Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 9011st meeting of the Security Council, held on 23 March 2022, in connection with the Council’s consideration of the item entitled “Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security”, the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

“The Security Council reaffirms its primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security.

“The Security Council recalls all its previous resolutions and presidential statements on this agenda item.

“The Security Council expresses its appreciation for the briefings of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, António Guterres, and the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, Ahmed Aboul Gheit, on 23 March 2022, and reiterates that cooperation with regional and sub-regional organisations in matters relating to the maintenance of peace and security, and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter, is significant to improve collective security.

“The Security Council recognizes that regional organizations are well positioned to understand the root causes of armed conflicts owing to their knowledge of the region which can be of benefit for their efforts to influence the prevention or resolution of these conflicts. The Council recognizes and further encourages efforts by the League of Arab States and its member States to contribute to collective endeavours to settle conflicts in the Arab region by peaceful means, and reaffirms its strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of countries and to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. The Council notes that the United Nations and the League of Arab States share common objectives in promoting and facilitating the resolution of conflicts in the Arab region consistent with the Charter of the United Nations and relevant resolutions of the Security Council, and expresses its support for international and regional initiatives to that end.

“The Security Council acknowledges the determined work to strengthen strategic cooperation and coordination among the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations that can play an important role in conflict prevention, and in this regard, encourages consideration of the need to continue enhancing capacity-building for the League of Arab States in conflict prevention, crisis management, post-conflict stabilization and sustaining peace, including through the provision of human, technical and financial assistance as appropriate.
“The Security Council reaffirms the important and positive contribution of youth to the efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the role young people play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts in the Arab region. The Council also stresses the importance of creating policies for youth that would positively contribute to peacebuilding efforts in the Arab region, including social and economic development, supporting projects designed to grow local economies, and provide youth employment opportunities and vocational training, fostering their education, and promoting youth entrepreneurship and constructive political engagement.

“The Security Council welcomes the strong cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States and reiterates its intention to consider further steps to promote closer cooperation and strategic coordination between the two Organisations in the fields of conflict early warning and prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, sustaining peace, promoting respect for international law and the Charter of the United Nations, addressing root causes of conflicts, enhancing safety and security at sea and combatting threats in this regard including through capacity-building efforts in the Arab region, preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, and building community resilience to resist incitement by promoting tolerance, inclusivity, respect and dialogue.

“The Security Council also recognizes the importance of cooperation in other areas such as assistance in sustainable development, comprehensive risk assessments and risk management strategies, including poverty eradication, food security and water management, disaster risk reduction, and desertification and drought management in the Arab region.

“The Security Council recalls the holding of the first-ever joint consultative meeting in Cairo between the Security Council and the Council of the League of Arab States in 2016, and expresses its intention to consider further such meetings in this regard.

“The Security Council takes note of the outcome of general meetings on the cooperation between the Secretariats of the United Nations and the League of Arab States and their specialized agencies. The Council looks forward to the fifteenth general cooperation meeting between the United Nations and the League, to be held in Geneva in July 2022, to advance a biennial framework that encompasses activities in various areas, including peace and security.

“The Security Council recognizes the efforts undertaken by both Organisations, the commitment of their Secretaries-Generals in response to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, especially in the conflict-affected contexts, and their initiatives in this regard, and reiterates its demand, in line with resolution 2532 (2020) and resolution 2565 (2021), for a general and immediate cessation of hostilities and a humanitarian pause in all conflict situations on its agenda, including in the Arab region.

“The Security Council further stresses the urgent need for the intensification and acceleration of international and regional efforts to prevent the escalation of tensions, encourage multilateral dialogue, advance the political settlement of disputes, foster collective security and promote just and lasting peace in all conflict situations in the region.

“Cognizant of the dire humanitarian consequences of conflicts, the Security Council emphasizes the urgent need for the funding of the humanitarian response in the Arab region.
“The Security Council welcomes the efforts of the League of Arab States to implement resolution 1325 (2000) and relevant subsequent resolutions, including through the development of a Regional Action Plan for Women, Peace, and Security (WPS), and encourages the United Nations and the Arab League to further promote the implementation of the WPS agenda, as well as the Youth, Peace, and Security agenda, including Resolution 2250 (2015) and relevant subsequent resolutions.

“The Security Council reaffirms the important role of women’s full, equal and meaningful participation in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in peacebuilding, as recognized in Resolution 1325 (2000) and other relevant Security Council resolutions, highlighting the importance of women’s participation, empowerment, leadership and inclusion for peacebuilding and sustaining peace, and encouraging enhanced efforts to promote women’s economic empowerment and the elimination of poverty in the Arab region.

“The Security Council supports the holding of an annual briefing by the Secretary-General of the League of Arab States, to further promote the cooperation between the Security Council and the League of Arab States on matters relating to the maintenance of peace and security, especially at the regional level, and consider ways to improve collective security and support initiatives and frameworks in this regard.

“The Security Council supports, in the same spirit, 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.

“The Security Council emphasizes the importance of intensifying the coordination and consultations between the League of Arab States and the United Nations Special Envoys and Representatives, including through the arrangement of periodic meetings, with a view to reaching a more comprehensive understanding of different crisis situations in the region, and developing effective solutions through joint action where appropriate.

“The Security Council further emphasizes the importance to strengthen trilateral cooperation and coordination between the United Nations, the African Union and the League of Arab States on cross-regional peace and security issues, as well as with other relevant regional organizations on situations of common interest, and encourages consultations between the United Nations, the African Union and the League of Arab States.

“The Security Council welcomes the opening of the United Nations Liaison Office to the League of Arab States in Cairo in June 2019, and encourages the United Nations Secretariat and the Secretariat General of the League of Arab States to promote its role toward strengthening cooperation between the two Organisations. The Security Council welcomes the appointment of the Director of the Office, and recognizes the need to ensure the Office effectively enhances the strategic and operational partnership between the United Nations and the League of Arab States.

“The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to provide a brief report, at least 30 days in advance of the next Council meeting on the Cooperation between the United Nations and the League of Arab States, on the implementation of this presidential statement and on further ways of strengthening institutional relations and cooperation between the two organisations.”