Организация Объединенных Наций S/2024/640

Совет Безопасности

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Письмо представителя Словении при Организации Объединенных Наций от 28 августа 2024 года на имя Генерального секретаря

Имею честь настоящим препроводить концептуальную записку для заседания по формуле Аррии по теме «Наращивание действий в сфере превенции: от вызовов в сфере охраны окружающей среды до возможностей для мира», которое состоялось в 15 ч 00 мин 8 июля 2024 года (см. приложение I), а также резюме Председателя (см. приложение II) и подборку заявлений, сделанных в ходе заседания (см. приложение III*). Кроме того, запись заседания размещена на Интернет-ТВ Организации Объединенных Наций по адресу https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k15/k15xxl3rqd.

Буду признателен за распространение настоящего письма и приложений к нему в качестве документа Совета Безопасности.

(*Подпись*) Самуэль **Жбогар**
Посол
Представитель Республики Словения при Совете Безопасности

* Приложение распространяется только на тех языках, на которых оно было представлено.

Просьба отправить на вторичную переработку

Приложение I к письму представителя Словении при Организации Объединенных Наций от 28 августа 2024 года на имя Генерального секретаря

Концептуальная записка для заседания по формуле Аррии по теме «Наращивание действий в сфере превенции: от вызовов в сфере охраны окружающей среды до возможностей для мира», которое состоялось 8 июля 2024 года

Докладчики

- Генеральный директор Международной организации по миграции
- Специальный посланник Генерального секретаря по Африканскому Рогу
- Лидер молодежи коренных народов Колумбии, основательница организации «Плетение мыслей — женщины коренных народов за климат» (Tejiendo Pensamiento — Indigenous Women for the Climate) и член Коалиции в поддержку феминистских движений за климатическую справедливость Нохора Алехандра Кигуантар

Введение

2023 год был разрушительным как в плане климата, так и в плане конфликтов. По сравнению с 2022 годом число конфликтов увеличилось на 12 процентов. В то же время этот год стал самым жарким за всю историю наблюдений, и мы оказались в опасной близости от порогового значения в 1,5 °C. Климатические бедствия и конфликты сказываются на источниках средств к существованию, приводят к массовым перемещениям людей как внутри стран, так и за их пределы и еще больше усугубляют существующие неравенство и уязвимость.

Более 40 процентов внутренних вооруженных конфликтов за последние 60 лет были связаны с природными ресурсами, которые имеют огромное значение для достижения устойчивого развития. Однако растущий спрос в сочетании с тройным кризисом планетарного масштаба, связанным с изменением климата, утратой биоразнообразия и загрязнением окружающей среды, неэффективным управлением ресурсами, их нехваткой и неравным доступом к ним, усиливает конкуренцию между общинами за доступ к природным ресурсам, их использование и контроль над ними. При нынешних темпах изменения и ухудшения климата напряженность, связанная с природными ресурсами, все чаще становится причиной вооруженных конфликтов, подпитывает их или является их движущей силой.

Организация Объединенных Наций может поддержать национальные и региональные усилия и оказать помощь в обмене опытом и укреплении потенциала для обеспечения раннего оповещения и принятия своевременных мер в нестабильных и затронутых конфликтом странах, которые уязвимы перед лицом напряженности, связанной с природными ресурсами, такими как плодородные земли, дикая флора и фауна и вода. В то же время наращивание потенциала для эффективного и инклюзивного управления природными ресурсами и их рационального использования может стать важным вкладом в предотвращение конфликтов. Путем интеграции механизмов раннего оповещения и превентивных мер эти проблемы можно превратить в возможности для обеспечения прочного мира, устойчивости к потрясениям и развития.

Будучи основными распорядителями и пользователями природных ресурсов во многих нестабильных и затронутых конфликтами странах, женщины играют ключевую роль в предотвращении, регулировании и снятии напряженности, связанной с природными ресурсами. Несмотря на то, что женщины в непропорционально большей степени страдают от изменения климата и деградации окружающей среды, их часто исключают из процесса принятия решений, касающихся природных ресурсов. Женщины привносят свои точки зрения, способствующие принятию инклюзивных и справедливых решений, тем самым внося вклад в разработку более комплексных, эффективных и долгосрочных стратегий предотвращения конфликтов и повышая устойчивость к потрясениям и стабильности в общинах. Расширение всестороннего, равноправного, значимого и безопасного участия женщин в процессах выработки политики и принятия решений усиливает эти превентивные меры, способствуя обеспечению прочного мира и безопасности в условиях экологических и климатических вызовов.

Предстоящий политический форум высокого уровня по устойчивому развитию 2024 года, посвященный теме «Укрепление Повестки дня в области устойчивого развития на период до 2030 года и искоренение нищеты во время многочисленных кризисов: эффективное осуществление устойчивых, жизнестойких и инновационных решений» и углубленному обзору хода достижения целей в области устойчивого развития 1 (ликвидация нищеты), 2 (ликвидация голода), 13 (борьба с изменением климата), 16 (мир, правосудие и эффективные институты) и 17 (партнерство в интересах устойчивого развития), дает членам Совета Безопасности и всем членам Организации Объединенных Наций возможность задуматься о взаимосвязи между природными ресурсами, деградацией окружающей среды, изменением климата и миром и безопасностью.

Кроме того, 2024 год имеет большое значение, поскольку в этом году пройдут конференции сторон всех трех Рио-де-Жанейрских конвенций — по биоразнообразию, изменению климата и опустыниванию, в рамках которых мир является одной из постоянных тем.

Цели заседания

В рамках заседания по формуле Аррии будет рассмотрен региональный опыт в том, что касается взаимосвязи деградации окружающей среды и последствий изменения климата с экономическими, социальными, политическими и демографическими факторами. Ввиду усиления в ряде регионов мира связанных с климатом рисков для безопасности, характеризующихся утратой источников средств к существованию, дефицитом продовольствия и воды, конкуренцией за скудные природные ресурсы, мобильностью населения и политической и экономической нестабильностью, в ходе заседания будет предложено обсудить нижеуказанные вопросы.

Как Совет Безопасности может укрепить свои усилия по предотвращению конфликтов, когда речь идет о напряженности, связанной с природными ресурсами?

Новая повестка дня для мира Генерального секретаря позволяет по-новому взглянуть на эту проблему, предлагая комплексный набор мер по предотвращению конфликтов на глобальном и региональном уровнях. В ней не только излагаются оперативные меры, но и утверждается, что предотвращение конфликтов и насилия является универсальной обязанностью, применимой ко всем странам и обществам, и требует инклюзивных, осуществляемых при руководящей роли государства, долгосрочных структурных мероприятий и усилий в области миростроительства. В ней определены устойчивые стратегии, которые предполагают

применение подходов, предусматривающих вовлечение всех государственных структур и всего общества, для устранения коренных причин конфликтов.

Каким образом система Организации Объединенных Наций может обеспечить для Совета Безопасности всеобъемлющие оценки рисков и раннее оповещение о рисках, касающихся напряженности, связанной с природными ресурсами, деградации окружающей среды и последствий изменения климата?

Научные данные и анализ данных с учетом фактора конфликтов и климатических факторов могут обеспечить всестороннюю оценку рисков, а также своевременное принятие на основе фактических данных мер, направленных на предотвращение эскалации напряженности и насилия. Действия на местном, региональном и глобальном уровнях должны опираться на местные знания, природосберегающие решения и потенциал основных пользователей природных ресурсов, включая женщин, группы коренных народов и другие маргинализированные общины на местах. Особого внимания требуют трансграничные районы, поскольку их уязвимость особенно высока.

Как можно обеспечить учет вопросов, касающихся управления природными ресурсами, охраны окружающей среды и адаптации к последствиям изменения климата, в рамках усилий по созданию возможностей для мира посредством проведения инклюзивного диалога, укрепления доверия и расширения взаимопонимания на различных уровнях?

В ходе заседания будет проанализирована деятельность Совета в этом направлении и будут продемонстрированы примеры передового опыта, когда участие женщин в решении вопросов, касающихся природных ресурсов, окружающей среды и изменения климата, открывало широкие возможности. Благодаря примерам устойчивого лесопользования в Латинской Америке, регионального сотрудничества по вопросам водных ресурсов в Центральной Азии, превентивных механизмов, связанных с сезонным перегоном скота в Западной и Центральной Африке, а также адаптации к последствиям изменения климата и смягчения его последствий в регионе Африканского Рога заседание послужит стимулом для выработки обеспечивающих учет климатических факторов и ориентированных на изменение ситуации в гендерном плане подходов к принятию Советом Безопасности конструктивных превентивных мер в будущем.

Порядок проведения

Заседание, организованное Словенией совместно с Гайаной, Республикой Корея и Сьерра-Леоне, пройдет под председательством представителя Словении при Совете Безопасности посла Самуэля Жбогара. Устный перевод на официальные языки Организации Объединенных Наций будет осуществляться при условии наличия ресурсов.

К участию приглашаются все государства — члены Организации Объединенных Наций, а также наблюдатели и учреждения Организации Объединенных Наций. Чтобы могли выступить как можно больше делегаций, продолжительность выступлений не должна превышать трех минут. Регламент выступлений будет строго соблюдаться.

Приглашаем делегации записаться в список ораторов до окончания рабочего дня 2 июля 2024 года по электронной почте slomission.newyork@gov.si.

Приложение II к письму представителя Словении при Организации Объединенных Наций от 28 августа 2024 года на имя Генерального секретаря

Резюме Председателя заседания по формуле Аррии по теме «Наращивание действий в сфере превенции: от вызовов в сфере охраны окружающей среды до возможностей для мира», которое состоялось 8 июля 2024 года

Введение

8 июля 2024 года Словения совместно с Гайаной, Республикой Корея и Сьерра-Леоне организовали заседание по формуле Аррии по теме «Наращивание действий в сфере превенции: от вызовов в сфере охраны окружающей среды до возможностей для мира». Заседание проходило под председательством представителя Словении при Совете Безопасности посла Самуэля Жбогара. Заседание было открыто для общественности и транслировалось по Интернет-ТВ Организации Объединенных Наций. Запись заседания размещена по адресу https://webtv.un.org/en/asset/k15/k15xxl3rqd.

Для выступления на заседании были приглашены три докладчика: Генеральный директор Международной организации по миграции (МОМ); Специальный посланник Генерального секретаря по Африканскому Рогу; и лидер молодежи коренных народов Колумбии, основательница организации «Плетение мыслей — женщины коренных народов за климат» (Tejiendo Pensamiento — Indigenous Women for the Climate) и член Коалиции в поддержку феминистских движений за климатическую справедливость Нохора Алехандра Кигуантар.

