Chad to abide by their obligations under the Dakar Agreement, the Tripoli Agreement, and subsequent bilateral agreements, including by ending support for rebel groups; welcomes the creation of the Dakar Agreement Contact Group, and consideration of improved monitoring of the Sudan-Chad border; demands full implementation of the Communiqué between the Government of Sudan and the United Nations on Facilitation of Humanitarian Activities in Darfur, and that the Government of Sudan, all militias, armed groups, and all other stakeholders ensure full,

II—Security Council

safe, and unhindered access by humanitarian organizations and relief personnel; and

Demands that the parties in conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and children, from all forms of sexual violence, in line with Resolution 1820 (2008); and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that Resolutions 1325 (2000) and 1820 are implemented by UNAMID; and reiterates its readiness to take action against any party that impedes the peace process, humanitarian assistance, or the deployment of UNAMID; and recognizes that due process must take its course.

Background and U.S. Position: The conflict in the western region of Darfur entered its fifth year in 2008, despite a 2006 peace agreement between the Government of National Unity and one faction of the Sudan Liberation Army. Fighting among armed opposition group factions, the Sudanese Armed Forces, and militias continues, displacing hundreds of thousands of civilians. The complex emergency in Darfur affects approximately 4.2 million people, including more than 2.4 million internally displaced people.

The U.S. Government is the leading international donor to Sudan and has contributed more than \$5 billion in humanitarian, development, peacekeeping, and reconstruction assistance for the people in Sudan and eastern Chad since fiscal year 2004.

The United States welcomes and strongly supports the extension of UNAMID's mandate. Resolution 1828 demonstrates the Security Council's sustained support for the UNAMID peacekeeping operation and its mission to protect the vulnerable civilians of Darfur. The United States abstained in the vote because language added to the resolution would send the wrong signal to the Government of Sudan and undermine efforts to bring those responsible to justice.

The United States considered that the Security Council could not ignore the terrible crimes that have occurred throughout the conflict in Darfur, and the massive human suffering that the world has witnessed.

S/Res/1841

October 15

15(US)-0-0

Stressing again its firm commitment to the cause of peace throughout Sudan, full implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of January 9, 2005, full implementation of the framework agreed between the parties for a resolution of the conflict in Darfur (the Darfur Peace Agreement), and an end to the violence and atrocities in Darfur;

Determining that the situation in Sudan continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region; acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Decides to extend until October 15, 2009, the mandate of the current Panel of Experts, originally appointed pursuant to Resolution 1591 (2005), and previously extended by Resolutions 1651 (2005), 1665 (2006), 1713 (2006), and 1779 (2007), and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures;

Requests the Panel of Experts to provide no later than March 29, 2009, a midterm briefing on its work and no later than 90 days after adoption of this resolution an interim report to the Committee established pursuant to Paragraph 3 (a) of Resolution 1591 (2005) and a final report no later than 30 days prior to termination of its mandate to the Council with its findings and recommendations;

Requests the Panel of Experts to coordinate its activities as appropriate with the operations of the African Union/United Nations Hybrid operation in Darfur (UNAMID), and with international efforts to promote the political process in Darfur, and to assess in its interim and final reports progress toward reducing violations by all parties of the measures imposed by Paragraphs 7 and 8 of Resolution 1556 (2004) and Paragraph 7 of Resolution 1591 (2005), and progress toward reducing impediments to the political process, threats to stability in Darfur and the region, and other violations of the above-mentioned resolutions; and

Urges all states, relevant UN bodies, the African Union and other interested parties, to cooperate fully with the Committee and the Panel of Experts, in particular by supplying any information at their disposal on implementation of the measures imposed by Resolution 1591 (2005) and Resolution 1556 (2004).

Background and U.S. Position: Since fighting continues in the Darfur region of Sudan, the Security Council believed it necessary to extend by an additional year the mandate of the Panel of Experts to monitor implementation of the arms embargo imposed in Resolution 1556 (2004) and expanded in Resolution 1591 (2005). These resolutions require states not to sell or supply military equipment to all non-governmental individuals or entities operating in Darfur, as well as to the Government of Sudan in Darfur.

Resolution 1591 also authorizes the designation of individuals who impede the peace process, constitute a threat to stability in Darfur and the region, violate international humanitarian or human rights law, or are responsible for offensive military overflights.

Designated individuals are subject to a travel ban and asset freeze. The Security Council had previously extended the mandate of the African Union/United Nations Hybrid operation in Darfur on July 31, 2008, in Resolution 1828. The United States drafted, as well as supported, this resolution.

TIMOR-LESTE

S/Res/1802

February 25

15(US)-0-0

Decides to extend the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor-Leste (UNMIT) until February 26, 2009, at the current authorized levels; condemns the attacks on the President and Prime Minister of Timor-Leste on February 11, 2008, and all attempts to destabilize the country; and calls on the Government of Timor-Leste to bring those responsible to justice.

