

## **Special Rules of Procedure of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)**

### **1. Quórum**

- 1.1. The minimum quorum required for opening the sessions is two thirds (2/3) of the total number of delegations;
- 1.2. The minimum quorum of ten members is required for taking action on the final document (draft resolution, amendments, division of proposal).

### **2. Majorities**

- 2.1. The voting procedures related to the final document (draft resolution, amendments, division of the proposal) require nine affirmative votes, being among these the affirmative votes of the five permanent members.
- 2.2. Other voting procedures will be approved by a simple majority.

### **3. Agenda**

During the Revision of the Rules, prior to the first session, Council and non-Council Members should indicate to the Chair topics they wish to discuss regarding each topic. The Secretary will then organize an informal agenda to be used during the meetings.

### **4. Presidency**

- 4.1. The Presidency of the Security Council must be held by a Security Council member. Each President will remain in the post for one session. Interested delegations should submit requests to the Chair during the Revision of the Rules;
- 4.2. Should the Presidency successor be absent in the meeting, the following representation in the alphabetic order must assume the post. During action phase the Presidency will be assumed by the Chair.

### **5. Types of meeting**

#### **5.1. Public Meeting**

- 5.1.1. *Debate*: for discussion of specific conflicts in countries. Non-members can be invited by the Security Council, if they are directly involved in the matter. The debate is similar to the formal debate of the General Rules of Procedure;
- 5.1.2. *Briefings*: aims to present members more information regarding a specific topic. All briefings will be followed by consultations;
- 5.1.3. *Adoption*: this is the United Nations Security Council's action phase. There is a draft resolution on the floor and each member already knows its position

and statement. This meeting is public and it is followed by a Presidential Statement;

## **5.2. Private Meetings**

These meetings are not public recorded and non-Council members can be invited to participate. All private meetings must be followed by a Presidential Statement. This meetings are similar to the formal-informal debate of the General Rules of Procedure;

5.2.1. *Informal consultation:* non-Council members may be invited and there is no official record of the meeting. There is also an agreed informal agenda. This meetings are similar to the informal-informal debates of the General Rules of Procedure;

5.2.2. *Coordinations:* Council and Non-Council Members may convene with their political groups in order to align their interests regarding the topic under discussion. The political groups are:

5.2.2.1. P-3: France, United Kingdom and United States;

5.2.2.2. P-5: Council Permanent-Members;

5.2.2.3. Non-permanent members and Non-members:

- Angola
- Canada (Non-member)
- Democratic People's Republic of Korea (Non-member)
- Egypt
- India (Non-member)
- Iran (Non-member)
- Japan
- Malaysia
- New Zealand
- Republic of Korea (Non-member)
- Senegal
- Spain
- Ukraine
- Uruguay
- Venezuela

## **6. Presidential Statement**

A presidential statement can be issued, after being approved by consensus among all UNSC members, in the following situations:

6.1.1. After a public or private meeting, in order to briefly present the main points discussed;

6.1.2. After a crisis, in order to present to the public UNSC's decision;

- 6.1.3. If the Security Council fails to approve a Resolution at the end of the meeting. In this case, the presidential statement should present the agreed parts of the Draft Resolution, excluding the controversial topics;

## **7. External participations**

The members of the Security Council have the authority to invite any country or individual to participate in its meetings. Invitations made by Council-members can be directed to: a) the Secretariat and UNSC subsidiary organs; b) other UN organs, subsidiary organs or agencies; c) regional and intergovernmental organizations or; d) other individuals.

## **8. Final Documents**

- 8.1. The final document of each topic, A and B, is a Resolution;
- 8.2. Before the process of elaborating the Resolutions begins, the Security Council must choose, to each document, a "penholder", who is a Member State responsible for start the drafting of the Resolution. This "penholder" is the official sponsor of the document. The initial draft resolution should indicate the topics to be included into a final version until the Council is able to take action on the draft Resolution. This negotiation is held in private and informal meetings.
- 8.3. After all ideas are put in the draft Resolution, the document must be read, during a private meeting, line-by-line and alteration and/or exclusions are negotiated. Whenever a recommendation is consensual, the alteration is made accordingly. If the suggestions are not consensual, they should be organized by the Bureau in a compilation text to further negotiation.
- 8.4. Once there is an agreement about the whole document, a blue version is printed, indicating that the Council is ready to take action on the draft Resolution. If the Council does not reach consensus on the document, it can be put to a vote. Majorities needed to approve the Resolution are present in Rule #2 of this Special Rules of Procedure.
- 8.5. When the document is ready, the President should convene a public meeting in order to adopt the Resolution. The draft should be introduced by its "penholder" with a short explanation of its main points. Council members can choose to explain their votes through statements before or after the Resolution is officially approved. Members wishing to do so should inform the President before the Adoption meeting starts. The statements will have a time limit of 45 seconds each.

## **9. Sponsors of the Final Document**

- 9.1 The document has an official sponsor that may be supported by other members that wish to become co-sponsors. Their interest must be indicated in his/her

speech or directly to the chair. Before the voting, the Chair will present the current list of sponsors with the following line:

9.1.1 *"I should like to announce that, since the introduction of draft resolution A/65/L.60, the following countries have joined as sponsors: (...)"*.

9.2 To be put to vote, the document requires only the sponsorship of one member of the UNSC. If the sponsor withdraws his/her sponsorship but the co-sponsors keep their interest in discussing the document, the draft resolution remains on the floor.

## 10. Amendments

Amendments proposals to each paragraph should be directed to the Secretaries, who will organize them following the order of submission: this will determine the order of consideration. Whenever an amendment deletes or adds part of the paragraph content it must be voted first.

### ANNEX - Model of Resolution

United Nations	S/RES/2289 (2016)
 <b>Security Council</b>	Distr.: General 27 May 2016

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#### Resolution 2289 (2016)

#### Adopted by the Security Council at its 7700th meeting, on 27 May 2016

The Security Council,

Recalling all its previous resolutions and statements of its President concerning the situation in Somalia, in particular resolutions 2093 (2013), 2232 (2015) and 2245 (2015),

Recognizing the importance of consultation with the relevant stakeholders during the recent Security Council mission to Somalia,

Noting the need to allow adequate time for consideration of the outcomes of the mission, and in this regard, recognizing the need for a short extension of the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM),

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,

1. Decides to authorize the Member States of the African Union to maintain the deployment of AMISOM, as set out in paragraph 1 of resolution 2093 (2013) until 8 July 2016, in line with the Security Council's request to the African Union for a maximum level of 22,126 uniformed personnel, and authorizes Member

States participating in AMISOM to take all necessary measures to carry out its mandate as set out in paragraph 3 of resolution 2232 (2015);

2. Requests the Secretary-General to continue to provide logistical support in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2245 (2015);

3. Decides to remain actively seized of the matter.

### **Reference**

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL. Resolution 2289 (2016). Adopted by the Security Council at its 7700<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 27 May 2016. Available at: [http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2289\(2016\)>](http://www.un.org/en/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=S/RES/2289(2016)>). Accessed 02 July 2014.