Conference A

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Security Council - A (SC-A)

Committee Staff

Director: Gamaliel Perez
Chair: Lara Breitmoser

Agenda

I. The Impact of COVID-19 on Peace and Security
II. The Situation in Libya
III. The Situation in Yemen
IV. Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

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Summary Report

The Security Council - A held its annual session to consider the following agenda items:

I. The Situation in Yemen
II. The Impacts of COVID-19 on Peace and Security
III. Protection of Civilians in Armed Conflict

The session was attended by representatives of 14 Member States and included the full attendance of the Permanent 5.

On Sunday, after diplomatic debates, the committee adopted the agenda order of II, I, III addressing the impact of COVID-19. By Monday, the dais received one working paper with the full collaboration of the committee discussing issues relating to increased vaccination access and resources, addressing the implementation of a global ceasefire to allow further humanitarian aid, and creating new partnerships to increase multilateralism and inclusion of women and young people. On Tuesday the committee received additional materials of a developing crisis in Libya. The council quickly responded to the crisis by amending the agenda and focusing all efforts on Libya. During the discussion the committee requested special representatives from Egypt, Libya, and Turkey to speak before the committee. After further deliberation the committee adopted by acclamation a Press Statement regarding its efforts to maintain peace and stability in the region.

After continuation on the topic of the Impact of COVID-19, the dais accepted the draft resolution and presented it to the body. The draft resolution was adopted through acclamation and presented a range of ideas to address the need for increased vaccination and protections of global health through the inclusion of young people and women. The committee then moved into discussing the Situation in Yemen. The body worked diligently and collaboratively to present a Presidential Statement to the dais. The Presidential Statement was then adopted by acclamation and presented the desire and will of the committee to provide relief and aid to the worst humanitarian crisis today. Throughout the sessions, the delegates worked tirelessly together, delivered passionate speeches, and embodied the spirit of the United Nations throughout it all. The results of this committee are a testament to the power of collaboration and diplomacy when unified towards a common goal.
The Security Council-A,

Recognizing its primary mandate to ensure the maintenance of international peace and security,

Reaffirming the call for a global ceasefire and altered peacekeeping previously passed in Resolution 2532 (2020),

Expressing concern at past failure of Resolution 2532 (2020) to effectively facilitate the secretary general’s worldwide call of ceasefire expressed by the Secretary General,

Reaffirms that this general and immediate cessation of hostilities and this humanitarian pause do not apply to military operations against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Da’esh), Al Qaeda and Al Nusra Front (ANF), and all other individuals, groups, undertakings, and entities associated with Al Qaeda or ISIL, and other terrorist groups, which have been designated by the Security Council,

Highlighting the importance of respecting the clear timeline already established in UN Peacekeeping operations in order to prevent potential encroachment on the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the state,

Reaffirming Security Council Resolution 2538 (2020) on the importance of women in peacekeeping,

Appreciating the Peacebuilding Commission as the UN organ able to bridge the role between UN entities by sharing advice on peacebuilding needs and priorities,

Calling attention that communication between different bodies is crucial in the realization of coordination in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic,

Reiterating the importance of a ‘whole-of-system’ approach to coordinate the expertise of UN entities,

Firmly convinced that the World Health Organization (WHO) principle of ‘providing leadership on matters critical to health and engaging in partnerships where joint action is needed,

Reaffirming the WHO’s declaration on 11 March 2020 to consider COVID-19 as a pandemic,

Highlighting the implication of the Human Rights Council (HRC) in protecting the rights of rural populations in the COVID-19 crisis as they are more than proportionally affected by this pandemic,

Further believing that the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) provides a response to COVID-19 that is guided by international solidarity and cooperation to further the 2030 Agenda,

Stressing once again leaving no one behind as central to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and protecting the poorest and most vulnerable in international response,

Recalling the Right to Health as a fundamental principle of international humanitarian law to guarantee the right of everyone to access public health and medical care as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 25, paragraph 1,