Background and U.S. Position: This resolution passed shortly after attacks on the Timorese President and Prime Minister by the rebel group led by the charismatic renegade Alfredo Reinado, who was killed on February 11. The United States deplored the attacks as “an unacceptable assault on the Timorese government.” It welcomed the decision of Australia, in response to the attacks, to send 200 additional troops to strengthen the International Security Force, and thanked Australia for its full medical and military support.

These attacks underscored for the United States the necessity of achieving accountability for the 2006 crisis, which it considers central to establishing law in Timor-Leste. The United States encourages implementation of the recommendations of the UN Special Independent Commission of Inquiry, including bringing to justice those responsible under domestic law.

The United States concurred with the Secretary-General’s recommendation for a one-year extension of UNMIT because it is playing a vital role in ensuring and restoring stability in Timor-Leste. It will depend on UNMIT to continue its support for the Timorese in developing the capacity of the national police (the PNTL), in achieving accountability for the 2006 crisis, and in strengthening the justice sector in the coming year.

Finally, the United States joined the Secretary-General in calling for reconciliation among Timorese political leaders and parties and coordination in addressing the challenges facing the country, and expressed appreciation for Special Representative Khare’s efforts to facilitate such a dialogue.

WESTERN SAHARA

S/Res/1813

April 30

15(US)-0-0

Decides to extend the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) until April 30, 2009;

Reaffirms its commitment to assist the parties to achieve a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara consistent with the principles and purposes of the UN Charter, and notes the role and responsibilities of the parties in this respect. Reiterates its call upon the parties and states of the region to continue to cooperate fully with the United Nations

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

and with each other to end the current impasse and to progress toward a political solution;

Takes note of the Moroccan proposal presented on April 11, 2007, to the Secretary-General and welcomes serious and credible Moroccan efforts to move the process toward resolution; also takes note of the Polisario Front proposal presented April 10, 2007, to the Secretary-General. Takes note of the four rounds of negotiations held under the auspices of the Secretary-General; welcomes the progress made by the parties to enter into direct negotiations;

Welcomes the agreement of the parties expressed in the *communiqué* of the Personal Envoy of the Secretary-General for Western Sahara of March 18, 2008, to explore the establishment of family visits by land, which would be in addition to the existing visitation program by air, and encourages them to do so in cooperation with the UN High Commissioner for Refugees;

Notes the Secretary-General's view that the consolidation of the *status quo* is not an acceptable outcome of the current process of negotiations, and notes further that progress in the negotiations will have a positive impact on the quality of life of the people of Western Sahara in all its aspects;

Calls upon the parties to continue to show political will and work in an atmosphere propitious for dialogue in order to enter into a more intensive and substantive phase of negotiations, thus ensuring implementation of Resolutions 1754 and 1783 and the success of the negotiations; and affirms its strong support for the commitment of the Secretary-General and his Personal Envoy toward a solution to the question of Western Sahara in this context; and

Calls upon the parties to continue negotiations under the auspices of the Secretary-General without preconditions and in good faith, taking into account the efforts made since 2006 and subsequent developments, with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations, and noting the role and responsibilities of the parties in this respect.

Background and U.S. Position: Four rounds of discussions in the framework of the latest settlement initiative have confirmed the difficulty of arriving at a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution in providing self-determination for the people of Western Sahara. The UN Secretary-General's report of April 14, 2008, reaffirmed the necessity for full respect of the military agreements reached with MINURSO with regard to the cease-fire.

The report further endorsed the recommendation of the Secretary-General's Western Sahara Envoy that realism and a spirit of compromise are essential to maintain the momentum of negotiations. The report also called upon the parties to continue with negotiations, taking into account the efforts

II—Security Council

that have been made since 2006. Member states were urged to fund confidence-building measures agreed upon by the parties voluntarily.

In the U.S. view, the Western Sahara conflict has gone on for far too long, provoking tension, causing human suffering, and preventing progress toward regional integration in North Africa. The United States continues to urge both parties to take realistic and pragmatic approaches to the core issues and to pursue genuine and substantive discussions to reach a mutually agreeable political settlement.

The United States agrees with the Envoy's assessment that an independent Sahrawi state is not a realistic option for resolving the conflict and that genuine autonomy under Moroccan sovereignty is the only realistic solution. Absent a settlement, the United States considers MINURSO's mission vital.

ZIMBABWE

Not Adopted

July 11

9(US)-5(China, Libya,
Russia, South Africa,
Vietnam)-1(Indonesia)

Determining that the situation in Zimbabwe poses a threat to international peace and security in the region, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Condemns the Government of Zimbabwe's campaign of violence against the political opposition and the civilian population, which has resulted in scores of deaths, thousands of injuries, and displacement of thousands of civilians, making it impossible for a free and fair election to occur, and expresses strong concern with the decision of the Government of Zimbabwe to go forward with the June 27 elections;

Demands that the Government of Zimbabwe: immediately cease this campaign of violence and release all political prisoners; begin political dialogue that reflects the will of the Zimbabwean people and respects the results of the March 29 elections; provide representatives of the African Union, the Southern African Development Community, and the Secretary-General full access to the country, security, and all requested authority over negotiation processes; cooperate fully with investigations of the political violence; and end immediately all restrictions on international humanitarian aid;