После выступлений докладчиков с заявлениями выступили 15 членов Совета, еще 25 государств-членов, Европейский союз и представители Международного комитета Красного Креста (МККК), Международной организации уголовной полиции и Продовольственной и сельскохозяйственной организации Объединенных Наций. Науру выступила от имени Группы друзей по вопросам климата и безопасности, Италия — от имени Группы друзей по руководству в области экологического менеджмента на местах, а Дания — от имени Группы северных стран. В числе не являющихся членами Совета Безопасности государств, которые выступили с заявлениями в своем национальном качестве, были Гватемала, Португалия, Колумбия, Марокко, Иордания, Украина, Того, Объединенные Арабские Эмираты, Хорватия, Чехия, Королевство Нидерландов, Австралия, Германия, Ирландия, Греция, Вьетнам, Шри-Ланка, Индонезия, Албания, Турция, Нигерия и Либерия.

Данное резюме Председателя призвано подытожить обсуждение и основные идеи, озвученные докладчиками и участвовавшими в заседании делегациями. В нем содержатся общий обзор представленных предложений, а также рекомендации относительно будущих действий Совета Безопасности.

Резюме Председателя составлено в период подготовки к семьдесят девятой сессии Генеральной Ассамблеи и к Саммиту будущего, а также к конференциям сторон всех трех Рио-де-Жанейрских конвенций — по биоразнообразию, изменению климата и опустыниванию, в рамках которых мир является одной из постоянных тем, и призвано дать идеи для дальнейшего рассмотрения и принятия мер.

Выступления докладчиков

Генеральный директор МОМ подчеркнула растущее влияние экологических и климатических проблем на людей, живущих в странах, затронутых конфликтами. Приводя примеры, касающиеся Сахеля, Африканского Рога, Центральной Азии и Центральной Америки, она показала, как сочетание насилия, дефицита продовольствия и экологических проблем усугубляет нестабильность и ослабляет способность людей и институтов противостоять потрясениям. Она подчеркнула необходимость превентивных мер, инвестиций в снижение риска бедствий и систем раннего оповещения. Она выступила за использование местных знаний, навыков и ресурсов, с тем чтобы защитить общины от насилия, снизить риск перемещения населения и повысить устойчивость к потрясениям. В качестве примера она привела инструмент отслеживания сезонного перегона скота — сеть пастухов численностью 750 000 человек, которая отслеживает и наносит на карту перемещения во время сезонного перегона скота, задействует местные механизмы посредничества для предотвращения столкновений и оказывает поддержку в обеспечении инклюзивного процесса принятия решений на основе фактических данных.

Исходя из опыта работы МОМ на местах, Генеральный директор подчеркнула центральную роль женщин как движущей силы перемен в урегулировании конфликтов, особенно в уязвимых перед лицом изменения климата и затронутых конфликтами регионах. Она также подчеркнула важность хорошо управляемой миграции, которая обеспечивает безопасное передвижение, позволяет в максимальной степени использовать возможности и способствует устойчивому развитию как в странах назначения, так и в странах происхождения. Она рассказала о совместных региональных рамочных программах по климатической мобильности в таких регионах, как Западная и Восточная Африка и Тихоокеанский регион. Она призвала уделять первоочередное внимание политическим решениям для предотвращения, регулирования и разрешения конфликтов, инициативам по смягчению последствий изменения климата и адаптации к ним в пострадавших от конфликта общинах, основанным на использовании данных подходам в качестве инструментов раннего оповещения, а также признанию роли миграции в создании устойчивых к потрясениям общин и построении более сильной экономики.

Специальный посланник Генерального секретаря по Африканскому Рогу рассказала о ситуации на Африканском Роге, где наблюдаются частые, сильные и продолжительные наводнения и засухи. В результате явления Эль-Ниньо, наблюдавшегося с марта по май 2024 года, пострадали 1,6 миллиона человек: оно привело к значительным человеческим жертвам, повлекло за собой перемещение населения и причинило ущерб объектам инфраструктуры и сельскохозяйственным угодьям. Государства — члены Межправительственной организации по развитию (ИГАД) из района Африканского Рога, которые являются одними из наиболее уязвимых перед лицом последствий изменения климата и наименее подготовлены к адаптации к ним, в своем докладе за 2022 год представили информацию о связанных с климатом рисках для мира и безопасности. К ним относятся региональные угрозы для продовольственной и водной безопасности, вызванная климатом мобильность, исторические обиды и проблемы в области управления.

Специальный посланник особо отметила создание в 2023 году в рамках ИГАД первого регионального координационного механизма по вопросам климатической безопасности, направленного на укрепление потенциала в вопросах климата, мира и безопасности на Африканском Роге. Это решение отражает приоритетную задачу региона, которая заключается в управлении рисками,

связанными с климатом, при обеспечении учета мер по борьбе с изменением климата в рамках усилий по предотвращению конфликтов. С этой целью Организация Объединенных Наций создала первый региональный центр по вопросам климата, мира и безопасности, который тесно сотрудничает с ИГАД для оценки рисков, предоставления технических консультаций и выявления возможностей для разработки совместных программ и осуществления инвестиций в наиболее уязвимых и пострадавших от конфликтов районах. Эта инициатива согласуется с Новой повесткой дня для мира Генерального секретаря, а Саммит будущего предоставляет возможность воплотить эту концепцию в реальные действия, включая допускающее бóльшую степень риска климатическое финансирование.

Кроме того, лидер молодежи коренных народов Колумбии Нохора Алехандра Кигуантар поделилась своим опытом молодой представительницы коренных народов из резервации Муэльямуэс в регионе Нариньо, который характеризуется богатым биоразнообразием. Она рассказала о своем детстве в условиях войны и проблем с безопасностью, подчеркнув последствия экологических конфликтов и преступности. Она предупредила об опасности, которую несут в себе реализация мегапроектов на территории священных мест коренных народов, неравное распределение природных ресурсов и отчуждение земель для незаконного выращивания сельскохозяйственных культур. Эти проблемы приводят к дефициту продовольствия, утрате местных знаний и методов ведения сельского хозяйства, сексуальному и гендерному насилию, детским и принудительным бракам, перемещению общин и усугублению неравенства, что в непропорционально большей степени затрагивает женщин из числа представителей коренных народов.

Г-жа Кигуантар также подчеркнула уникальную роль женщин в вопросах экологического менеджмента, борьбы с изменением климата и мониторинга биоразнообразия. Она рекомендовала инвестировать в справедливые с гендерной точки зрения климатические решения, чтобы расширить доступ девочек из числа коренного населения к образованию в области естественнонаучных, технических и инженерных дисциплин и математики, что поможет повысить устойчивость к изменению климата; учитывать гендерные аспекты в законах и нормативных документах, связанных с природными ресурсами; и внедрить основанный на правах человека подход к действиям по борьбе с изменением климата.

Обсуждение

В ходе выступлений были подробно рассмотрены взаимосвязи между деградацией окружающей среды, последствиями изменения климата и экономическими, социальными, политическими и демографическими факторами. Большинство делегаций выразили глубокую озабоченность по поводу изменения климата, деградации окружающей среды, опустынивания и утраты биоразнообразия, подчеркнув их негативное влияние на мир и безопасность. Некоторые делегации особо отметили, что эти экологические проблемы имеют далеко идущие последствия и зачастую усугубляют социальную напряженность, экономическое неравенство и политическую нестабильность.

Ряд делегаций привели примеры напряженности, возникающей из-за ограниченного доступа к природным ресурсам, что влечет за собой обострение межобщинных, национальных и региональных конфликтов. В качестве классического примера был приведен конфликт между скотоводами и фермерами в Западной Африке, Сахеле и районе Великих озер. Другие делегации отметили, что борьба за контроль над природными ресурсами является одной из основных причин насилия. Некоторые делегации также предупредили о незаконной эксплуатации природных ресурсов и транснациональных экологических преступлениях, которые подрывают систему управления и усиливают нестабильность.

Нехватка ресурсов, особенно водных, и несправедливое распределение часто упоминались в качестве факторов, которые приводят к нестабильности и провоцируют конфликты. Одна из делегаций посоветовала четко разобраться в коренных причинах конфликтов и призвала более пристально изучить политические и социально-экономические проблемы.

Особый акцент был сделан на необходимости предотвращения связанных с изменением климата, деградацией окружающей среды и утратой биоразнообразия рисков и последствий, включая медленно проявляющиеся последствия, а также их оценки, подготовки к ним и их прогнозирования с помощью надежных систем раннего оповещения, наращивания потенциала и стратегий снижения риска бедствий.

Многие делегации подчеркнули возможность использования природоохранных и климатических мероприятий в качестве инструментов для предотвращения конфликтов, их урегулирования и миростроительства. Некоторые участники высказали мнение о том, что эффективное и инклюзивное управление природными ресурсами и природоохранной деятельностью может стать отправной точкой для политического диалога по вопросам мира, признав при этом важность подхода, предусматривающего вовлечение всех государственных структур и всего общества. Некоторые страны особо отметили создание возможностей для миростроительства на основе общих интересов, укрепления доверия и взаимного доверия.

Были приведены конкретные примеры, причем одни делегации подчеркнули важность экологического миростроительства, а другие предложили учитывающие фактор конфликтов меры по смягчению последствий изменения климата и адаптации к ним в рамках комплексного подхода к делу мира и развития.

Делегации привели примеры того, какую роль играет управление водными ресурсами, включая сотрудничество в области трансграничных водных ресурсов, защиту океана, безопасность на море, борьбу с опустыниванием, обезлесением и меры по предотвращению деградации земель. Многие подчеркнули влияние этих тенденций на гуманитарную ситуацию и продовольственную безопасность, при этом некоторые напомнили о роли устойчивого к изменению климата сельского хозяйства в нестабильных и затронутых конфликтами районах.

Несколько стран подчеркнули важнейшую роль, которую устойчивое развитие играет в решении экологических проблем, в том числе посредством обеспечения климатического финансирования для развивающихся стран, финансирования для нестабильных государств, социальной инклюзии, сокращения масштабов нищеты, экономической устойчивости и передачи технологий. Была также особо отмечена важность повышения устойчивости к потрясениям.

Некоторые делегации на примере сектора Газа и Украины продемонстрировали, как вооруженные конфликты непосредственно наносят ущерб окружающей среде. Были упомянуты такие проблемы, как загрязнение почвы, воды и воздуха, а также использование взрывных устройств. В одном из заявлений напоминалось, что международное гуманитарное право содержит нормы, ограничивающие ущерб окружающей среде в военное время, и приводились ссылки на Руководство МККК по защите природной среды во время вооруженных конфликтов 2020 года.

Несколько делегаций подчеркнули центральную роль женщин и девочек в вопросах охраны окружающей среды и климата, а также в предотвращении конфликтов, их урегулировании и миростроительстве на всех уровнях. Они призвали признать женщин в качестве одной из движущих сил перемен и обеспечить их всестороннее, равноправное, значимое и безопасное участие во всех

процессах разработки политики и принятия решений. Кроме того, звучали призывы признать роль молодежи, местных общин, коренных народов, мигрантов и академических и научных сообществ.