1. Affirms the situation of COVID-19 as unique and therefore requires a solution tailored around fighting this pandemic; this committee commits that all following clauses will be reviewed on a
bi-annual basis in line with the WHO COVID-19 response and will only be reconducted if approved by the Security Council;

2. **Encourages** all member states to take proactive steps to slow the spread of COVID-19 and the subsequent propagation of new COVID-19 related conflicts by:
   a. Encouraging the employment of protective mask mandates and the construction of an education framework to provide basic guidance on proper sanitation and ways to slow virus proliferation;
   b. Inviting Member States are invited to work cooperatively to provide each other with needed personal protective equipment;
   c. Inviting Member States with a demonstrated need of personal protective equipment to submit to the council a formal summation of their currently supply levels to combat the COVID-19 pandemic;
   d. Prioritizing Member States who have been disproportionately impacted by COVID-19 related violent and armed conflict for receiving aid, including personal protective equipment;

3. **Directs** the Secretary-General to establish an independent office on the oversight of ceasefire agreements with the following mandate by:
   a. Facilitating the establishment of ceasefire agreements in areas of armed conflict around the globe;
   b. Overseeing combatants’ compliance with ceasefire agreements once they are brokered;
   c. Ensuring that any ceasefire agreement facilitates the conditions necessary for partner organizations to adequately distribute reliable vaccines to the targeted civilian populations;

4. **Further directs** the office on the oversight of ceasefire to interface and coordinate with the World Health Organization’s COVAX program, ongoing UN Peacekeeping operations, UN partner organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and local health agencies to facilitate the distribution of reliable vaccines to vulnerable civilian populations within the framework of the ceasefire agreement by:
   a. Confidently transmit recommendations to the council of adequate measures to encourage compliance including but not limited to:
      i. Deploying of new peacekeeping operations with the consent of the concerned state actors;
      ii. Establishing of new humanitarian corridors;
   b. Ensuring the inclusion of all concerned groups into discussion regarding conflict resolution and decision-making processes by using new technologies;

5. **Requests** implementing coordination on the ground with the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and other NGOs to ensure the transfer of vaccines within the appropriate health infrastructure by:
a. Calling on Member States to work on long term solutions on the distribution of the vaccine with the collaboration of international NGOs such as Doctors of the Worlds which are proposing training to local medical staff;

b. Inviting Member States affected by conflict to give statements and take up discussions with the Security Council on the relation between conflict, the spread of COVID-19 and vaccine distribution by:

i. Furthering the recommendation of utilizing existing forums to create regular opportunities for conflict affected Member States to assist in dealing with health hazards in areas affected by conflicts;

6. **Reaffirms** the importance of peacekeeping operations as one of the most important tools the United Nations should provide in promotion of international security and protection of civilians in armed conflict by:

a. Furthering support for the mandate of existing UN Peacekeeping initiatives in areas facing open armed conflict, primarily by partnering with existing UN agencies or NGOs such as COVAX with relevant expertise, in order to fight the spread of the COVID-19 working with the UN assistance missions mandate as necessary;

b. Ensuring the protection of peacekeepers and medical staff in regions of armed conflict with respect to the national sovereignty of each Member States by requesting the previous provision of vaccination for peacekeepers and medical staff;

c. Maintaining an open line of communication between existing peacekeeping operations with the independent office on the oversight of ceasefire agreements in order to coordinate their efforts;

7. **Promoting** the inclusion of women as peacekeepers in armed conflicts as children and women feel more secure with their presence in vulnerable situations by:

a. Ensuring the avoidance of any allegations of misconduct committed by UN personnel against civilians in conflicted areas impacted by COVID-19 by:

i. Proposing training on protection of women and children to peacekeepers with the collaboration of NGOs which can provide its expertise to end abuses against human rights violations;

ii. Directing UN Peacekeeping operations to review the guidelines of the code of conduct of peacekeepers to target the protection of women and children in conflicted areas impacted by COVID-19;

