



Security Council

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Note by the President of the Security Council

The members of the Security Council reaffirmed their commitment to enhancing the efficiency and transparency of the Council's work, and to implementing all previously agreed documents, including the provisional rules of procedure and the note by the President of the Council ([S/2010/507](#)), and have agreed on the following:

(1) The speaking order for meetings of the Security Council as a general practice is established by a draw. In certain cases, the speaking order is established by the use of a sign-up sheet;

(2) The President of the Security Council as a general practice makes his or her national statement last of all Council members. In certain cases, he or she may make a single statement comprising introductory remarks and his or her national statement before the other members take the floor.

The President is encouraged to inform the other members in advance of his or her wish to do so in order to ensure that there are no objections;

(3) In certain cases, the President of the Security Council may adjust the list of speakers and inscribe first the delegation(s) responsible for the drafting process in order to allow it or them to make an introductory or explanatory presentation. In cases when an unscheduled or emergency meeting is convened, the President may also adjust the list so that the delegation having requested the meeting can speak before the other Council members in order to present the reasons for convening the meeting;

(4) The President of the Security Council may inscribe first the Chairs of the subsidiary bodies of the Council when presenting to the Council their work or reporting on outstanding issues within their mandate;

(5) Members of the Security Council can trade slots in the list of speakers. It is recommended that delegations involved inform the Secretariat as to what was agreed.

Members of the Security Council are encouraged to inform the Secretariat of such changes as soon as possible, especially if the meeting has already started, in order to allow the interpreters to be ready to interpret from the language which will be used;

(6) When high-level officials are representing Security Council members at a meeting, the list of speakers will be entitled "The list of speakers, after the draw and



adjusted for protocol". For each category of high-level officials, the speakers will be listed within that category according to the order of the draw. The speakers within each category will speak after those in a category of higher-level officials and before those in a category of lower-level officials.

If, after the list of speakers has been circulated, there is a change in the level of a delegation's representative, that representative's speaking order will be readjusted according to protocol and his or her place within categories of same-level officials will be determined according to the order of the original draw;

(7) The permanent representative of a Security Council member who also holds a post at the Cabinet or ministerial level within his or her Government, will speak by order of the draw, without adjustment for protocol.

For meetings announced as high-level in advance, where higher-level officials are representing other Security Council members, a permanent representative serving at the Cabinet or ministerial level may request an adjustment by protocol of his or her place on the list of speakers. The delegation concerned is encouraged to inform the Secretariat and the other Council members in advance of its request to have that representative's speaking order adjusted by protocol. After being informed of such a request, the Secretariat will add, beside the name of the representative on the list of speakers, that he or she is speaking as a member of his or her Cabinet. When a permanent representative at the Cabinet or ministerial level has spoken in that capacity at a formal meeting, it will be noted in appendix IV to the annual report of the Council.

For meetings not announced as high-level in advance, visiting higher-level officials may be accorded a speaking slot before permanent representatives as a matter of courtesy where there is no objection by members of the Security Council.