Многие делегации подчеркнули важность использования при поиске решений основанного на фактических данных подхода, который позволяет проводить всесторонние и комплексные оценки рисков, направленные на разработку стратегии, ориентированной на их предотвращение. Некоторые страны также отметили роль новых и новейших технологий и упреждающих действий, подкрепленных данными. Для этого необходимо использовать спутниковые снимки, аналитические данные и собранные на местах оперативные данные.

Было особо отмечено региональное сотрудничество, и делегации высоко оценили усилия на Африканском Роге, в Западной Африке и в Сахеле. Было рекомендовано обмениваться примерами передовой практики в рамках системы Организации Объединенных Наций и адаптировать их к местным условиям. Некоторые делегации подчеркнули роль Комиссии по миростроительству и упомянули существующие механизмы, включая механизм климатической безопасности, Фонд миростроительства и Женский фонд мира и гуманитарной деятельности.

Поскольку обсуждение проходило в год проведения конференций сторон всех трех Рио-де-Жанейрских конвенций, несколько делегаций упомянули инициативы, связанные с этими процессами, включая декларацию о климате, помощи, восстановлении и мире, принятую на двадцать восьмой сессии Конференции Сторон Рамочной конвенции Организации Объединенных Наций об изменении климата; инициативу «Адаптация сельского хозяйства Африки к изменению климата», одобренную на двадцать второй сессии Конференции Сторон; и новую инициативу «Глобальная коалиция за мир с природой».

Рекомендации

По итогам обсуждения было выработано несколько рекомендаций и руководящих принципов, которые указывают пути наращивания действий в сфере превенции и превращения вызовов в сфере охраны окружающей среды в возможности для мира. В их числе — необходимость следующего:

- обеспечения высокой степени слаженности действий в системе Организации Объединенных Наций, что может быть достигнуто с помощью механизмов межучрежденческой координации;
- усиления координации между Советом Безопасности, Генеральной Ассамблеей и Экономическим и Социальным Советом для обеспечения включения в мирные инициативы мер по защите окружающей среды и действий по борьбе с изменением климата;
- обеспечения учета климатических и экологических соображений в рамках миростроительной архитектуры Организации Объединенных Наций;
- укрепления потенциала системы Организации Объединенных Наций для проведения анализа на основе фактических данных, в том числе с использованием технологий, всесторонних и комплексных оценок рисков, а также оценок безопасности с учетом климатических факторов и климатических оценок с учетом фактора конфликтов;
- систематического рассмотрения гендерного измерения повестки дня в области климата, мира и безопасности и разработки мер реагирования, ориентированных на изменение ситуации в гендерном плане;

- рассмотрения вопроса о взаимосвязи климата, мира и безопасности в ходе обсуждений в рамках Саммита будущего и в Пакте во имя будущего;
- назначения специального представителя Генерального секретаря по вопросам климата, мира и безопасности.

В рекомендациях, адресованных Совету Безопасности, подчеркивалась необходимость следующего:

- оценки Советом Безопасности всех факторов, приводящих к обострению конфликтов или увеличению их числа, включая экологические и климатические факторы и эксплуатацию природных ресурсов;
- использования Советом Безопасности всесторонних и комплексных оценок рисков, направленных на выработку ориентированного на предотвращение подхода;
- учета Советом Безопасности климатических и экологических соображений в мандатах операций в пользу мира и специальных политических миссий;
- использования анализа и рекомендаций экспертов по климатической безопасности для обоснования принимаемых Советом Безопасности мер;
- рассмотрения Советом Безопасности мер по предотвращению экологического ущерба, разработки им стратегий защиты окружающей среды в условиях вооруженных конфликтов и устранения им экологических последствий вооруженных конфликтов;
- активизации усилий по сокращению экологического воздействия операций в пользу мира в соответствии со стратегией Департамента оперативной поддержки «Курс дальнейших действий: экологическая стратегия для операций в пользу мира на 2023–2030 годы».

Приложение III к письму представителя Словении при Организации Объединенных Наций от 28 августа 2024 года на имя Генерального секретаря

[Подлинный текст на английском, испанском, китайском, русском и французском языках]

REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
PERMANENT MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

Permanent Mission of the Republic of Korea to the United Nations

SIERRA LEONE
PERMANENT MISSION
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Compilation of Statements

United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting

Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Date: Monday, 8 July 2024, 3:00 – 6:00 pm
Place: ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters

1. Slovenia

Statement by

Ambassador Samuel Žbogar
Representative of Slovenia to the United Nations Security Council

at the

Arria-formula meeting titled "Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace"

New York, 8 July 2024

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen, dear colleagues,

On behalf of the organizers and co-sponsors of today's arria formula meeting, Guyana, Republic of Korea, Sierra Leone and my country, Slovenia, I would like to welcome you to today's UN Security Council arria formula meeting "**Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace".**

With tensions and conflicts around the globe on the rise, the United Nations Security Council remains the central point of exchange and dialogue among its Members to – as the UN Charter stipulates - *"investigate any situation which might lead to international friction and give rise to a dispute*".

This is why the conveners of today's meeting invited you to take a closer look at one of the most defining challenges of our time – the triple planetary crisis and its consequences for the international peace and security – with an aim to look at it as an opportunity to upkeep, maintain and reinstate peace.

The increasing demand for natural resources combined with the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, and poor resource management, keeps adding to the competitive pressures between communities over access, use and control. It is becoming increasingly hard to ignore that with the current pace of climate change

and degradation, they rarely, if ever, trigger conflicts. However, their interplay with other factors can multiply risks that are known to contribute to insecurity.

Allow me to bring to the discussion the following three points in my national capacity:

Firstly, prevention of conflicts is simpler and less costly than conflict resolution. Secretary General has been clear in his call for prevention to become a political priority through his proposed New Agenda for Peace: "*Effective prevention requires comprehensive approaches, political courage, effective partnerships, sustainable resources and national ownership. Above all, it needs greater trust – among Member States, among people and in the United Nations.*"

We have seen the UN Security Council time and again to be caught off-guard, ignore or misinterpret early warning signs, neglect to take into account or dismiss the emerging challenges. We believe that the threats related to the environment and climate can be successfully predicted. Early warning mechanisms, supported by new technologies, satellite imagery and artificial intelligence can help us foresee and identify potential conflict triggers before conflicts erupt or escalate – if only we recognize their potential.

Secondly, effective and inclusive governance of natural resources and the environment can be an entry point for political dialogue about peace. It is our strong belief that it can be viewed as an investment in conflict prevention as well as a critical element of peace-making and peace-keeping. Environmental peacebuilding can contribute to longer-lasting peace and quicker recovery among communities left marginalized and disempowered by violence.

Let me use an example of water, one that also my own country, Slovenia, experienced. Despite predictions of "water wars," shared waters have proved to be the natural resource with the greatest potential for interstate cooperation and local confidence building. Water-related risks and tensions can be considerably reduced when the resilience of societies and ecosystems is strengthened through cooperation. Indeed, inclusive and sustainable water management plays an uniquely important role in rebuilding trust after conflict and in preventing a return to conflict.

Check against delivery

And thirdly, environmental challenges are not gender neutral. Women are most impacted by climate change and environmental degradation but least consulted. It is crucial to recognize women's unique potential as agents of positive environmental change. Women's participation broadens perspectives, fosters inclusive and fair solutions, diversifies the pool of talents and competences, thereby contributing to more comprehensive, effective and enduring conflict prevention strategies and bolstering community resilience and stability.

Enabling women's full, equal, meaningful and safe participation in policy- and decision-making processes amplifies these prevention efforts, promoting lasting peace and security amid environmental and climate challenges.

Colleagues, by scheduling this meeting, we would like to foster a sincere conversation about the interaction of environmental degradation and consequences of climate change with economic, social, political and demographic factors. Only thorough understanding of the interaction can contribute to successful preventive action. One that is requested from the UN Security Council, in collaboration with the broader UN system including the Peacebuilding Commission, ECOSOC and the General Assembly.

This meeting will therefore offer space to discuss the role of conflict prevention, as well as the importance of comprehensive risk assessments and early warning on risks related to the natural resource-related tensions, environmental degradation and impacts of climate change.

We aim to build on the discussions of the UN Security Council on this topic in the past and pay particular attention to natural resource management, environmental protection and climate adaptation as an opportunity for enhanced dialogue, trust and mutual understanding.

Thank you.

2. Ms Amy Pope, Director-General of International Organization for Migration

United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting

“Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace”

Statement by Amy Pope, Director General of IOM

8 July 2024

Thank you very much.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, colleagues and friends

First of all, a very warm thank you to Ambassador Zbogar and to the government of Slovenia for inviting me here today and also for your leadership in passing the historical general assembly resolution of July 2022 recognizing the right to a clean, healthy and sustainable environment. And a very heartfelt thanks to the government of Slovenia, Guyana, the Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone for inviting me to this important meeting today. I am honoured to have this opportunity to give the perspective of the International Organization for Migration on a topic that encompasses some of the most pressing challenges and priorities on the international agenda today.

Excellencies, I think it’s clear to everyone in this room that environmental pressures are affecting everyone, everywhere. If you turn on the news today, we can see the coverage of the impact of Hurricane Beryl on communities in the Caribbean which is now pressing down on Mexico. Quite simply, none of us is immune.

For the International Organization for Migration, working in situations of crisis around the world, it is clear that people who are living in conflict-affected countries are the *most* vulnerable to the impact of environment and climate change. These are risk multipliers. They are disproportionately impacting the most vulnerable groups, in particular women.

To give a very very concrete example, in Mali, and across the Sahel, large numbers of people have been displaced multiple times – because of violence but also because of increasingly erratic weather patterns and extreme events such as drought and floods. Cattle herders are often forced to move irregularly in search of even scarcer water and grazing lands, which in turn is aggravating tensions with local farming communities, at times its erupting in violence and sparking further displacement.

The fact of being displaced – and the chronic instability that comes with it – also means it is harder for communities to adapt to the challenges of a changing climate, for example by modifying their farming methods, or by changing their livelihoods altogether.

Now we are seeing similar patterns all over the world from the Sahel to the Horn of Africa, Central Asia and Central America. We are seeing a combination of violence, food insecurity and climate and environmental pressures which is increasing fragility and weakening the capacity of people and institutions to cope with these shocks.

So, what do we do about it? First, it's obvious as you have acknowledged Ambassador that prevention is better than responding after the fact.

That means we need to double down on our investments in disaster risk reduction, including early warning systems, so that vulnerable communities are more aware of the weathered hazards and have some time to get out of harm's way.

But we also need to work with communities to build their capacity, to protect them and their constituents from violence reducing the risks of displacement. To do so, we are learning primarily from affected populations themselves, integrating their local knowledge, their skills and their resources. And supplemented and informed by timely and reliable data so that we can make sure we are using our resources efficiently and targeting the communities most at risk.

One example of this that we are using within IOM is an initiative that serves both as an early warning system and also as a conflict prevention mechanism. It is called the Transhumance Tracking Tool, we are implementing in 11 countries across the Sahel, such as Chad, the Central African Republic, and Somalia.

