

Concept Note for the High-Level Informal Interactive Dialogue on Cooperation between the United Nations Security Council and the League of Arab States

*“Advancing Peace, Security and Regional Stability in the Middle East through Enhanced
Cooperation between the United Nations Security Council and the League of Arab States”*

24 September 2026, 3 P.M. – UNHQ Conference Room 12

Background

The Security Council Presidential Statement S/PRST/2021/2, adopted on 29 January 2021 under the Tunisian Presidency, provides that the Security Council encourages *“the holding of an annual informal meeting between its members and the members of the Council of the League of Arab States; and whenever possible, an informal meeting between its members and Representatives of the Arab Summit Troika and the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, on the margins of the General Assembly high level segment.”* Most recently, the Presidential Statement (S/PRST/2026/2), adopted on 2 April 2026 under the Presidency of the Kingdom of Bahrain, renewed the Council’s support for an informal meeting between Council members, the Representatives of the Arab Summit Troika and the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, on the margins of the General Assembly high-level segment.

Objectives

This year's High-Level Informal Interactive Dialogue, the fifth meeting of its kind, takes place one year after a historic moment for peace in the Middle East. On 12 September 2025, the General Assembly endorsed the New York Declaration on the Peaceful Settlement of the Question of Palestine and the Implementation of the Two-State Solution by 142 votes in favour. Ten days later, at the High-level International Conference co-chaired by France and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, France and 10 other States recognized the State of Palestine, reflecting the international community's unwavering commitment to the two-State solution.

Since then, the Gaza ceasefire of 10 October 2025 and Security Council resolution 2803 (2025) have opened a new phase. The implementation of the New York Declaration and of relevant Council resolutions, including resolution 2803 (2025) and resolution 2334 (2016), requires sustained engagement. So do humanitarian assistance, early recovery and reconstruction in Gaza as well as countering settlements expansion and settler violence in the West Bank and East-Jerusalem

The region also faces growing threats. The evolving situation in the Gulf since 28 February 2026, followed by Iranian attacks against several States of the region condemned by the Security Council in resolution

2817 (2026), has had serious consequences for regional security and for navigation, notably through the Strait of Hormuz. The situations in other parts of the region, including, inter alia, Lebanon, Syria, Yemen, Sudan, Libya and Somalia, as well as threats to maritime security in the Red Sea, regional security concerns, humanitarian situations and the persistent threat of terrorism, further underline the need for strengthened cooperation between the Security Council and the League of Arab States.

In this context, the dialogue offers a platform to reflect informally, at the Ministerial level, on how cooperation between both bodies can help forge peace and address these threats. Participants may consider the following guiding questions as a basis for discussion:

1. **From Dialogue to Concrete Cooperation:** Beyond the regular exchange of views, how can the Security Council and the League of Arab States translate their partnership into concrete cooperation? What operational proposals could participants put forward to this end?
2. **The Question of Palestine:** How can the Security Council and the League of Arab States best support the follow-up to the implementation of the New York Declaration, as well as of relevant Security Council resolutions, including 2803 (2025) and resolution 2334 (2016)? What practical steps can be taken to turn the commitments of the New York Declaration into tangible progress?
3. **Regional Stability and Maritime Security:** How can the Security Council and the League of Arab States help advance de-escalation and political solutions in the Gulf, Lebanon, Yemen, Sudan, and Libya, with full respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the States concerned? How can they contribute to safeguarding navigation through key maritime routes, including the Strait of Hormuz and the Red Sea?
4. **Enhancing Respect for International Law:** How can the Security Council and the League of Arab States, in cooperation with other organs of the United Nations, ensure full respect for international law, including international humanitarian law, in the conflicts in the region?

Format

The Informal Interactive Dialogue (IID) will be the occasion to hold an informal off-the-record discussion between Security Council members and the League of Arab States.

The meeting will be chaired by Her Excellency Ms. Éléonore Caroit, Minister Delegate for Francophonie, International Partnerships and French Nationals Abroad, as President of the United Nations Security Council, with the participation of Their Highnesses and Excellencies the Foreign Ministers of the Arab Summit Troika, namely Iraq, the current President of the Summit; the Kingdom of Bahrain, the former President of the Summit; and the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, the upcoming President of the Summit.

H.E. Ambassador Khaled Al-Manzalawi, Assistant Secretary-General for International Political Affairs of the League of Arab States, on behalf of the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, and H.E. Rosemary di Carlo, Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs, will brief the Security Council at the beginning of the meeting. Members of the Security Council are encouraged to participate at the highest possible level, with a 1+1 format.

We look forward to an insightful and productive High-Level Informal Interactive Dialogue on the margins of the high-level week of the eighty-first session of the General Assembly (UNGA 81).