8. **Sends** WHO observers in areas challenged with infrastructural difficulties in order to oversee distribution of vaccines, PPE and basic medical equipment to the population especially around massive places of vaccination by including medical workers, elderly, people with disabilities, women, refugees, internally displaced, and other populations at particular risks due to the pandemic should be granted priority access to the vaccine;

9. **Calls upon** the different UN bodies to maintain communication with each other and the independent office on the oversight of ceasefire agreements to ensure a coordinated response across different UN entities;

10. **Calls upon** the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) to develop an advisory role in mitigating peace and security within Member States by promoting the advisory role of the PBC to ensure transparency between Member States to foster peace and security by:
a. Including unimpeded humanitarian work by allowing access for medical personnel and resources to be delivered directly while furthering the development of human rights;

b. Developing a strategic and coherent approach to peacebuilding through their Organizational Committee to ensure peace during the COVID-19 pandemic;

c. Including these strategies in its annual report on implementing provisions outlined above, and utilizing the Peacebuilding Fund to develop a lasting solution;

d. Coordinate their efforts with the independent office on the oversight of ceasefire agreements;

11. **Urges** coordination by the WHO to ensure that all Member States and entities within and outside of the UN are aligned by:

   a. Utilizing the Strategic Preparedness and Response plan to address immediate health needs by:

      i. Encouraging further commitment by Member States to the COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund;

   b. Focusing aid to developing Member States to ensure availability and accessibility to basic health needs;

   c. Supporting Member States national capacity to respond to COVID-19 through providing training programs, response plans, biosafety, and biosecurity;

   d. Further development of the UN COVID-19 Supply Task Force to coordinate medical supplies to overwhelmed health systems;

   e. Coordinating their efforts with the independent office on the oversight of ceasefire agreements;

12. **Insists** the HRC’s role in promoting human rights of all populations including minority groups and rural populations by:

   a. Including a detailed report on the annual Health Equality Index (HEI) on access to quality health care for all populations by:

      i. Inviting that more health care facilities participate in the HEI;

      ii. Reiterating that health care facilities in all Member States be dedicated to their commitment of placing an emphasis on supporting marginalized and rural populations;

   b. Developing a strategy for all populations and regions to have access to essential COVID-19 resources and strategies that further develop human rights;

   c. Coordinating with the independent office on the oversight of ceasefire agreements and actors outside of the UN to maintain and further the guidance of human rights throughout the pandemic;

13. **Endorses** the call that the ECOSOC Financing for Development Forum for mobilization from all sources to recover from COVID-19 by:
a. Continuing dialogue with another high-level virtual briefing on COVID-19 to be held with the executive heads of critical UN system agencies to report challenging and fruitful practices of responding to COVID-19;

b. Providing an inclusive platform for the expertise of the ECOSOC subsidiary bodies to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic;

c. Analyzing and providing a report on the socioeconomic impact of COVID-19 on the 2030 Agenda;

d. Pushing for multilateralism to be more inclusive to marginalized groups and ensure the vulnerabilities COVID-19 highlighted within Member States is prepared better for the long-term challenges of the pandemic;

14. *Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.*
The following Security Council press statement was issued today by the Council President:

The Members of the Security Council condemned in the strongest possible terms the escalation in Sirte, Libya. The international community is united to end this conflict. They stressed the need for the ceasefire agreement between all warring parties in Libya, including the Republic of Egypt, to be followed and reiterated their appeal upon the resolution 1970 (2011) on the arms embargo to be followed by all participating Member States. They condemned the violent attack on the oil field in Sirte and the behavior of the regional actors involved, and were also concerned by, and will continue to monitor, the potential involvement of Egypt and Turkey.