This means we are working with a 750,000-strong herders' network to track and map transhumance movements, especially in relation to sedentary farming communities, which changing weather patterns have made increasingly unpredictable. So, we are getting real time movement alerts via mobile phones, which, in turn, activates a local mediation mechanism so that we can engage and prevent clashes over diminishing water and grazing lands. It also gives us the data we need to include more evidence-based policies and decision-making.

More broadly, we're collaborating with partners in the private sector. For example, with Microsoft. We are identifying and defining evidence-based solutions for communities who are currently being impacted by climate change, mapping out areas of vulnerability so that we can target interventions to those who are most in need in places like Ethiopia, the Maldives and Libya. That means we can use diminishing resources to build resilience before millions of people are displaced.

We also see strong evidence that women are playing a key role in this regard especially in fragile and conflict-impacted areas. Women are making up the majority of agricultural work forces – as many as 80 per cent if we are looking at the Sahel – and they are at the heart of improving family and community resilience. But they lag far behind men in terms of access to education and means of production.

So if we are going to be effective here, if we are going to create a more secure world we must not only recognize but we must enable women as drivers of change while being mindful of the specific vulnerabilities that they are facing.

In Somalia, for example, we have been working closely with communities who have also been affected by conflict to promote environmental peacebuilding, with women at the centre. Women-led environmental groups are being trained in natural resource management and climate adaptation and are a playing a key role in conflict resolution. (*I'm very very happy to share the virtual podium today with my friend and partner Hanna Tetteh, UN Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, whose efforts focus on this region and to recognize Alejandra Quiguantar, from Colombia for the work the community organizations are doing to support this work*).

Excellencies, we know our efforts to prevent and predict conflict, which often induces displacement, can only go so far. We need to do much more to find comprehensive, durable solutions for the many millions who *are* already displaced – solutions that look beyond any artificial humanitarian-development divides and that encompass peacebuilding measures.

This is where well-managed migration can offer one solution – enabling people to move safely, maximising their opportunities, leveraging their potential to contribute to sustainable development, both in the country they come from and in the country, they go to.

And we have some great examples of innovative and collaborative regional frameworks on climate mobility in places like West and East Africa, and the Pacific Region.

Excellencies, transforming environmental challenges into opportunities for peace is a significant and multifaceted challenge, it requires concerted global efforts.

We need States –all of you who are here today – to prioritize political solutions to prevent, manage and resolve conflicts. But we need climate mitigation and adaptation initiatives to target conflict-afflicted communities – It requires increased investment in data-driven approaches that serve as early warning tools, women's full and equal participation in climate action and conflict prevention.

And recognizing that migration – and the people on the move themselves – are at the centre of these challenges, but also at the center of the solutions.

Thank you very much.

3. Ms Hanna Serwaa Tetteh, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa

DRAFT SESG Tetteh's remarks to the United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting on

Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

08 July 2024

Mr. President,
Distinguished Members of the Security Council,
Distinguished Members States and Observers,

1. Thank you for inviting me to brief the Security Council and United Nations Member States on stepping up preventive action by addressing climate, peace and security in the Horn of Africa.

2. Member States of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development for the Horn of Africa (IGAD) collectively rank among the top third of countries most vulnerable to climate change and the least ready to adapt. Five out of the eight IGAD Member States are listed by the World Bank as highly fragile.

3. In recent years, the Horn of Africa has been experiencing climate shocks of increasing frequency, severity and duration. Since 2020, parts of the region have experienced unprecedented, protracted drought conditions while others have experienced record flooding.

4. During the recent March-April-May rainy season, the El Niño conditions that have been affecting countries across the world contributed to heavier than usual rainfall in the Horn of Africa. These conditions have resulted in extreme flooding, particularly across parts of Kenya, Ethiopia, and Somalia. Nearly 1.6 million people have been affected, with significant loss of life, displacement of more than 480,000 people, over 11,000 livestock deaths and losses and damage to infrastructure and agricultural land.

5. In a report published in 2022, IGAD Member States laid out the elements that need to be considered to manage climate-related risks to peace and security. These include taking a regional approach to addressing threats to food and water

security, climate-induced mobility, historical grievances, and governance and fragility.

6. Climate-related disasters and conflict contribute to persistent food insecurity in the Horn, with more than 45 million people facing high levels of food insecurity as of June 2024. In Sudan, the ongoing armed conflict has adversely affected the previous cropping season, with agricultural outputs for 2023 estimated at 40% lower than the previous five-year average.

7. Colleagues at the International Organization for Migration (IOM) have reported a 10% increase in movements along the Horn of Africa corridor in June, as compared to the first three months of 2024. 34% of these people on the move have reported natural disasters as the reason for their movements, a 31% increase since the beginning of the year. Around 500,000 refugees in the region reported having been affected by El Niño-induced flooding, with Ethiopia accounting for the heaviest impact from the rains with around 300,000 refugees in settlements across the country affected.

8. Around 70% of the region is arid or semi-arid and 30% of the population in the Horn of Africa region live in arid and semi-arid lands. According to IGAD, much of the region faces water scarcity for at least three months of every year. The 2020-2023 drought caused up to 90% of water boreholes in the region to dry up, resulting in the deaths of more than a third of the livestock population.

9. Looking ahead, IGAD has predicted wetter than normal conditions continuing through the coming June – July - August – September season, with an increased risk of heavy flooding in South Sudan and parts of Sudan.

10. Added to this, there is a strong likelihood of La Niña conditions returning towards the end of this year, contributing to below average rainfall into early 2025. In short, climate extremes are the new normal in the Horn of Africa and will continue to impact on the resilience and stability of the region in the years to come.

Mr. President,

11. In the face of these significant risks, IGAD and its Member States have been at the forefront of the climate, peace and security agenda. Upon the direction of its Member States, IGAD has established the first Regional Climate Security Coordination Mechanism in 2023, with the aim of strengthening

climate, peace and security in the Horn. This decision reflects the region's priority to manage climate-related risks to peace and security, but also to take advantage of the opportunities to integrate climate action and conflict prevention.

12. This is why the revised UN Regional Prevention and Integration Strategy for the Horn of Africa includes Action for Climate, Peace and Security as a core pillar. In order to coordinate this action and support IGAD's regional mechanism, the UN has established the first regional UN Climate, Peace, and Security Hub. The Hub works closely with IGAD to jointly assess climate-related risks to peace and security, provide technical advice to Member States and their partners, and identify opportunities for joint programming and investments that can target the most climate-vulnerable and conflict- affected parts of the region.

13. In line with the Secretary-General's recommendation outlined in his New Agenda for Peace policy brief in July 2023, the Hub has made significant progress in strengthening connections between Member States, IGAD and the African Union on the climate, peace and security agenda. This has included convening technical consultations, participating in international and regional discussions about these issues, and designing innovative initiatives in the cross-border areas of the Horn of Africa region.

14. The upcoming Summit for the Future offers the opportunity to translate the vision set out in the New Agenda for Peace into concrete action plans by encouraging tangible commitments from member states, including more risk-tolerant climate finance investments in contexts like the Horn of Africa.

15. In line with my Office's mandate, I will continue to support the implementation of the UN's Regional Prevention and Integration Strategy for the Horn of Africa and the UN Climate, Peace and Security Hub's work with IGAD and its Member States. It is critical now to collectively build on the important steps taken by our counterparts in the Horn and match their ambition with the necessary financial and political resources.

Thank you, Mr. President.

4. Ms Nohora Alejandra Quiguantar, Colombian indigenous youth leader, Founder of Tejiendo Pensamiento - Indigenous Women for the Climate, Member of the Action Coalition on Feminist Action for Climate Justice

Palabras: 1,052 palabras

Estimadas excelencias, reciban un cordial saludo.

Soy una joven indígena del resguardo de Muellamuès, en Nariño. Un lugar con gran diversidad biológica. Desde niña, he tenido un interés por la investigación comunitaria y la gobernanza ambiental, sin embargo, he visto de cerca el conflicto y los delitos ambientales. Cuando tenía 10 años, mi madre viajó con mis dos hermanas con la edad de dos y cinco años al Piedemonte Costero con la visión de nuevas oportunidades. Ella fue madre a los 17 años. No tuvo acceso a la educación y apenas puede firmar su nombre. En el Piedemonte Costero se escuchaba sobre el reclutamiento de niños/niñas para hacer parte de las filas de los grupos armados. Yo tuve la fortuna de no ser parte de uno de ellos, sin embargo, el asesinato de un familiar fue un hecho. La situación en su momento ya era difícil y a esto una violencia intrafamiliar que duró 10 años. Eso me motivó para invertir en mi futuro y el de mi comunidad: obtuve mi Licencia en Biología y fundé Tejiendo Pensamiento, un movimiento de mujeres que tiene la visión de facilitar las herramientas y los recursos necesarios para ejercer su liderazgo en los espacios de toma de decisiones relacionado con la defensa del territorio.

La presencia de megaproyectos en lugares sagrados de los pueblos indígenas, la falta de distribución igualitaria de los recursos naturales y el despojo de la tierra para siembra de los cultivos ilícitos son algunas de las causas que generan desarmonía territorial. Afectando la seguridad alimentaria y ocasionando una pérdida de conocimientos en las prácticas agrícolas, inhabilita la continuidad de ceremonias ancestrales, interrumpe las relaciones con la naturaleza y amenaza una identidad/patrimonio cultural en las mujeres indígenas. Por otro lado, el control de la zona es una muestra de dominio contra los cuerpos de las mujeres, incluso por violencias sexuales y la inhabilitad a denunciar. Esto conlleva a matrimonios infantiles forzados, lo que aumenta la deserción escolar de las niñas, privándoles el acceso a la Educación Superior.

Esto contribuye al desplazamiento de comunidades, agravando las desigualdades, particularmente para las mujeres. Por ejemplo, la falta de instalaciones de saneamiento adecuadas y puntos de agua en lugares seguros aumenta el riesgo de violencia sexual y de género y afecta la gestión de la salud menstrual. Durante las emergencias, especialmente los conflictos y los desastres, las mujeres indígenas corren un alto riesgo de violencia debido a la crisis en la familia y la sociedad, así como debido a la ruptura repentina de las estructuras familiares y comunitarias derivadas del desplazamiento forzado, haciendo que las mujeres y las niñas se vuelven más vulnerables y se enfrentan a daños físicos, sexuales y psicológicos, así como a la negación de recursos o servicios necesarios.

Las mujeres indígenas poseen un conocimiento invaluable en la identificación y uso de las plantas, recolecta de semillas, cuidado de la siembra y la administración de los bosques. Por esta razón, desde Tejiendo Pensamiento le apostamos a soluciones locales basadas en la naturaleza a través del uso de plataformas digitales. Por ejemplo, WOMER es un proyecto de ciencia ciudadana que ayuda a las mujeres indígenas a crear evidencia de sus roles, impactos y acciones frente al cambio climático, desde una investigación colaborativa con enfoque decolonial

garantizando la autodeterminación y la gobernanza de los datos indígenas. En la prueba piloto se permitió evidenciar que la propiedad de la tierra se encuentra en los hombres,aunque la responsabilidad de la siembra y el conocimiento de la etnobotánica está en las mujeres, como lo es el calendario agrícola. También es importante promover el monitoreo participativo de la biodiversidad, liderado por mujeres afectadas por el conflicto armado, jóvenes, líderes e investigadoras, para diseñar programas de conservación locales. Esto nos permite avanzar en el acceso a una transformación digital justa de género en los territorios indígenas.