Decides that all member states shall take the necessary measures to prevent the sale or transfer to Zimbabwe of arms or related material of all types; decides also that all member states shall take the necessary measures to prevent any provision to Zimbabwe of technical assistance or training, financial assistance, investment, brokering or other services, and the transfer

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

of financial resources or services related to the supply, sale, transfer, manufacture or use of the above items;

Decides that all states shall take preventative measures an asset freeze and travel ban with respect to those designated in the Annex to this resolution or designated by the Committee established by this resolution (“the Committee”) as having engaged in or provided support for actions or policies to subvert democratic processes or institutions in Zimbabwe since May 2005;

Decides to establish, in accordance with rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure, a Committee of the Security Council consisting of all the members of the Council, to implement the measures imposed by this resolution;

Requests the Secretary-General to establish a Panel of Experts to operate under the direction of the Committee to assist it in monitoring implementation of the measures in this resolution, and to make recommendations to the Committee on actions the Council may want to consider; and to provide briefings and reports with its finding and recommendations; and

Requests the Secretary-General to submit a report to the Council regarding the situation in Zimbabwe; and decides that all states shall report to the Committee on the steps they have taken to implement effectively the measures imposed in this resolution.

Background and U.S. Position: The United States sought a strong UN Security Council sanctions resolution to reinforce regional efforts to bring the Zimbabwe crisis to an end, allow for economic recovery, and provide the support of the international community in ensuring that the will of the Zimbabwean people was respected.

The draft resolution imposed a comprehensive arms embargo on Zimbabwe, a travel ban, and an asset freeze on those having ordered, planned, or participated in acts of politically motivated violence. The 14 individuals listed in the resolution’s Annex, including Robert Mugabe, would have been designated upon adoption of the resolution.

The draft resolution also called on the UN Secretary-General to appoint a dedicated Special Representative for Zimbabwe, who would have supported the negotiation process between the regime and the opposition.

The draft resolution was supported by the United States, United Kingdom, France, Italy, Belgium, Croatia, Costa Rica, Panama, and Burkina Faso. Two African states, Sierra Leone and Liberia, co-sponsored the draft resolution, as well as Australia, Belgium, Canada, Croatia, France, Italy, and the United Kingdom. Ultimately though, Russia and China vetoed the resolution, supported by Vietnam, Libya, and South Africa. Indonesia abstained.

Although the draft resolution was not adopted, the United States pledged to continue to work with all the Security Council delegations to monitor the situation in Zimbabwe closely, to urge the Secretary-General to appoint a Special Representative to support the negotiating process between the political parties in Zimbabwe, and to report to the Council on the political, humanitarian, human rights and security situation in Zimbabwe.

THEMATIC RESOLUTIONS

AFRICAN PEACE AND SECURITY

S/Res/1809

April 16

15(US)-0-0

Expresses its determination to take effective steps to enhance further the relationship between the United Nations and regional organizations, particularly the African Union, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter;

Encourages the continuing involvement of regional and sub-regional organizations in the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through conflict prevention, confidence-building, and mediation efforts; welcomes regional dialogue about shared experiences and common regional approaches to dispute settlement and other peace and security issues;

Welcomes and further encourages the ongoing efforts of the African Union and the sub-regional organizations to strengthen their peacekeeping capacity and to undertake peacekeeping operations in the continent, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, and to coordinate with the United Nations through the Peace and Security Council, as well as ongoing efforts to develop a continental early-warning-system response capacity such as the African Standby Force, and enhanced mediation capacity, including through the Panel of the Wise;

Encourages regional and sub-regional organizations to strengthen and increase cooperation among them, in particular cooperation between the African Union (AU), Organization of American States (OAS), League of Arab States (LAS), Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), and European Union (EU), including efforts to enhance their respective capacities in the maintenance of international peace and security;

Expresses its determination to strengthen and enhance cooperation between the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union, in conflict prevention, resolution, and management -- including good offices, mediation support, effective use of Security Council sanctions, electoral assistance, and preventive field presence; and in the case of Africa, focusing on support to the AU Panel of the Wise, among others;

Stresses that common and coordinated efforts undertaken by the United Nations and regional organizations, in particular the African Union, in matters of peace and security should be based on their complementary

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

capacities, making full use of their experience in accordance with the UN Charter and the relevant statutes of the regional organizations;

Underlines the particular importance of making operational the African Union Standby Force; encourages the increased engagement of the African Union Peacekeeping Support Team within the Department of Peacekeeping Operations as a coordinating point to provide necessary expertise and transfer of technical knowledge to enhance the capacity of the African Union's Peace Support Operations Divisions, as well as the deployment of the Department of Political Affairs' staff to work with the African Union on making operational the Panel of the Wise and other mediation programs; and

Expresses its determination to consider further how to strengthen the capacity of the United Nations in the prevention of armed conflict, particularly in Africa; and welcomes the Secretary-General's proposal to set up an AU-UN panel consisting of distinguished persons to consider in depth the modalities of how to support AU peacekeeping operations, in particular start-up funding, equipment and logistics, and to consider in depth lessons from past and current AU peacekeeping efforts.

