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Conference B (13 - 17 April 2014)

Documentation of the Work of the Security Council B (SC-B)
Security Council B (SC-B)

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Agenda

I. The Situation in Syria
II. Strengthening United Nations Peacekeeping Operations
III. Peace Consolidation in West Africa
IV. The Situation in Nigeria

Reports adopted by the Committee

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Summary Report

The United Nations Security Council held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I. The Situation in Syria
II. Strengthening United Nations Peacekeeping Operations
III. Peace Consolidation in West Africa

In addition the Council added the following agenda items: The Situation in Nigeria

The session was attended by representatives of 15 Member States of the United Nations.

The session opened with several statements concerning the adoption of the agenda. Upon adoption of the agenda, the initial discussion, delegates discussed a variety of means by which to address the Situation in Syria. Discussions revolved around methods for ending the conflict through a political process, as well as discussions on how best to address the humanitarian nature of the crisis. Monday was spent outlining various proposals for peace including: four point, five point and six point peace plans. Delegates reiterated the importance of the Kofi Anan Six Point Peace plan and debated methods for expanding and making the Six Point Plan more effective. Substantive debate included discussions on how to proceed with a demilitarization plan, increasing humanitarian relief to refugees, as well as internally displaced Syrians. Additionally, proposals were brought to refer Syria to the International Criminal Court, and the degree to which the Assad government would be present in Syrian electoral and transitional processes.

Tuesday began with continued discussion on how to address the Syrian crisis, and a two pronged humanitarian and political solution. Member States received disturbing information regarding an emerging situation in Nigeria and as a result began discussions on amending the agenda to discuss various time-sensitive topics including: the Situation in Ukraine and Crimea; the Crisis in Nigeria, and Peace Consolidation in West Africa. Member States continued productive work on the Situation in Syria submitting five Working Papers that addressed the political, and humanitarian situation, as well as the possibility of referring Syria to the International Criminal Court. Negotiations were challenged when major Member States persisted in disagreement on the nature of the future involvement of the current government of Syria. The Security Council showed iterative improvement to the Working Papers as progress continued through the day and into the evening. Continued updates from Nigeria increased the pressure on Member States wishing to uphold the mandate of the Security Council by preventing and responding to international conflict. Member States proposed an additional amendment to the agenda to include the Voting Structure of the Security Council in an attempt to navigate the impasse on the Assad regime. Tuesday concluded with the acceptance of five Draft Resolutions each with varied approaches to solve the conflict in Syria.

Wednesday morning began with a very productive final caucus to gain support for the introduced draft resolutions and to propose friendly and unfriendly amendments to Draft Resolution 1/1 as well as two friendly amendments to Draft Resolution 1/5. The Security Council closed the speaker’s list, ending formal debate, and entered voting procedure. Draft Resolution 1/1, 1/4, and 1/5 regarding the political resolution to the Situation in Syria, and the referral of Syria to the International Criminal Court did not pass; Draft Resolution 1/2 and 1/3 were adopted by acclimation and became Security Council-B Resolutions 1/1 and 1/2. After arriving at consensus on the Situation in Syria, the Security Council amended the agenda to address the Crisis in Nigeria. Discussions preceded on the increasingly disturbing developments in Northern Nigeria, including the deplorable assassination of the President of Nigeria, Goodluck Jonathan.

After a brief but productive period of negotiations in which a Draft Resolution and a Draft Presidential Statement were introduced and refined, the Security Council entered once again into voting procedure and considered the documents on the table. Draft Resolution 2/1 passed successfully, creating a peacekeeping mission under the authority of the African Union, to be composed of a majority of African Union forces. Draft Presidential Statement 2/1 passed by acclimation creating a strong unified statement on the peaceful resolution of the violence in Nigeria. The United Nations Security Council adjourned until reconvention next year.
The Security Council,

Deeply regretful of the unabated violence in Syria,

Alarmed by the security concerns posed by large refugee populations living in refugee camps,

Acknowledging the volume of displaced individuals that exists to ensure the right of return for all Syrian nationals regardless of the outcome of the political dispute,

Aware of the security concerns that are the passing of armed forces into Syria through refugee camps, and the utilization of refuges by militant parties as safe zones to consolidate and reorganize in order to rejoin country combative actions,

Further Concerned that the significant alteration of population demographics has the potential to incite regional conflicts,

Acknowledging as a further security issue the need to prevent generational occupation of refugee camps in order to avoid the perception of territorial claims to the areas utilized by the camp premises,

Aware that these security concerns arise from both the undue resource strain placed on host countries by refugee populations and the deplorable conditions of refugee camps,

Acknowledging that the current refugee crisis has significant potential to further destabilize the region and could represent a substantial threat to international peace and security,

Seeking to lessen tensions between host countries and refugee populations through the creation of an aid program for host countries,

Commending the United Nations High Commission of Refugees’ (UNHCR) work and recognizing their need for further financial support in order to effectively execute their mission,

Conscious that integrating refugees into urban areas of host countries will bring them under the jurisdiction of existing police systems and will thus decrease the cost of providing security,