Es invaluable el conocimiento que salvaguardan las mujeres indígenas al ser las principales gestoras y usuarias de los recursos naturales en muchos contextos frágiles y afectados por conflictos. Esto debe servir para entender que también tienen un papel clave que desempeñar en la prevención, gestión y resolución de las tensiones relacionadas con los recursos naturales y procesos de paz.

Por lo tanto, Tejiendo Pensamiento insta a los Estados Miembros a ampliar sus ambiciones para seguir apostando desde los territorios a:

- **Primer punto**: Abordar el hecho de que el acceso limitado a la financiación frena la inversión en soluciones climáticas justas de género, en particular las dirigidas por líderes de base en el Sur Global. *Solo el 0,01% de la financiación mundial apoya proyectos que aborden tanto el clima como los derechos de las mujeres*.

- **Segundo punto**: También debemos elevar el derecho a la educación en campos de STEM de las niñas indígenas, que sirve para construir su resiliencia contra los impactos del cambio climático. Por cada año adicional de escolaridad que reciben las niñas, su país puede esperar ser más resistente a los impactos climáticos.

- **Tercer punto**: En cuanto a las políticas, debemos fortalecer los marcos para integrar las consideraciones de género en las leyes y políticas relacionadas con los recursos naturales y los activos productivos, como la tierra, el agua y la energía, que siguen ignorando en gran medida las necesidades y los derechos específicos de las mujeres y las niñas indígenas.

- **Cuarto punto**: adoptar un enfoque de la acción climática basado en los derechos humanos que incluya toda la gama de salud y derechos sexuales y reproductivos (SDSR) en el contexto del cambio climático, la degradación ambiental y la gestión del riesgo de desastres y permitir a los defensores acceder a los mecanismos/servicios/redes de reparación y justicia.

- **Para terminar**: Se requiere un cambio de narrativo fundamental que reconozca el papel esencial del cuidado no remunerado, la necesidad de que las mujeres tengan derechos sobre la tierra y la toma de decisiones para abordar la emergencia climática, y la incorporación de la justicia racial y de género para garantizar la construcción de una economía verde inclusiva.

Quiero terminar diciendo lo siguiente: sin un verdadero proceso de paz que incluya a las mujeres indígenas y a las defensoras ambientales, no podemos hablar de la defensa del territorio y de una paz sostenible

Sin procesos de paz internos, ninguna de las estrategias de cambio climático o de innovación será posible en los territorios.

Gracias.

5. China

陈永超参赞在安理会"加强预防行动：从环境挑战到和平机遇"阿里亚模式会议上的发言

2024-07-08 19:15

主席，

我感谢斯洛文尼亚、塞拉利昂、圭亚那和韩国倡议举办此次会议，欢迎各位通报人所作通报。

自然环境是人类生存发展的物质基础，也是影响各国和平稳定的重要因素。近年来，许多地区自然环境遭到破坏、生态系统加速退化，各方对耕地、水源、牧场等资源争夺加剧，带来不稳定风险。中方认为国际社会要重视以下几点：

一是要进一步加强对自然环境的保护管理。面对自然环境恶化加剧不稳定等挑战，建立早期预警、加大斡旋调解是重要手段，但不是治本之策。归根到底还是要加大保护力度，防止自然环境继续恶化，阻断环境危机演变成安全风险。联合国各机构要支持各国将合理开发和保护自然资源放在关键位置，在开发中保护，在保护中开发。在此过程中要避免两个极端，既要避免过度开发，也要避免过度强调保护而完全不允许开发。

二是要通过可持续发展应对环境挑战的冲击。部分发展中国家对自然环境恶化导致的灾害抵御能力弱，资源争夺引发的冲突和危机多发，根本原因之一在于经济发展水平不高，生产生活过度依赖自然资源和农业初级产品。国际社会要帮助发展中国家加快产业升级转型，推进农业现代化和工业化，提高经济多样性和韧性。这是将环境挑战转化为和平机遇的最重要预防性行动。

三是要克服气候变化带来的不利影响。刚才许多成员提到气候变化加剧自然环境挑战，呼吁国际社会积极应对。当前，资金不足是全球气候治理的最主要瓶颈，加快全球气候行动的关键在于发达国家尽快履行自身义务，率先大幅减排，同时兑现气候融资承诺，为发展中国家提供技术和能力建设支持。国际社会应建立监督机制，敦促发达国家将承诺落实到位。

四是要帮助发展中国家加快绿色转型。清洁能源转型是推进生态环境保护的重要手段。国际社会要支持发展中国家加强光伏、水电、风电等清洁能源项目建设，弥合绿色技术鸿沟，加快绿色发展，克服自然环境挑战。安理会授权的特派团要在节能减排方面树立标杆，在□顾特派团运营成本和履职有效性的前提下，不断加快新能源转型，减少碳足迹。

主席，

作为最大的发展中国家，中国一直积极落实《巴黎协定》，推动达成"昆明—蒙特利尔全球生物多样性框架"，积极扩大"一带一路"绿色发展朋友圈，为全球生态治理注入动力。中方愿

同各方继续分享绿色技术、产品和经验，提供光伏、新能源汽车等绿色产品，为共同应对环境挑战、缔造和平机遇作出自己的贡献。

谢谢主席。

6. Switzerland

Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Swiss Confederation

Conseil de sécurité
Arria-Formula Meeting

Stepping up Preventive Action:
From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

New York, le 8 juillet 2024

Déclaration lue par Christian Frutiger
Vice-directeur et Chef de la division coopération thématique, Direction du développement et de la coopération (DDC), Département fédéral des affaires étrangères (DFAE)

Merci Monsieur le Président,

Lors de la journée internationale pour l'environnement, le Secrétaire général a souligné que « Les événements extrêmes accélérés par le chaos climatique s'accumulent ; sapent le développement durable, forcent les gens à quitter leur foyer, et ébranlent les fondements de la paix et de la sécurité. » Nous faisons en effet face à une triple crise planétaire du changement climatique, de la perte de biodiversité et de la pollution, auxquels s'ajoutent les tensions et les conflits.

Ces défis connexes requièrent des réponses intégrées. L'appel lancé par le Nouvel Agenda pour la Paix nous indique le fil conducteur à suivre : celui de la prévention.

Cette réunion en formule Arria tombe donc à point nommé et nous remercions la Slovénie de nous avoir réunis. Nos remerciements s'adressent également à la Directrice générale de l'Organisation Internationale pour la Migration, l'Envoyée Spéciale du Secrétaire général pour la Corne de l'Afrique et en particulier Madame Quiguantar pour leurs exposés.

Permettez-moi de souligner trois points :

Premièrement, l'action préventive et les efforts de consolidation de la paix nécessitent une approche globale. Nous devons prendre en compte les effets climatiques, écouter les acteurs sur le terrain et impliquer les femmes et les jeunes en tant qu'agents de changement. Il convient également de travailler avec la communauté académique pour que nos décisions se basent sur des preuves scientifiques. Ces considérations devraient guider le développement de stratégies nationales de prévention.

Deuxièmement, des approches régionales et une meilleure collaboration entre le Conseil de sécurité et les organisations régionales et sous-régionales sont nécessaires. Nous saluons à cet égard le travail de l'Envoyée spéciale pour la Corne de l'Afrique, en particulier l'étroite collaboration avec l'Autorité intergouvernementale pour le développement (IGAD) concernant les évaluations des risques climatiques et l'utilisation d'outils d'alerte précoce. Ce partenariat exemplaire a fait l'objet d'une réunion du Groupe Informel d'Experts sur le Climat et la Sécurité organisé par le Mozambique et la Suisse. Un autre exemple positif est celui du Centre Régional

de la Diplomatie Préventive pour l'Asie Centrale (UNRCCA). La Suisse s'engage d'ailleurs pour la gestion des ressources en eau et la prévention des catastrophes naturelles dans cette région, notamment à travers son initiative *Blue Peace*.

Troisièmement, le Conseil de sécurité doit agir en synergie avec le système multilatéral, y compris avec les entités basées à Genève. Les missions de maintien de la paix et les missions politiques, en collaboration avec le Mécanisme de sécurité climatique (CSM), les équipes pays de l'ONU, les institutions financières et les organisations régionales devraient également harmoniser leurs efforts au niveau national, régional et international. Cela permettrait de fournir des conseils aux États membres afin de répondre aux défis posés par le changement climatique dans les contextes de conflit.

Monsieur le Président,

Les outils pour renforcer la prévention existent et les considérations climatiques doivent en faire partie intégrante. Comme souligné par une intervenante de la société civile lors d'une réunion du Conseil de sécurité en juin 2023 : « c'est la volonté qui peut nous faire déplacer des montagnes ou rester là où nous sommes ». Suivons donc ses paroles.

Je vous remercie.

Unofficial translation

Thank you Mr. President,

On the occasion of World Environment Day, the Secretary General underlined that "Extreme events turbocharged by climate chaos are piling up; wrecking sustainable development; forcing people from their homes, and rocking the foundations of peace and security." We are indeed facing a triple global crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss and pollution, compounded by tensions and conflicts.

These interrelated challenges require integrated responses. The appeal launched by the New Agenda for Peace points us in the right direction: that of prevention.
This Arria meeting is therefore very timely, and we thank Slovenia for bringing us together. Our thanks also go to the Director General of the International Organization for Migration, the Secretary General's Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa and especially Mrs. Quiguantar for their statements.

Allow me to highlight three points:

First, preventive action and peace-building efforts require a global approach. We need to take into account the effects of climate change, listen to the actors on the ground, and involve women and young people as agents of change. We also need to work with the academic community to ensure that our decisions are based on scientific facts. These considerations should guide the development of national prevention strategies.

Second, regional approaches and greater collaboration between the Security Council and regional and sub-regional organizations are needed. In this respect, we commend the work of the Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, in particular the close collaboration with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) on climate risk assessments and the use of early warning tools. This exemplary partnership was the focus of a meeting of the Informal Expert Group on Climate and Security organized by Mozambique and Switzerland. Another positive example is the Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA). Switzerland is committed to the management of water resources and the prevention of natural disasters in this region, notably through its *Blue Peace initiative*.

Third, the Security Council must act in synergy within the multilateral system, including its Geneva-based entities. Peacekeeping and political missions, in collaboration with the Climate Security Mechanism (CSM), UN country teams, financial institutions and regional organizations, should harmonize their efforts at national, regional and international levels. This would enable us to provide guidance to member states in responding to the challenges posed by climate change in conflict contexts.