Background and U.S. Position: The Security Council had before it a report from the Secretary-General on the implementation of Resolution 1625 (2005) on conflict prevention, particularly in Africa, which called for boosting UN capacity in preventive diplomacy, peacemaking, and peacebuilding. According to the report, the United Nations has become more attentive to the early warning signs of rising tensions and more effective at transmitting that information to the Security Council; however, there is a "noticeable gap" between rhetoric surrounding prevention and the use of effective preventive measures. The Secretary-General noted that the cost of armed conflict on the continent is equal to or greater than the amount of money it receives in international aid.

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR RWANDA

S/Res/1824

July 18

15(US)-0-0

Recalling especially Resolutions 1503 (2003) and 1534 (2004), in which the Security Council calls on the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR) to take all possible measures to complete investigations by the end of 2004, to complete all trial activities at first instance by the end of 2008, and to complete all work in 2010;

Recalling that in Resolution 1684 (2006) the Security Council decided in to extend the term of office of the 11 permanent judges of the Tribunal until December 31, 2008, and that in Resolution 1717 (2006) the Security Council decided to extend the term of office of the 18 *ad litem* judges of the Tribunal until that date;

II—Security Council

Noting that two of the permanent judges and one of the *ad litem* judges currently serving at the Tribunal have indicated their intention to resign in 2008 upon the completion of their respective cases, and that at this stage it is not expected that their replacement will be necessary;

Noting the progress made by the Tribunal toward the completion of its trial work at the earliest date, noting the projections provided by the Tribunal as to the completion of all the remaining cases at trial stage before the end of December 2009, expressing its expectation that the extension of the terms of office of the judges concerned will enhance the effectiveness of trial proceedings and contribute toward ensuring the implementation of the Completion Strategy, and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, decides:

To extend the term of office of two permanent judges at the Tribunal who are members of the Appeals Chamber until December 31, 2010, or until the completion of the cases before the Appeals Chamber if sooner; to extend the term of office of seven permanent judges at the Tribunal who are members of the Trial Chambers until December 31, 2009, or until the completion of the cases to which they are assigned if sooner; and

To extend the term of office of eight *ad litem* judges, currently serving at the Tribunal, until December 31, 2009, or until the completion of the cases to which they are assigned if sooner; to extend the term of office of nine *ad litem* judges who have not yet been appointed to serve at the Tribunal, until December 31, 2009, or until the completion of any cases to which they may be assigned if sooner; and to amend Article 11, Paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Statute of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and to replace them with the provisions in the annex to this resolution.

Background and U.S. Position: The Security Council passed this resolution to provide for an adequate number of judges to allow the ICTR to finish its trial caseload by the end of 2009 (and the end of 2010 for appeals), because the judges' mandates were set to expire at the end of 2008. The Annex provides for 16 permanent judges plus nine *ad litem* judges at any one time to hear cases.

Each Trial Chamber is allotted three permanent judges and six *ad litem* judges, and Chambers with *ad litem* judges may be divided into three-judge sections containing permanent and *ad litem* judges. These Chamber sections have the same powers and responsibilities as a Trial Chamber, and decide cases under the same rules.

The United States joined consensus in approving the resolution because it agreed with the goal of completing ICTR proceedings in a timely manner.

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Convinced of the advisability of allowing the Secretary-General to appoint additional *ad litem* judges to the nine *ad litem* judges authorized by the statute, as a temporary measure to enable the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to complete trials and conduct additional trials as soon as possible in order to meet its completion strategy; acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides that the Secretary-General may appoint, within existing resources, additional *ad litem* judges upon request of the President of the International Tribunal in order to complete existing trials or conduct additional trials, notwithstanding that the total number of *ad litem* judges appointed to the Chambers will from time to time temporarily exceed the maximum of nine provided for in Article 1.1, Paragraph 1, of the Statute of the International Tribunal, to a maximum of 12 at any one time, returning to a maximum of nine by December 31, 2009; and

Decides to amend Article 11, Paragraph 2, of the Statute of the International Tribunal as set out in the annex to this resolution to implement the decision.

Background and U.S. Position: The Security Council decided in this resolution that the Secretary-General could appoint up to three additional *ad litem* judges, and allow them to serve jointly on three-judge panels, to enable the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda to complete its caseload as soon as possible in order to meet its completion strategy. The Security Council took into account a letter to the Secretary-General from the President of the International Tribunal dated December 10, 2008, and had considered the proposals on the issue made by the tribunal president.

**INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL TRIBUNAL FOR THE
FORMER YUGOSLAVIA**

S/Res/1800

February 20

15(US)-0-0

Decides that the Secretary-General may appoint, within existing resources, additional *ad litem* Judges upon request of the President of the International Tribunal in order to conduct additional trials, notwithstanding the fact that the total number of *ad litem* Judges appointed to the Chambers will from time to time temporarily exceed the maximum of 12 provided for in Article 12 (1) of the Statute of the International Tribunal, to a maximum of 16 at any one time, returning to a maximum of 12 by December 31, 2008.