Aware that integration will not eliminate the need for external funding aid,

Seeking also to use the UNHCR’s budget more effectively via cutting aid distribution costs by increasing the number of refugees integrated into urban areas with proper transportation and educational infrastructures,

Commending the work of the WHO, yet recognizing that many medical needs of women and children are not met,

1. Asks the General Assembly Fifth Committee to create a fund initially consisting of 2.5 million under the administration of the UNHCR that can be dispersed to countries hosting refugees for the purpose of:

   a. Compensating host countries for supplying additional security for refugee camps with local or national police forces;

   b. Financing and supporting the relocation and integration of at risk refugee demographics identified by UNHCR into host country communities;

   c. Funding the education of refugees after integration into host countries, including all educational fees for primary, secondary, and vocational training for at risk refugee demographics and
designating that the funds allocated for this cause will be used for the completion of primary and secondary education and training in one vocational profession, at the discretion of the fund’s administrative body;

2. Understanding that The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, Morocco and Guatemala will provide an initial donation of 10% of the expenditures during the first year; in the amount of 1 million dollars from The Grand Duchy of Luxembourg, 1 million dollars from Morocco, and 500,000 dollars from Guatemala;

3. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
The Security Council,

Deeply concerned with the ongoing violence and suffering of civilians in Syria of which more than 9 million are in need and about 6.5 million are displaced internally,

Shocked by the amounts of refugees of more than 2.5 Million persons, among which women and children make up three quarters of the refugees, and the conditions under which they live in refugee camps in the region,

Realizing the difficulties of neighboring countries with catering for basic human needs of the refugees,

Appreciating the efforts of United Nations organizations and their local counterparts,

Welcoming the Cluster Approach as developed by United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees and Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, fostering the coordination and cooperation of humanitarian aid,

Recognizing Chapter 5 Article 23 of the Charter of the United Nations, where due regard being specially paid, in the first instance to the contribution of Members States of the United Nations to the maintenance of international peace and security and to the other purposes of the Organization,

Affirming the Resolutions 2118, 20, Presidential statements 2013/15, 2012/20, 2012/10 and the six-point plan for Syria by Kofi Annan, the joint United Nations and Arab League Envoy,

Recalling especially the Resolution S/RES/2139, stating the importance of daily humanitarian pauses,

Noting with regret the absence of concrete agreements out of the Geneva II Communique,

Expecting an agreement between conflict parties,

Emphasizing that only 11% of requested means for humanitarian assistance inside Syria has been funded,

Underscores the gains made through the Cluster Approach,

Recognizing the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the Syrian Arab Republic,

1. Calls upon Member States to extend the acceptance quotas of refugees from Syria in order to defuse the situation in the neighboring countries and prevent them from closing the borders;

2. Encourages all organizations supporting the refugees to prepare a mid-term plan of action for refugees’ return to Syria after the end of the crisis;

3. Stresses the necessity of using a Cluster Approach as developed by United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees and Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, while drawing special attention to the importance of an intensified cooperation with local partners;

4. Defines the specific fields to be tackled within the framework of the Cluster Approach as following:

   a. Improving the nutrition supply by United Nations Children's Fund as well as extending the provision of monthly food assistance by the UN World Food Program in partnership with the Syrian Arab Red Crescent and 23 other local Syrian organizations, as listed by the World Food Program;
b. Improving health protection, based on the efforts of the United Nations Populations Fund, which launched several programs on women’s and children’s health protection and reproductive health;

c. Improving psychological and further counseling as launched by United Nations Populations Fund and Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs;

d. Fostering United Nations Children's Fund’s activities in water supply, sanitation and hygiene;

e. Improving camp coordination and camp management as well as shelter provision by the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Organization for Migration and United Nations High Commissioner on Refugees;

f. Improving education by supporting Syria’s neighboring governments to provide locations and launch educational programs tailored for refugees minimizing language barriers among others;

5. Requests the UNHCR as well as the UNDP to intensify cooperation in order to facilitate the access of internally displaced persons to humanitarian assistance provided by the International Community;

6. Asks the Secretary-General to ensure that the necessary funds are allotted in order to realize the aforementioned intensified humanitarian measures;

7. Urges all parties in conflict to ensure the effective and timely access of humanitarian assistance to all civilians within Syrian borders within the next 60 days;

8. Further urges all parties in conflict to negotiate and implement a daily two-hour humanitarian pause within the next 30 days and to define exact modalities of the daily pause, especially so that citizens isolated in disputed cities can be helped;

9. Requests the installment of a neutral fact-finding mission of 10 envoys appointed by the Secretary-General focusing on the evaluation of the needs of civilians reporting to the Security Council within the next 90 days;

10. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
The Security Council

Fully alarmed by the atrocities committed by the sectarian movement Boko Haram,

Deeply concerned with the potential for escalation of the conflict,

Referring to the similarities observed between the acts of Boko Haram and the Hutu Majority in Rwanda,

Fully believing that immediate and decisive action is necessary in light of the repercussions of current hesitation and that which has occurred in similar conflicts,

Strongly concerned by the potential threat for the conflict to spread considering the significant demographics of concerned religious bodies,