Mr. President,

The tools to reinforce prevention exist, and climate considerations must be an integral part of them. As a civil society speaker emphasized at a Security Council meeting in June 2023: "It's the will that can make us move mountains or stay where we are". So let's follow her words.

I thank you.

7. Russian Federation

Выступление заместителя Постоянного представителя Д.С.Чумакова в ходе неформального заседания членов СБ ООН по «формуле Арриа» на тему: «Наращивание действий в сфере превенции: от вызовов в сфере охраны окружающей среды до возможностей для мира»

Г-н Председатель,

Внимательно выслушали инициаторов и приглашенных бриферов.

Не отрицаем, что причинами внутренних вооруженных конфликтов может стать борьба за природные ресурсы, в том числе на фоне проблем с изменениями климата и охраной окружающей среды. Подобные тенденции действительно отмечаются в целом ряде стран и регионов, особенно в Африке. Однако при этом ни в коем случае не стоит упускать из виду главное.

Коренными причинами внутренних конфликтов являются не климатические катаклизмы, как это пытаются представить некоторые делегации, а политические и социально-экономические проблемы в комплексе. Более того, эффективное предотвращение конфликтов должно строиться на необходимости учета национальных приоритетов и уникальности каждого отдельного случая. Во «главу угла» должна ставиться именно национальная ответственность государства. Секьюритизация природоохранной повестки, нарушение разделения труда органов ООН, навязывание Совету Безопасности несвойственных ему функций лишает нас шансов найти действенные решения кризисных ситуаций. Ведь сами эти решения должны носить комплексный характер, помогать стране или региону встать на путь устойчивого развития. Это снижает уязвимость и перед лицом, в том числе, климатических катаклизмов. Россия участвует в таком сотрудничестве, в том числе по раннему предупреждению.

Следует не забывать и о еще одном важнейшем аспекте уязвимости государств, который, к сожалению, в концептуальной записке упущен. Недопустимо, чтобы такие факторы как бедность, социальные конфликты, недостаточный государственный контроль над территориями, использовались внешними игроками, прежде всего бывшими метрополиями, для подстрекательства к эксплуатации суверенных природных ресурсов, по сути, их разграбления. В этом контексте не стоит замалчивать и пагубные для окружающей среды и контроля над суверенными природными ресурсами последствия военных действий, которые затем усугубляются односторонними санкциями. Имеем в виду, в частности, незаконные бомбардировки западными

коалициями Ирака, Ливии, Сирии… Примеров очень много. К сожалению, объектом хищнического интереса западных игроков стала и Украина: в Совете мы уже цитировали высказывания американского сенатора Линдси Грэма о том, что Киев «сидит на критически важных полезных ископаемых стоимостью 10-12 триллионов долларов», которые дескать «могут быть освоены Украиной и Западом». Западные страны, последовательно на протяжении как минимум последних 10 лет готовившие Украину к военному столкновению с Россией, все четче демонстрируют свою истинную повестку. Под логику разграбления этой страны уже подводится внутренняя законодательная база, а крупные агропромышленные корпорации США, объединенные под управлением инвестиционных монстров типа американской компании «Blackrock», все глубже пускают щупальца в сельскохозяйственный комплекс этой страны, некогда «житницы Европы».

Считаем, что действия такого рода должны получать объективную оценку со стороны Совета Безопасности. Ведь, разрушая природный капитал целых государств, интервенты и «демократизаторы» не только подрывают саму возможность устойчивого развития, но и закладывают мины под поддержание стабильности в глобальном масштабе.

Благодарю за внимание.

Видео выступление

Inofficial translation

Statement by Deputy Permanent Representative Dmitry Chumakov during the UN Security Council Arria formula meeting "Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace"

Mr. Chairman,

We have listened carefully to the initiators and the briefers.

We do not deny that the causes of internal armed conflicts can be the struggle for natural resources, including against the background of challenges of climate change and environmental protection. Such trends are indeed observed in a number of countries and regions, especially in Africa. However, in this case, we should not lose sight of the main thing.

The root causes of conflicts are not climate cataclysms, as some delegations are trying to present, but political and socio-economic issues. Effective conflict prevention should be based on the need to take into account national priorities and the uniqueness of each individual case. The national responsibility of the State should be put at the forefront. The securitization of the environmental agenda, the violation of the division of labor of UN bodies, the imposition of functions on the Security Council that are not its proper function just impede finding effective solutions to crisis situations. After all, such solutions must be comprehensive in nature, helping a country or region embark on the path of sustainable development. This would also reduce vulnerability to climate cataclysms. Russia participates in cooperation of this kind, including early warning.

We should not forget about another important aspect of the vulnerability of States, which, unfortunately, is omitted from the conceptual note. It is unacceptable that such factors as poverty, social conflicts, insufficient state control over territories are still used by external actors, primarily former colonial empires, to exploit

sovereign natural resources and, quite often, plundering. In this context, we should not ignore the detrimental consequences of military actions for the environment and control over sovereign natural resources, which are then aggravated by unilateral sanctions. We mean, in particular, the illegal bombings of Iraq, Libya, Syria by Western coalitions... There are many examples. Unfortunately, neighboring Ukraine has also become an object of predatory interest of Western players: in the Council we have already quoted the statements of the US senator Lindsey Graham that Kyiv "is sitting on critically important minerals worth 10-12 trillion dollars", which supposedly "can be developed by Ukraine and the West". Western countries, which have been consistently preparing Ukraine for a military clash with Russia for at least last 10 years, are increasingly demonstrating their true agenda. The internal legislative framework in Ukraine is already being developed to facilitate plundering this country, and large US agro-industrial corporations, united under the management of investment monsters like the US "Blackrock", are pushing their tentacles deeper into the agricultural complex of this country, once the "breadbasket of Europe". We believe that actions of this kind should be objectively assessed by the Security Council. After all, by destroying the natural capital of entire states, the interventionists and “democratizers” not only undermine the very possibility of sustainable development, but also lay mines under the maintenance of stability on a global scale.

Thank you for your attention.

8. France

PERMANENT MISSION OF FRANCE TO THE UNITED NATIONS IN NEW YORK

STEPPING UP PREVENTIVE ACTION:

« FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE »

STATEMENT BY MS ISIS JARAUD DARNAULT

POLITICAL COORDINATOR FOR FRANCE AT THE UNITED NATIONS

ECOSOC ROOM

(TRANSLATED FROM FRENCH)

New York, July 8, 2024

Mr. President,

Thank you for organizing this meeting, and thank you to the speakers for their briefings.

I would like to emphasize three points:

Firstly, the fight against climate change and for environmental protection is a peace and security issue all on its own. Of the 20 countries most affected by conflict in the world, 12 are among those most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change.

This fight against climate change begins with the effective and rapid implementation of the Paris Agreement. This ambitious, universal agreement is our collective benchmark for combating climate change. Implementing it is the best way to prevent climate change-related crises.

More and more people are being displaced due to climate change. Our Council must also be able to act on these issues.

Moreover, anticipation is essential to prevent humanitarian crises and population displacements due to climate change. In its new humanitarian strategy 2023-2027, France is committed to a humanitarian system that anticipates and responds to the risks and consequences of climate change. In particular, France supports the World Food Program, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the International Federation of the Red Cross and Red Crescent in this area.

France is taking action by reinforcing access to more resilient basic infrastructures and stepping up its actions in the field of water, hygiene and sanitation.

We are also calling for the strengthening of the United Nations Climate and Security Mechanism to promote a UN system-wide approach that is as close to the ground as possible.

We can also see this in the theme of water: this environmental challenge is linked to peace and security. Some speak about "water conflict", but water can be a vector for peace. Cooperation on integrated water management, for example at cross-border level, is a tool we need to encourage. We want to put water issues at the top of the international agenda by co-organizing the One Water Summit with Kazakhstan.

To meet environmental challenges, we also need to pursue our efforts to improve management and reduce the impact of peace operations on the environment. This is one of the actions advocated by the "Action for Peacekeeping + (A4P+)" plan.

We welcome the commitment of the Department of Operational Support and the Department of Peace Operations in this area. This is an important issue throughout the deployment of these operations, and during transitions. For example, the Security Council supports a stronger UNDP presence in the provinces where MONUSCO has withdrawn. An effective transition must be prepared by multiplying joint programs. Agencies, funds and programs must be given the financial means required to take over these operations.

Finally, the transition towards lasting peace also requires more predictable peacebuilding funding and follow-up to Agenda 2030. The Peacebuilding Fund has proven its ability to catalyze funding, support an integrated UN response and work with all stakeholders. It promotes the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, good governance, the Youth, Peace and Security and Women, Peace and Security agendas. Its action must continue to support post-crisis situations, particularly in Africa.

This transition towards lasting peace also requires more predictable funding for climate action in developing countries. In 2022, France provided EUR 7.6 billion in climate financing, including EUR 2.6 billion for adaptation.

Thank you.

9. Algeria

Draft Statement to be delivered by Algeria

Arria Formula Meeting on:

"Stepping up Preventive Action: from Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace"

08 July 2024 – 03:00pm

ECOSOC Chamber

Mr Chair,

We wish at the outset to extend our thanks to you and to the co-organizers for convening this meeting and to the briefers for their insightful presentations.

Climate change is clearly a multiplying factor of risks for development efforts.

The dire environmental conditions in some settings such as drought and severe floods lead in several cases to serious challenges around the access to natural resources and intercommunal tensions.

Climate change, biodiversity loss, and environmental degradation have harshly impacted the development gains achieved by developing countries especially from Africa.

The climate-related multiplying factors contribute in broadening the existing gap in terms of development between the developed and the developing countries.

In the absence of substantive support to developing countries particularly from the international financial institutions (IFI) for strategic sectors such as agriculture, this gap will remain present.

In this connection, we reaffirm that climate finance is key to the effective implementation of the Paris Agreement. Climate finance commitments, particularly the USD100 billion goal must be fulfilled by the developed countries.

Also, there is a need to contribute concretely in building the capacities of the affected countries to demonstrate more resilience with a view of supporting their development project, as a mean of prevention.

In this connection, the technology transfer appears to be an important requirement to be fulfilled.

Furthermore, we believe it is important that our discussion on the subject should be considered from the angle of peacebuilding efforts.

Mr Chair,

Algeria is directly affected by the effects of climate change, thus impacting its socio-economic development. My country has been engaged during the last six decades in a continued combat against drought and particularly desertification.

While recalling that we observed recently, on June 17th, the international day to combat desertification, we wish to share that the Algerian Government has set up an ambitious strategy to combat desertification until 2035.

The objective of this strategy is to ensure the conservation and the sustainable management of all natural resources, particularly soil, water, forest, flora and fauna resources.

Algeria is of the view that, even though the discussion within the Security Council on such subject could be useful, its consideration has to remain within the right framework which is the UN framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).

Such a framework will allow the international community to formulate the right responses.