Background and U.S. Position: The Security Council acted on three letters from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council from December 2007 to February 2008, requesting authorization to appoint additional *ad litem* (temporary) judges with limited jurisdiction upon request of the President of the International Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia. Security Council action was necessary because the maximum number of judges had previously been set at 12.

II—Security Council

This new resolution allowed as many as 16 *ad litem*, so long as the maximum number reverted to 12 by year's end. The appointment of extra judges accelerated the hearing and adjudicating of cases by taking advantage of courtroom availability. When the United States determined that the tribunal could pay two additional judges out of existing funds, it fully supported the request as a way to speed up trials and allow the court to finish its case load sooner.

S/Res/1837

September 29

15(US)-0-0

Recalling in particular its Resolutions 1503 (2003) and 1534 (2004), in which the Security Council calls on the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia ("the Tribunal") to take all possible measures to complete investigations by the end of 2004, to complete all trial activities at first instance by the end of 2008, and to complete all work in 2010; expressing its determination to support the efforts made by the Tribunal toward the completion of its trial work at the earliest date; expressing its expectation that the extension of the terms of office of the judges concerned will enhance the effectiveness of trial proceedings and contribute towards the implementation of the Completion Strategy; and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides to extend the terms of office of four permanent judges at the Tribunal who are members of the Appeals Chamber until December 31, 2010, or until the completion of the cases before the Appeals Chamber if sooner;

Decides to extend the terms of office of 10 permanent judges at the Tribunal who are members of the Trial Chambers until December 31, 2009, or until the completion of the cases to which they are assigned if sooner;

Decides to extend the terms of office of 14 *ad litem* judges currently serving at the Tribunal until December 31, 2009, or until the completion of the cases to which they are assigned if sooner;

Decides to extend the term of office of 13 *ad litem* judges who are not currently appointed to serve at the Tribunal until December 31, 2009, or until the completion of any cases to which they may be assigned if sooner; and

Decides, without prejudice to the provisions of Resolution 1800 (2008), to amend Article 12, Paragraphs 1 and 2, of the Statute of the Tribunal and to replace those paragraphs with the provisions set out in the annex to this resolution.

Background and U.S. Position: Resolution 1800 authorized the Secretary-General to appoint additional *ad litem* judges within the existing budget through the end of 2008. The appointment of additional judges was intended to accelerate the hearing and adjudication of cases by taking advantage of courtroom availability.

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

In Resolution 1837 the Security Council, acting on two letters (dated June 5, 2008, and September 1, 2008) from the President of the Tribunal, extended the terms of office for a total of 41 Tribunal judges: four permanent judges of the Appeals Chamber, 10 permanent judges members of the Trial Chambers, and 27 *ad litem* judges (14 currently serving, and 13 not currently appointed to serve).

The appeals judges' terms were extended through 2010; the terms of the Trial Chamber and all *ad litem* judges were extended through 2009. The intent of Resolution 1837 was to provide additional judges to hear cases at all levels in a further attempt to have the Tribunal complete all work in 2010.

S/Res/1849

December 12

15(US)-0-0

Taking note of the letter to the President of the Council from the Secretary-General dated December 5, 2008, attaching the letter to him from the President of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia dated November 26, 2008;

Recalling its Resolution 1800 (2008), which permitted the total number of *ad litem* Judges appointed at anyone time to the Chambers of the International Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia ("International Tribunal") to be increased to 16 until December 31, 2008;

Noting that the International Tribunal currently has a total of 14 *ad litem* Judges assigned to cases; that three of them are assigned in a case where the judgment delivery is expected by February 12, 2009, and that the appointment of a further *ad litem* Judge to another case expected to commence on December 15, 2008, would take the total number of *ad litem* Judges to 15 until February 12, 2009;

Recalling that Resolution 1503 (2003) called upon the International Tribunal to take all possible measures to complete investigations by the end of 2004, to complete all trial activities at first instance by the end of 2008, and to complete all work in 2010, and that Resolution 1534 (2004) emphasized the importance of fully implementing the International Tribunal's completion strategy; and

Convinced of the advisability of extending this exceptional authorization granted to the Secretary-General in Resolution 1800 (2008) as a temporary measure to enable the International Tribunal to complete and conduct additional trials as soon as possible in order to meet its completion strategy; and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Decides that the Secretary-General may appoint, within existing resources, additional *ad litem* Judges upon request of the President of the International Tribunal in order to complete existing trials or conduct additional trials, notwithstanding that the total number of *ad litem* Judges appointed to the Chambers will from time to time temporarily exceed the maximum of 12 provided for in Article 12(i) of the Statute of the International Tribunal, to a

maximum of 16 at any one time, returning to a maximum of 12 by February 28, 2009.