Deeply concerned by the precedence set by the assurgency of a sectarian movement to power through violent means,

Realizing that a lack of action on behalf of the Security Council on this matter significantly impacts the potential for increased civilian casualties and further deterioration of the conflict,

Alarmed by the 290,000 internally displaced persons and the significant potential for humanitarian issues as a result,

Recognizing the need for extensive analysis and a report from the UNHCR on the situation in Nigeria,

Determining the need for the deployment of a cooperative Peace Enforcement mission in full cooperation with an African Union troop contingent to protect the Christian minority and other at risk civilians,

1. Requests partnership with the African Union in a joint United Nations and African Union Peacekeeping Operation;

2. Decides that the African Union has ultimate command authority over the Peacekeeping Operation and the presence of Peacekeeping Operations;

3. Further decides that at all times that AU troops are at least 51% of all deployed forces, if AU troops cannot reach this percentage the AU can authorize a majority of non-AU troops;

4. Authorizes the formation and deployment of a Joint Effort African Union-United Nations short-term peacekeeping mission:
   a. Funded in part by donations from Luxembourg, China, and Morocco, and other willing member states;
   b. Receiving donations of aerial military transportation from Morocco, the United States and China;
   c. Whose mandate includes:
      i. The ability to use the force necessary to actively defend civilians and themselves;
      ii. The construction of safe areas in Jos and three other areas as determined by the African Union;
      iii. The establishment of a border around designated safe areas, through which any peoples may pass, yet all arms will be confiscated;
      iv. The initial offensive actions to push back Boko Haram, which will be augmented by non-AU troops;
      v. Supporting, once a ceasefire has been reached, an African led peacekeeping mission;
vi. The deployment, after the conflict has been brought to ceasefire, of a police force inside of safe areas in order to locate and expel violent elements;

vii. The deployment, after the conflict, of a 20-member mission of Australian Federal Police counter-terrorism experts limited strictly to an advisory role only, and the expansion of the British counter-terrorism mission in Mali to include assistance to Nigeria;

viii. An authorization for operation for 60 days, and continued operation pending African Union and Nigerian Approval, when a legitimate Nigerian government can be determined;

5. Calls for the 1267 Committee to examine all evidence of linkages between the Nigerian terrorist organization Boko Haram and al-Qaida and draft a report for the United Nations Security Council on such linkages and any further recommended sanctions against both groups no later than the end of May 2014;

6. Authorizes the United Kingdom to stage logistical and medical support offshore from the coast of Nigeria to greater enable AU ground elements and shorten the deployment timeframe for any increase to this peacekeeping mission, specifically through the redeployment of British Royal Navy capabilities to the coast of West Africa for maritime security, transportation assistance and logistical support;

7. Demands action to be taken on the refugee program in a process consisting of the following stages:

   a. Invoke the World Bank’s Emergency Response Program, which shall provide care packages, during the first week, to Nigerian refugees in countries neighboring Nigeria, in order to relieve hardships;

   b. The time gained with the care packages shall be used to start the usual emergency response measures by UN organizations such as but not limited to the UNHCR, WHO, and World Food Program;

   c. If necessary, the separate missions of the aforementioned UN organizations shall be coordinated using the UNHCR and OCHA’s cluster approach if the crisis is not resolved in a timely manner determined by the legitimate government of Nigeria if possible and the African Union if the legitimate government is not in operation at that time;

8. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.
At the 180th meeting of the Security Council, held on 16 April 2014, in connection with the Council’s consideration of the item entitled “The Situation in Nigeria,” the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

“The Security Council reaffirms its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security pact.

“The Security Council encourages humanitarian actions to properly address the current situation in Nigeria in an efficient and timely manner, such as international aid assistance regarding the inequities caused by the violence in northern Nigeria.

“The Security Council expresses its concerns for the loss of the Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan and reiterates its condemnation for any and all non-democratic change.

“The Security Council wishes to express its alarm regarding the lives lost in Nigeria and additional reported casualties.

“The Security Council stands against all acts of violence in Nigeria and its neighbors specifically those recently instigated by the extremist group Boko Haram who seeks to seize control of the country.

“The Security Council condemns the violence precipitated by the extremist group Boko Haram by forcibly proclaiming the Islamic States of northern Nigeria.

“The Security Council does not recognize any state formed by the use of violence or without the consent of the Nigerian people.

“The Security Council only recognizes the legitimate government of Nigeria and the constitution of the sovereign state of Nigeria.

“The Security Council aims to support peaceful relations between all religious groups in Nigeria and strongly urges a cessation to any further provocations of violence.

“The Security Council condemns any bloodshed as well as actions that could lead to the further division of Nigeria’s religious and ethnic communities.

“The Security Council wishes to emphasize humanitarian responses in helping address the concerns of the Nigerian Red Cross and other future parties seeking to provide humanitarian aid.

“The Security Council urges cooperation with the African Union in order to find a solution that will establish peace and stability in Nigeria and the rest of the region.

“The Security Council acknowledges that the situation in Nigeria represents a threat to the stability of Western Africa and all current peacekeeping missions by the United Nations in the region.”