Note by the President of the Security Council

1. The members of the Security Council reaffirm their commitment to enhancing the efficiency and transparency of the Council’s work, including interaction and dialogue with other Member States, and to implementing all previously agreed measures, in particular those contained in the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2010/507).

2. The members of the Security Council are committed to implementing the additional measures contained in the present note.

Open debates

3. It is the understanding of the members of the Security Council that open debates can benefit from the contributions of both Council members and the wider membership.

4. With this in mind, the date of the open debate should be announced with sufficient time to allow for adequate preparation by all participants.

5. The members of the Security Council may agree, by consensus on a case-by-case basis and when they consider it appropriate for certain open debates, to invite non-members to alternate their interventions with those of Council members. In such situations, those Council members who wish to do so will give up their slot on the speakers’ list to non-members.

6. Where appropriate for certain open debates, the adoption of an outcome might occur at a date subsequent to that of the open debate in order to allow it to more fully reflect, if the Security Council considers it appropriate, matters raised during the debate.

7. All participants speaking in an open debate, including members of the Security Council, are encouraged to be succinct and focused in their interventions, which, whenever possible, should not exceed five minutes, or any other time suggested by the President at the start of the debate. If necessary, the text of a more detailed statement may be circulated to Council members and participants.

8. Members of the Security Council acknowledge the usefulness of concept notes to help focus discussion during an open debate, and encourage the early elaboration of such notes.
Security Council annual report

9. Further to the measures contained in the annex to the note by the President (S/2010/507) concerning the annual report (paras. 70-75), presidencies in charge of preparing the draft introduction to the report may consider organizing, where appropriate, interactive informal exchanges of views with the wider membership.

10. The report, in accordance with paragraph 74 of the annex to the note by the President (S/2010/507), will continue to be adopted at a public meeting of the Security Council where members of the Council who wish to do so may comment on the work of the Council for the period covered by the report.

11. The members of the Security Council encourage the Presidents in charge of the presentation of the report to the General Assembly to report back to Council members on relevant suggestions and observations raised during the General Assembly debate on the annual report.

12. The members of the Security Council encourage continuing efforts to ensure the inclusion in the report of more substantive information on the Council’s work and on measures to improve the working methods.

Monthly assessments by the Presidents and informal briefing sessions on the monthly work

13. Members of the Security Council recognize the usefulness of the monthly assessments by Council Presidents described in paragraph 62 of the annex to the note by the President (S/2010/507) in providing as much information as possible on the main aspects of the work of the Council during that month, and encourage Council Presidents to submit the monthly assessments soon after the end of their respective presidencies.

14. Members of the Security Council encourage the holding by Council Presidents of informal briefing sessions with the wider membership on the work of the Council at the end of their respective presidencies, as appropriate.

15. Formal wrap-up sessions may also continue to be organized when appropriate and with the consent of all members of the Security Council.