Background and U.S. Position: Resolution 1800 authorized the Secretary-General to appoint additional *ad litem* judges within the existing budget through the end of 2008. The appointment of additional judges was intended to accelerate the hearing and adjudication of cases by taking advantage of courtroom availability. Resolution 1837 (2008) represented a further effort to marshal additional resources to complete the Tribunal's caseload by a date certain. This new resolution continues that effort.

PROLIFERATION OF WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

S/Res/1810

April 25

15(US)-0-0

Decides to extend the mandate of the 1540 Committee for three years, with the continued assistance of experts, until April 25, 2011;

Reiterates its decisions in and the requirements of Resolution 1540 (2004) and emphasizes the importance for all states to implement that resolution fully; again calls upon all states that have not yet presented a first report on steps they have taken or intend to take to implement the resolution to submit such a report to the 1540 Committee without delay; encourages all states that have submitted such reports to provide additional information on their implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004);

Encourages all states to prepare action plans of their priorities for implementing the key provisions of Resolution 1540 (2004), and to submit them to the 1540 Committee; encourages states with requests for assistance to convey them to the 1540 Committee; urges states and international, regional, and sub-regional organizations to inform the Committee of areas where they can provide assistance and to provide the 1540 Committee with a point of contact for assistance by June 25, 2008;

Requests the 1540 Committee to consider a comprehensive review of the status of implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004) and to report to the Security Council on its consideration on the matter by no later than January 31, 2009;

Decides that the Committee should submit an annual Program of Work to the Security Council before the end of each January; decides that the 1540 Committee shall continue to intensify its efforts to promote the full implementation by all states of Resolution 1540 (2004), through its Program of Work which includes the compilation of information on the status of states' implementation of all aspects of Resolution 1540 (2004), outreach, dialogue, assistance and cooperation, and addressing (a) accountability, (b) physical protection, (c) border controls and law enforcement efforts and (d) national export and trans-shipment controls including controls on providing funds and services such as financing to such export and trans-shipment;

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Decides in that regard to: (a) encourage the ongoing dialogue between the 1540 Committee and states on further actions to implement fully Resolution 1540 (2004) and on technical assistance; (b) request the 1540 Committee to continue to organize and participate in outreach events promoting states' implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004); (c) urge the 1540 Committee to strengthen facilitating technical assistance for implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004), including by engaging actively in matching offers and requests for assistance; (d) encourage the 1540 Committee to promote the sharing of experience and lessons learned in the areas covered by Resolution 1540 (2004), and to liaise on the availability of programs which might facilitate the implementation of Resolution 1540 (2004);

Reiterates the need to enhance ongoing cooperation between the 1540 Committee, the Security Council Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1267 (1999), concerning al-Qaida and the Taliban, and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1373 (2001), concerning counter-terrorism; and

Urges the 1540 Committee to take full advantage of voluntary financial contributions to assist states to implement Resolution 1540 (2004), and requests the 1540 Committee to consider developing and making more effective existing funding mechanisms, and to report to the Council on the matter no later than December 31, 2008; and decides that the 1540 Committee will submit to the Security Council a report by April 24, 2011, on compliance with Resolution 1540 (2004) through the implementation of its requirements.

Background and U.S. Position: In April 2004 the Security Council unanimously adopted Resolution 1540, establishing for the first time legally binding obligations under Chapter VII of the UN Charter for all UN member states to develop and enforce appropriate legal and regulatory measures against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

The United States helped initiate Resolution 1540, and over many years has erected an extensive set of legal and regulatory measures that are responsive to it. The United States also continues to strengthen its legal and regulatory framework in response to new proliferation challenges. In 2005 the President issued Executive Order 13382 freezing the U.S. assets of WMD proliferators and their supporters, and prohibiting U.S. persons from engaging in transactions with them.

Persons that are designated under the Order are effectively denied access to the U.S. financial and commercial systems. The United States encourages other governments to create similar authorities to address the actions of persons or entities under their jurisdiction that might be financing or otherwise supporting activities of known proliferators. The United States led the effort to extend and strengthen the mandate of the 1540 Committee.

TERRORISM

S/Res/1805

March 20

15(US)-0-0

Underlines that the overarching goal of the Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) is to ensure the full implementation of Resolution 1373 (2001) and recalls the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate's (CTED) crucial role in supporting the Committee in the fulfillment of its mandate;

Decides that CTED will continue to operate as a special political mission under the policy guidance of the CTC for the period ending December 31, 2010, and further decides to conduct an interim review by June 30, 2009, and a comprehensive consideration of CTED's work prior to the expiration of its mandate;

Welcomes and affirms the endorsement by the CTC of the recommendations contained in the revised "Organizational plan for the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (S/2008/80)";

Urges CTED to continue strengthening its role in facilitating technical assistance for implementation of Resolution 1373 (2001) aimed at increasing the capabilities of member states in the fight against terrorism by addressing their counter-terrorism needs;

Stresses the importance of a tailored dialogue among CTED, the CTC, and member states, including for the development of relevant implementation strategies by member states, and encourages the CTC and CTED to arrange meetings with member states in various formats;