Finally, we reiterate our call for more effective partnerships and concerted efforts to provide the required assistance to the most affected countries by the consequences of climate change on the basis of the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

Thank You

10. Republic of Korea

Statement by H.E. Ambassador Hyunwoo CHO
Deputy Permanent Representative of the Republic of Korea
Security Council Arria Formula Meeting on Climate, Peace and Security
New York, 8 July 2024

Thank you, Chair. We thank the Slovenian Mission for this initiative.

My appreciation also goes to Director-General Pope, Special Envoy Tetteh and Ms. Quiguantar for their insights and informative briefings.

My delegation welcomes in particular the strong focus given to prevention and evidence-based approach in this meeting, and would like to highlight the following three points.

First, the cross-border impacts of climate change on natural resources call for regional coordination. Gaps between national and regional adaptation and governance need to be addressed for sustainable management of resources and prevention of inter-state tensions.

We commend the increasing engagement of regional and sub-regional organizations in this regard, such as the active work of AU, IGAD and ECCAS, the Boe Declaration of the Pacific Islands Forum, and the Interstate Commission for Water Coordination of Central Asia.

We encourage regional actors to consider further collaboration with the UN system. As in the case of Horn of Africa, this could take the form of a joint regional hub on climate, peace and security, as recommended in the Secretary General's New Agenda for Peace.

Second, engagement with the directly-affected local communities is crucial. This includes building community awareness and capacity to suspend maladaptive practices, promoting inclusive natural resource management, and supporting mediation between communities.

It is also worth noting that integrating climate lens to local engagement brings about co-benefits in peacebuilding. For instance, given the primary role of women as providers of food and water for households in many societies, natural resource management can serve as an entry point for inducing participation of women in local governance.

Peace operations are well placed to address the interlinkages between climate, peace and security in fragile settings. Building on the ongoing work including that of UNMISS, UNOWAS, UNOCA, the Office of Special Envoy for Horn of Africa, and UNRCCA on the issues of land and water resources, the Security Council could consider strengthening mandates of Missions in relevant contexts with a focus on local engagement and prevention.

In this respect, we welcome the recent adoption of the Presidential Statement on UNOWAS recognizing the impacts of climate change on the security and stability of the region.

Last but not least, climate-related risk assessment and early warning systems such as the Transhumance Tracking Tool of IOM play a critical role in informing the relevant actors of the predicted challenges, forming a shared understanding, and the grounds for dialogue and cooperation.

In this regard, we stress the importance of investment in early warning systems that reflect the context-specificity of each situation. In addition to multilateral funds such as the Green Climate Fund, we are pleased to see increasing contribution of the Peacebuilding Fund in climate-peace-security related projects, which can have catalytic effects in mobilizing resources for fragile and conflict contexts.

Mr. Chair,

Before closing, we reiterate that addressing the climate, peace and security nexus requires both climate-sensitive peace and security efforts and conflict-sensitive climate action. Alongside our advocacy in the Security Council, the Republic of Korea will continue to spare no efforts in supporting the most affected countries and regions in the Global South in their climate change adaptation and transition to clean energy.

Thank you, Chair. /END.

11. Guyana

Permanent Mission of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana to the United Nations

Statement by Ambassador Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, Permanent Representative of Guyana to the United Nations

United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting on 'Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace'

8 July 2024

Thank you, Mr. President,

I thank Slovenia for convening this Arria-formula meeting, which Guyana is pleased to co-sponsor. I also thank Ms. Amy Pope, Director-General of the International Organization for Migration, and Ms. Hanna Serwaa Tetteh, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa, for their insightful briefings as well as Ms Nohora Alejandra Quiguantar for sharing her perspective.

Mr. President,

While it has been argued that climate and environmental factors are never the sole cause of conflict but are threat multipliers, we have repeatedly seen how scarcity and competition for dwindling natural resources have driven displacement and conflict. It is, therefore, imperative that environmental action is also part of conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peacebuilding strategies.

In addition to climate and environmental factors driving conflict, we must also consider how conflict itself contributes to environmental degradation, upending lives and livelihoods, and the issue of accountability.

A case in point is Gaza, where explosive weapons have generated more than 39 million tons of debris. The full effects of this and other environmental damages for Gaza and the world are not yet known.

In a 2009 study on "Protecting the Environment During Armed Conflict: An Inventory and Analysis of International Law", the United Nations Environment (UNEP) found that there is no permanent international mechanism to monitor legal infringements and address compensation claims for environmental damage sustained during international armed conflicts.
This gap persists today.

Understanding the need for preventative action, in 2016, UNEP's Assembly adopted a resolution that recognized the role of healthy ecosystems and the need to sustainably manage resources to reduce the risk of armed conflict. Among other things, the resolution urges States to take all appropriate measures to ensure compliance with the relevant international obligations under international humanitarian law regarding protecting the environment during armed conflict

This is a critical instrument that the Security Council can build on to address the challenges associated with the adverse environmental impacts of armed conflicts.

UNEP's work was underpinned by several examples of conflict and the environment being deeply interlinked. One example was the devastating effect of the armed conflict in the Democratic Republic of Congo, where the struggle for control of the country's vast natural resources, including gold, diamonds, and timber, has been a key driver of the violence.

It is against this backdrop that I wish to make three points on promoting preventive action.

First, like human casualties of war, the environment and the exploitation of natural resources, including deforestation and other biodiversity loss, are victims. The Council must consider enhanced cooperation in managing and protecting the environment and natural resources as part of efforts to ensure international peace and security.

Secondly, noting UNEP's observation that the international community is inadequately equipped to monitor legal violations and determine liability for environmental damage caused by international armed conflicts, the UN Security Council, due to its binding and legal effect, should consider products that deter environmental damage and redress wartime infringements including the issue of accountability.

Finally, given its primary responsibility for maintaining peace, the Security Council must leverage the analysis and recommendations presented by the Climate Security Advisors attached to the Special Peacekeeping Missions, and other reports to the Council, to better inform the actions of the Council on the relevant issues. Guyana supports the calls to appoint a Special Representative for Climate, Peace, and Security with a mandate to integrate, climate considerations, more broadly, into the work of the Council. Early warning systems must be strengthened.

Mr President,

As I close, we have recently seen an increase in conflicts, which, according to all reports, has negatively affected our planet's natural resources and, by extension, the environment. This Council cannot afford to ignore or franchise out its central role on addressing this issue. With the appropriate early warning and preventive action, we can turn the tide to ensure durable peace and safeguard our ecosystems.

I thank you.

12. Sierra Leone

Permanent Mission of Sierra Leone to the UN

UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL ARRIA FORMULA MEETING ON "STEPPING UP PREVENTIVE ACTION: FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE"

Mr. Chair,

1. Sierra Leone is pleased to have joined your country Slovenia, together with Guyana and the Republic of Korea as co-sponsors, in convening this timely discussion. I would also like to thank Ms. Hanna Tetteh, Ms. Amy Pope and Ms. Nohora Alejandra Quiguantar for their insightful presentations today.

2. Colleagues, as a country that experienced armed conflict for the most part of the 1990s, Sierra Leone is all too aware of the devastating effects of conflict on people, economies and the environment. For this reason, Sierra Leone is very appreciative of the opportunity to engage on conflict prevention, stepping up action particularly in light of the critical environmental challenges.

3. Today, Member States of the United Nations are presented with a profound opportunity to address one of the most pressing issues of our time: the intersection of environmental challenges and its implications for peace and security. It is critical that we step up preventive action, transforming these challenges into opportunities for peace and sustainable development.

4. Even outside the context of armed conflict, we are witnesses to the devastating impact of the climate crisis, with the early occurrence and strength of Hurricane Beryl and its devastating toll on the directly impacted countries particularly in the Caribbean. We offer our deepest condolences and solidarity to the people and governments affected. But we must do more, as a global interconnected community, particularly on mitigation and adaption for climate resilience, hence the imperative of the development component.

Mr. Chair,

5. Environmental degradation, climate change, and resource scarcity pose a significant threat to global peace and security. Climate change is now considered, by a growing school of scholars, to be an existential threat to our global community. The climate challenges manifest in various forms, including extreme weather events, desertification, biodiversity loss, water shortage and scarcity. The impacts of these

environmental issues are far-reaching, often exacerbating social tensions, economic disparities, and political instability.

6. Additionally, scarcity of vital resources, such as water and food, can heighten competition and conflict, particularly in regions already experiencing political and economic instability. The incidents of herder and farmer violence in West Africa and the Sahel and the Great Lakes region are a classic case in point.

7. Furthermore, illegal exploitation of natural resources, such as minerals and timber, often funds armed groups, fueling violence and undermining governance as exemplified in the conflict in my Sierra Leone, in the 1990s and currently ongoing in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

8. Tensions over natural resources are a critical source of conflict in many regions around the world but more especially in Africa. The Security Council plays a pivotal role in preventing these conflicts and promoting sustainable peace. In this vein, the Council, in collaboration with the Peacebuilding Commission for instance, or with other relevant UN agencies and regional organisations, can develop and deploy mechanisms, including advanced monitoring and early warning systems to identify potential conflicts over natural resources before they escalate.

9. With the appropriate national leadership and willingness, the mechanism may involve leveraging satellite imagery, data analytics, and local intelligence. In addition, there is need to facilitate regional cooperation mechanisms to manage transboundary natural resources and address shared environmental challenges. This includes supporting regional agreements and institutions dedicated to resource management and conflict prevention.

10. At the **national and regional levels**, the promotion of open communication and transparency in the management of natural resources and environmental policies is essential. Regularly sharing information on resource use, environmental impacts, and climate adaptation plans with all stakeholders especially at the national level will go a long way in avoiding unnecessary misunderstandings that often lead to conflict over management of national resources.

11. Also, at the **regional and global levels** there is need to adopt conflict-sensitive approaches to resource management and climate adaptation, recognizing and addressing potential sources of tension and conflict.

12. To address the **root causes of conflicts**, particularly those linked to the environment, the international community will need to develop innovative partnerships including on issues relating to natural resource management, global economic inequality, and climate resilience. These partnerships should incorporate meaningful inclusion of women and youth in all processes related to Climate Change mitigation and adaptation and also natural resource management.

13. In concluding, **Mr. Chair**, stepping up preventive action in the face of environmental challenges is not only a necessity but an opportunity to build a more peaceful and sustainable world. By transforming environmental threats into opportunities for peace, and development, we can create resilient communities, foster cooperation, and ensure a prosperous future for all. At this unprecedented moment in history, in relation to access to information and large-scale human interaction, Sierra Leone urges for international cooperation, partnerships and equity to address both the drivers of conflict and the attainment of climate justice.

I thank you.

13. Malta

THE PERMANENT MISSION
OF MALTA TO THE UN NEW YORK

Malta
2023-2024
UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL

Security Council Arria Formula Meeting 'Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace', 8 July 2024

Malta Statement delivered by Ms Francesca Cassar
Africa, Economic and Development Coordinator of Malta to the UN, New York

Thank you, Chair. I begin by thanking Slovenia, together with Guyana, Republic of Korea, and Sierra Leone for organising today's meeting. I also thank today's briefers for their insightful remarks.

