



**Security Council**

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NOTE BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

1. The members of the Security Council, in the context of their constant endeavours to enhance the effectiveness of the Security Council, and against the persistent background of a precarious international situation, continued their consideration of the role of the Council in the maintenance of international peace and security.
2. Subject to other priorities demanding immediate attention, 10 meetings in informal consultations 1/ were devoted to this subject, in an effort carefully to analyse proposals and identify views enjoying general acceptance.
3. In order again to structure the discussion, the members retained the five main aspects agreed to last year, as detailed in paragraph 2 of Security Council document S/15971, dated 12 September 1983, and initiated a new round of discussions on the basis of the 19 points contained in that document, to which this note is an addition.
4. In these discussions, the members of the Council welcomed the additional relevant observations contained in the Secretary-General's report to the thirty-eighth session (A/38/1), as well as the considered views of members newly-elected to the Council in 1984. An effort was also made to take into account all known contributions so far made by Member States on the work of the Council.
5. Discussion this year tended to concentrate more specifically, and in detail, on particular aspects of the work of the Council, designed to promote agreement on concrete and practical measures to strengthen the effectiveness of the Security Council; conscious efforts were made to advance ideas which offered best prospects of producing agreement.
6. A consistent theme in the presentations made was the importance of a renewed dedication by Member States for strict compliance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and the Charter itself, whose vitality and validity was strongly reaffirmed, as well as the consequent obligation of all members to accept and carry out the decisions of the Security Council.

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1/ Held since the issuance of document S/15971\* of 12 September 1983.

7. Due emphasis was given to the special responsibility of the Council, acting on behalf of the international community, in collective maintenance of peace and security. In this connection, members again stressed the need for prompt, relevant and current information on matters before the Council.

8. The primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security, as well as its responsibility for the prevention of international conflicts, and the Council's corresponding powers and functions under the Charter, were also emphasized. Ideas were advanced on ways and means of improving the use of procedures to enable the Security Council to contribute more effectively to the prevention of international conflicts and to the peaceful settlement of disputes.

9. The necessity strictly to implement decisions of the Council in accordance with the Charter was also stressed, and consideration was given to ways and means to follow them up with appropriate support and action.

10. It was again emphasized that the procedures of the Council were sufficiently flexible to adapt to conceivable requirements and that a collegial approach within the Council was desirable to facilitate considered and concerted action by the Council as the main instrument for international peace.

11. The role of fact-finding missions undertaken by the Council was explored and modalities for their utilization suggested.

12. The forthcoming fortieth anniversary of the founding of the United Nations was identified as an occasion to which the Security Council could make an appropriate contribution.

13. Members of the Council value the exchange of views they have held. They are determined to continue the exercise, which they have found of intrinsic importance, stimulating valuable contact, frank dialogue and concentrated analysis.

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