Urges CTED also to intensify cooperation with relevant international, regional, and sub-regional organizations to enhance member states' capacity to implement Resolution 1373 (2001) fully and to facilitate the provision of technical assistance;

Encourages CTED to continue providing the necessary support for the work of the CTC with member states toward comprehensive implementation of Resolution 1624 (2005);

Reiterates the need to enhance ongoing cooperation among the CTC, the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1267 (1999), and the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1540 (2004), as well as their respective groups of experts, including through, as appropriate, enhanced information-sharing, coordinated visits to countries, technical assistance and other issues of relevance to all three committees, and expresses its intention to provide guidance to the committees on areas of common interest to coordinate counter-terrorism efforts better; and

Welcomes and emphasizes the importance of CTED's readiness to participate actively in and support all relevant activities under the UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy including within the Counter-Terrorism

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

Implementation Task Force (CTITF), established to ensure overall coordination and coherence in the counter-terrorism efforts of the UN system.

Background and U.S. Position: Security Council Resolution 1373 (2001) created the UN Counter-terrorism Committee, one of three Security Council committees that address terrorism. Resolution 1805 extended the CTC's Executive Directorate's mandate until December 31, 2010, and called for an interim review to be conducted by June 30, 2009.

The United States strongly supports the Security Council's efforts to fight terrorism and adopted Resolution 1805 to strengthen the Executive Directorate's role in facilitating technical assistance to ensure implementation of Resolution 1373 and to call for intensified cooperation with international, regional, and sub-regional organizations. The United States sponsored this resolution.

S/Res/1822

June 30

15(US)-0-0

Decides that all states shall take the measures previously imposed by Paragraph 4(b) of Resolution 1267 (1999), Paragraph 8(c) of Resolution 1333 (2000), and Paragraphs 1 and 2 of Resolution 1390 (2002), with respect to al-Qaida, Usama bin-Ladin and the Taliban, and other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with them, as referred to in the list created by Resolutions 1267 (1999) and 1333 (2000) (the "Consolidated List"):

Freezes their funds and other financial assets or economic resources, including funds from property owned or controlled directly or indirectly, by them or on their behalf, and ensures that none is made available, directly or indirectly for such persons' benefit, or by their nationals or by persons within their territory; prevents the entry into or transit through their territories of these individuals; prevents the direct or indirect supply, sale, or transfer to these individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, of arms and related *materiel* of all types for the aforementioned and military-related technical advice, assistance, or training;

Decides that member states may permit the addition to accounts frozen pursuant to the provisions above of any payment in favor of listed individuals, groups, undertakings or entities, provided that they continue to be subject to those provisions and are frozen;

Encourages all member states to submit for the Consolidated List names of individuals, groups, undertakings and entities financing or supporting, by any means, acts or activities of al-Qaida, Usama bin-Ladin, and the Taliban, and other associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, including proceeds from illicit cultivation, production and trafficking of narcotic drugs originating in Afghanistan, and their precursors; directs the Committee to review by June 2010 the Consolidated List at the date of adoption of this resolution, circulating relevant names to the designating states and states of residence and/or citizenship, where known, to ensure the

II—Security Council

Consolidated List is current and accurate; encourages the Committee to ensure that fair, clear procedures exist for placing individuals and entities on the Consolidated List and for removing them, as well as for granting humanitarian exemptions;

Directs the Committee to identify possible cases of non-compliance with the measures listed above and to determine appropriate action;

Encourages member states to share with their private sectors information related to fraudulent, counterfeit, stolen and lost identity or travel documents, and, if a listed party is found to be using a false identity, to inform the Committee;

Reiterates the need to enhance cooperation among the Committee, the Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC) and the Committee established pursuant to Resolution 1540 (2004), and their groups of experts; and

Decides, to assist the Committee to fulfill its mandate, to extend the mandate of the current New York-based Monitoring Team appointed by the Secretary-General pursuant to Resolution 1617 (2005) for a further period of 18 months, and requests the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements.

Background and U.S. Position: The sanctions, which were reaffirmed in this resolution, consist of an international asset freeze, travel ban, and arms embargo on individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities determined by the Committee (a subsidiary body of the Security Council) to be associated with al-Qaida or the Taliban. There are currently nearly 500 individuals and entities on the Committee's sanctions list.

The resolution also set out the strategic vision over the next 18 months for the work of the al-Qaida and Taliban Sanctions Committee established by Resolution 1267. In particular, the resolution addresses concerns that the procedures for adding and removing individuals and entities from the Consolidated List be fair and clear. The 1267 Committee was established in response to Taliban rule in Afghanistan and its harboring of Usama bin-Ladin.

This resolution also renewed for 18 months the mandate of the Resolution 1267 Monitoring Team, which provides analytical support to the Security Council on implementing the al-Qaida/Taliban sanctions regime.

The United States welcomed the Security Council's strong support for this resolution. The al-Qaida and Taliban sanctions regime is the international community's most effective and important counter-terrorism tool.