The Members of the Security Council strongly encouraged data sharing on the behalf of the Human Rights Council (HRC) Fact Finding Mission in Libya on the current situation in the region. They reinforced support for the United Nations Support Mission for Libya (UNSML). They welcomed the agreements and progress made by the 5+5 Joint Military Commission and called on all parties to implement their agreements in full.

The Members of the Security Council recognized that the COVID-19 crisis could be aggravated by an armed conflict. They stressed that further activities will place the health of numerous civilians in grave danger.

The Members of the Security Council appreciated the statements made by participating parties at its formal session. They called upon all Member States to fully respect the principle of national sovereignty as the situation in Libya progresses, and further urged caution to any state or non-state actors’ intent on escalating the ongoing conflict. They noted that the democratic process could be threatened if the situation is not de-escalated. They reiterated the importance of Libyan-owned and Libyan-led dialogue. They expressed strong support for dialogue to include women, youth, and minorities.
On 31 March 2021, in connection with the Council’s consideration of the item entitled “The Situation in Yemen”, the President of the Security Council issued the following statement on behalf of the Council:

“The Security Council recognizes the efforts of the Government of Yemen towards the implementation of the Hudaydah and Riyadh Agreement, but encourages the international community’s full implementation on those agreements.

“The Security Council calls for the United Nations Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) mandate to be renewed at the midterm update. The Security Council encourages all who are involved in this conflict to implement and adhere to a comprehensive ceasefire throughout the region. The Security Council emphasizes the importance of their resolution 2511(2020) that has extended the sanctions towards Yemen until 2021.

“The Security Council recalls resolution 2216 (2015) creating an arms embargo for the purpose of limiting the sale and transfer of weapons to certain groups or individuals and reaffirms the importance that all people of Yemen enjoy the right to be heard and participate in Yemen politics.

“The Security Council further calls on the importance of a political solution that is inclusive of all Yemenis, women, youth, and indigenous populations in particular. The Security Council calls on the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) to submit an annual report to ensure that the peace negotiation will respect the diversity reflected in the Yemeni population.

“The Security Council calls upon member states to facilitate the implementation of the political transition following the Stockholm Agreement. The Security Council supports the Gulf Cooperation Council Initiative and Implementation Mechanism, as well as previous relevant resolutions, as they converge towards meeting the expectations of the Yemeni people.

“The Security Council requests an expansion of the role of UN special envoy to Yemen to create a Plan of Action in order to monitor COVID-19’s resource allocation of medical supply and humanitarian aid given to local displaced populations. The Security Council requests strengthening resolution 2286 (2016) through the implementation of a framework to protect humanitarian aid workers active in Yemen and fully supporting unimpeded humanitarian access.

“The Security Council urges all parties in Yemen to give the Secretary General’s Special Envoy to Yemen access to the FSO Safer to both assess and perform cleanup operations. The Security Council recommends that any cleanup operations are being made within the guidelines established by the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) with the aim of eventually disposing safely of the FSO.

“The Security Council reaffirms that there can be no military, other than peacekeeping operations mandated by the Security Council as a solution to the conflict and that the current situation in Yemen should be resolved in accordance with the UN Charter.
“The Security Council encourages the organization of other consultative meetings under the UN auspices in order to facilitate the dialogue and the setting-up of confidence-building measures between the parties to the conflict to reach a long-term political solution.

“The Security Council recognizes the importance of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), on helping the improvement of the availability and quality of reproductive health services in Yemen, particularly to women that will give childbirth to promote a more sustainable future.

“The Security Council condemns the anti-Semitic deportation of the Yemeni Jewish population by regional actors and calls for the human rights and dignity of religious and indigenous minorities to be respected by all parties with operations in Yemen.

“The Security Council condemns the actions of Houthi combatants for their attack on the Aden airport on 30 December 2020, which hinders the peace process and is substantiated by a report submitted to the council.

“The Security Council reiterates its strong commitment to Yemen sovereignty, and reaffirms that Yemen’s future lies in building a stable and peaceful state.”