The resolution reaffirms the international community's commitment to addressing the threat to international peace and security posed by al-Qaida and the Taliban, and further demonstrates the Security Council's commitment

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

to ensure that the procedures used to impose sanctions are fair, consistent, and transparent.

WOMEN, PEACE, AND SECURITY

S/Res/1820

June 19

15(US)-0-0

Stresses that sexual violence, when used or commissioned as a tactic of war to target civilians deliberately or as a part of a widespread or systematic attack against civilian populations, can significantly exacerbate situations of armed conflict and may impede the restoration of international peace and security; affirms that effective steps to prevent and respond to such acts of sexual violence can significantly contribute to the maintenance of international peace and security, and expresses its readiness to adopt appropriate steps to address widespread or systematic sexual violence;

Demands the immediate and complete cessation by all parties to armed conflict of all acts of sexual violence against civilians with immediate effect;

Demands that all parties to armed conflict immediately take appropriate measures to protect civilians, including women and girls, from all forms of sexual violence, including appropriate military training and disciplinary measures, vetting armed and security forces for past actions of rape and other sexual violence, and evacuation to safety of women and children under imminent threat; and requests the Secretary-General to address this issue in broader discussions of conflict resolution between UN officials and parties to conflict, taking into account the views of women in affected local communities;

Notes that rape and other forms of sexual violence can constitute a war crime, a crime against humanity, or a constitutive act with respect to genocide, stresses the need for the exclusion of sexual violence crimes from amnesty provisions in the context of conflict resolution processes, and calls upon member states to comply with their obligations for prosecuting persons responsible for such acts, to ensure that all victims of sexual violence have equal protection under the law and equal access to justice, and stresses the importance of ending impunity for such acts;

Affirms its intention, regarding state-specific sanctions regimes, to consider the appropriateness of targeted, graduated measures against parties to situations of armed conflict who commit rape and other sexual violence against women and girls;

Requests the Secretary-General to develop and implement training programs for all UN-deployed peacekeeping and humanitarian personnel to help them prevent, recognize, and respond to sexual and other forms of violence against civilians;

II—Security Council

Requests the Secretary-General to strengthen implementation of the zero-tolerance policy toward sexual exploitation and abuse in UN peacekeeping operations; and urges troop- and police-contributing countries to take preventative action, including pre-deployment and in-theater awareness training, to ensure full accountability in cases involving their personnel;

Stresses the important role the Peacebuilding Commission can play by including in its advice and recommendations for post-conflict peacebuilding strategies ways to address sexual violence committed during and after armed conflict, and in ensuring consultation and effective representation of women's civil society in its country-specific configurations; and

Urges the Secretary-General and his Special Envoys to invite women to participate at decision-making levels in discussions about prevention and resolution of conflict, the maintenance of peace and security, and post-conflict peacebuilding; urges all parties concerned to support the development and strengthening of the capacities of national institutions, particularly judicial and health systems, and of local civil society networks for sustainable assistance to victims of sexual violence in armed conflict and post-conflict situations; and urges regional and sub-regional bodies in particular to consider implementing policies, activities, and advocacy for the benefit of women and girls affected by sexual violence in armed conflict.

Background and U.S. Position: During its June 2008 Security Council presidency, the United States focused on follow-up to Resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security, with an emphasis on sexual violence in armed conflicts, and the Secretary of State chaired an open ministerial-level debate on the topic. The debate culminated in unanimous adoption of Resolution 1820. Key provisions stress a direct relationship between the widespread and/or systematic use of sexual violence as an instrument of conflict and the maintenance of international peace and security; and urge the Security Council to consider steps to end such atrocities and to punish perpetrators, including through requesting a report from the Secretary-General on situations where sexual violence is widely or systematically employed against civilians.

The United States regards the use of rape and other forms of sexual violence as instruments of warfare as an impediment to international peace and security. Sexual violence profoundly affects not only the health and safety of women, but the economic and social stability of their nations, communities, and families.

Unanimous approval of the resolution illustrates the Security Council's agreement with that view. Secretary Rice chaired the Ministerial where Resolution 1820 was adopted in order to highlight U.S. commitment to the prevention of sexual violence against women in conflict and post-conflict situations.

Voting Practices in the United Nations—2008

VOTING SUMMARIES

The following table lists the votes of Security Council members on the 66 draft resolutions introduced in 2008. Resolutions on which a Security Council member voted No or abstained are identified by the resolution theme or number (if the resolution was adopted) in parentheses.

COUNTRY	YES	NO	ABSTAIN
United States	65		1 (Resolution 1828)
Belgium	66		
Burkina Faso	66		
China	65	1 (Zimbabwe)	
Costa Rica	66		
Croatia	66		
France	66		
Indonesia	64		2 (Zimbabwe and Resolution 1803)
Italy	66		
Libya	65	1 (Zimbabwe)	
Panama	66		
Russia	65	1 (Zimbabwe)	
South Africa	65	1 (Zimbabwe)	
United Kingdom	66		
Vietnam	65	1 (Zimbabwe)	