We highlight the urgency in addressing the triple planetary crisis made up of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

Such environmental stressors may serve as catalysts for instability and conflict. Sea-level rise, droughts, and flooding, among other climate-related shocks, can endanger food and water security, heighten farmer-herder conflicts, and damage critical infrastructure. On this note, we extend our heartfelt solidarity to nations affected by Hurricane Beryl in the Caribbean.

These urgent risks necessitate the integration of comprehensive risk assessments and robust early warning systems into our strategies.

Our approaches must also encompass socio-economic dimensions to facilitate long-term planning and resilience building. This allows us to better identify potential flashpoints before they escalate into crises, which, in turn, enables the safety of vulnerable communities.

Malta continues to advocate for collaborative efforts in managing shared resources, restoring degraded ecosystems, and transitioning to sustainable energy sources. In supporting local and indigenous knowledge, especially those led by women and youth as we have heard today, we can be successful in promoting a holistic approach to peacebuilding.

The New Agenda for Peace outlines a comprehensive approach, which can serve to better address and mitigate tensions over natural resources, and to promote sustainable development and long-term peace. Any initiative should also be fully in line with international humanitarian law and human rights law.

Chair,

By unlocking these potentials, we can uproot societies from instability. Inequalities have long barred women's access to resources, while also highlighting women's indispensable role as caregivers.

We reiterate the importance of the full, equal, meaningful, and safe participation of women in all political and economic spheres, including the handling of natural resources.

This notion should be systematically addressed within the Security Council, including in the context of UN peace-support operations.

We recall the invaluable work carried out by both 'Climate, Peace, and Security Advisers' and by 'Women Protection Advisers' in various UN missions and regional offices. In so doing, we also acknowledge their mutually reinforcing relevance, such as in empowering women in leading efforts towards climate adaptation, and resource management.

We also commend the recent establishment of the UN Climate, Peace, and Security Hub for the Horn of Africa, led by UN Special Envoy Tetteh in collaboration with IGAD.

To conclude, Chair, let us seize this moment to transform the triple planetary crisis into a shared avenue for collaboration and stability.

As the Coordinator of the Joint Pledges on Climate, Peace and Security, Malta will continue to support discussions where efforts towards environmental stewardship and sustainability go hand-in- hand with contributions to international peace and security.

I thank you.

14. Ecuador

REPÚBLICA DEL ECUADOR

MISIÓN PERMANENTE DEL ECUADOR ANTE LAS NACIONES UNIDAS

Reunión de la Fórmula Arria
Consejo de Seguridad
"Intensificar la acción preventiva:
De desafíos ambientales a oportunidades para la paz".
Nueva York, 8 de julio de 2024

-Cotejar con alocución-

1. Inicio agradeciendo a Eslovenia por convenir a esta reunión de formula arria que nos invita a reflexionar sobre la prevención enfocada en los retos medioambientales. Agradezco también a la Directora General de la OIM, señora Amy Pope, a la Enviada Especial del Secretario General para el Cuerno de África, señora Hanna Serwaa Tetteh, y a la representante de la sociedad civil.

2. Quisiera enfocarme en tres puntos respondiendo a las preguntas guías planteadas en la nota conceptual:

3. **Primero:** Abordar las causas de los conflictos desde un enfoque preventivo, es la mejor vía para lograr la paz sostenible. Este enfoque debe tener la apropiación nacional en el centro de la estrategia, brindando las habilidades y capacidades a los países en situación de conflicto para abordar los factores que podrían recrudecer los conflictos; como la pobreza, la inequidad, la intolerancia y el tema que nos ocupa hoy, la degradación medioambiental, la pérdida de biodiversidad y el cambio climático.

4. El Consejo de Seguridad y los demás órganos del sistema de Naciones Unidas deben favorecer medidas destinadas a reducir el riesgo y la reincidencia de los conflictos, apoyando el fortalecimiento de capacidades nacionales para, entre otros propósitos, brindar seguridad y mantener el orden público, en el marco de un estado de derecho fortalecido y de respeto a los derechos humanos.

5. En configuraciones de conflicto, las tensiones sobre los recursos naturales, que pueden resultar en una situación humanitaria agravada, las operaciones de paz y misiones políticas especiales deben tomar en cuenta los patrones que determinan las necesidades. La planificación es clave para llegar a la población que necesita ayuda humanitaria.

6. **Segundo:** Se requiere fortalecer la coordinación entre los órganos de la Organización, sin duplicar el ámbito de sus competencias.

7. El Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas, ha propuesto iniciativas oportunas para acelerar la adaptación al cambio climático como el “Sistema de alerta temprana para Todos” enfocado en la adaptación al cambio climático, a cargo de la Organización Meteorológica Mundial.

8. Asimismo, ha creado el acelerador de flujos financieros para la adaptación “*Adaptation pipeline accelerator*”, que busca fortalecer las capacidades de los países en desarrollo, en particular en los países en desarrollo más vulnerables para que puedan presentar proyectos viables ante los fondos multilaterales para acceder a financiamiento.

9. En el marco de la Convención de las Naciones Unidas sobre Cambio Climático, la creación del Fondo de Pérdidas y Daños en la COP27 de Cambio Climático, es un hito que reivindica los principio de responsabilidades comunes pero diferenciadas y la equidad, por lo que esperamos que se haga operativo lo antes posible.

10. Las misiones políticas especiales y las misiones de paz deben trabajar en estrecha colaboración con las oficinas país y regionales de la ONU que cuentan con el personal especializado para acompañar a los países en conflicto para alcanzar el desarrollo sostenible.

11. **Tercero:** Como ya se indicó, es primordial que los países en situación de conflicto fortalezcan sus capacidades nacionales para hacer frente a los retos de pérdida de biodiversidad, el manejo de los recursos naturales y el cambio climático. Para esto, el Consejo de Seguridad debe cumplir su propósito llevando la paz y la seguridad a estos lugares.

12. Es de particular importancia el acompañamiento que puede brindar la Comisión para la Consolidación de la Paz, en particular en el acercamiento a los organismos financieros internacionales y regionales. Asimismo, el Fondo de la Consolidación de Paz ha emprendido proyectos en el área que nos ocupan hoy que ha demostrado catalizar la ayuda a los países en situación de conflicto y fragilidad.

13. Ecuador respalda la integración holística de los riesgos relacionados con el clima y el medio ambiente, con un enfoque de género, este último componente consta en las estrategias amplias de la ONU sobre este tema. Además, es de particular importancia dotar a las Misiones de Paz de capacidades de análisis de datos para tener en cuenta los riesgos para el manejo de las necesidad es humanitarias y de seguridad de acuerdo a cada caso.

Muchas gracias.

15. United Kingdom

United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting
Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace
Date: Monday, 8 July 2024

UK intervention

Thank you to Ambassador Žbogar and colleagues from Guyana, Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone for bringing us together to discuss this topic.

Climate change and environmental degradation exacerbate resource scarcity, displacement, gender inequality, and humanitarian and economic crises. Tackling these drivers of conflict requires a focus on inclusive, nationally led peacebuilding and also preventative action in order to bolster resilience and increase capacity. The UK has three calls in this regard:

1. We call on the UN to scale up the provision of integrated climate security risk analysis in regions severely affected by conflict, climate change and environmental degradation, and to make this analysis available to regional members and donors. We welcome the addition of new UN climate security advisers in this regard.

2. We urge member states and UN organisations to take forward their commitments under the COP29 Presidency's CRRP Declaration and the Better Financing for Disasters Charter, including driving investment in Early Warning and Early Action, and building the resilience of the most vulnerable to crises. We also call on bilateral donors to agree to a common set of conflict sensitivity principles to support climate and humanitarian stakeholders to drive peacebuilding as part of their resilience and adaptation efforts.

3. There is a clear need for more integrated programming across the climate, peace and security nexus, with both bilateral and multilateral funders helping to bring about lasting outcomes through multidisciplinary interventions. We call for the UN Peacebuilding Fund to build upon its strong track record by deepening its partnerships with providers of climate finance in order to deliver sustainable outcomes beyond the limited duration of PBF activities.

I also want to highlight the importance of considering gender dimensions when developing approaches to climate security. Existing gender inequalities exacerbate the impact of climate change on women and girls, limiting their access to resources and increasing exposure to disaster-induced risks and losses. Recognising these impacts is essential for sustainable and inclusive recovery, as women and girls are often excluded from formal systems to address the drivers of climate change, yet are key to finding localised solutions.

Thank you.

16. United States of America

United States Mission to the United Nations

Remarks at a UN Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting on Environmental Challenges and Opportunities for Peace

Ambassador Stephanie Sullivan
Acting Deputy Permanent Representative New York, New York
July 8, 2024

AS DELIVERED

Thank you, Mr. Chair. Thank you to Slovenia and co-sponsors Guyana, the Republic of Korea, and Sierra Leone for convening us today. I would also like to thank Director-General Amy Pope and Special Envoy Hanna Tetteh for your briefings and leadership. And to Nohora Alejandra Quiguantar, thank you for speaking out about climate change in your community and across the world. Your vision guides our discussion today.

The United States recognizes the connections between climate change, natural resources, peace, and security.

Drivers of instability and violence around the world include: disputes over increasingly scarce resources; resource depletion; biodiversity loss; changing agricultural and fishing patterns; critical infrastructure destruction and population displacement.

And indigenous communities are often among the most affected.

Colleagues, the multilateral system must respond with our full breadth of distinct and complementary mandates.

No one government or international organization can respond to these challenges alone. The Secretary-General's New Agenda for Peace rightly prioritizes conflict prevention and its linkages to climate security.

The United States supports strengthening UN conflict prevention tools as well as the establishment of temporary emergency platforms to respond comprehensively to large global shocks, including those that are climate-related, in part through the Summit of the Future process. We also look forward to sharing best practices and identifying shared solutions during the High-Level Political Forum later this week.

Effective conflict prevention mitigates drivers of instability and requires partnerships, sustainable resources, national ownership, and the meaningful inclusion of marginalized

communities, including women and youth. It must cut across sectors to properly address the root causes of conflict.

For example, UN Special Envoy Tetteh told us about for the Regional Prevention and Integration Strategy that has been formulated with IGAD and in partnership with UN agencies. It calls for the establishment of a Regional Climate Security Coordination Mechanism with the primary objective to support IGAD and strengthen capacities to address the linkages between climate, peace, and security.

Separately, the Security Council needs to assess and manage the full range of conflict risk factors that climate change is likely to exacerbate, including within the mandates of peace operations. This would be supported by the adoption of a strategy that incorporates comprehensive risk assessments, data utilization, and analytics to build resilience.

Climate-related hazards, including flooding, drought, and sand and dust storms, further complicate the ability of UN peace operations to respond to violence and facilitate conflict prevention and resolution.

As women and girls are disproportionately affected by climate change and conflict, gender is key to the design of inclusive policies that tackle inequality, discrimination, and conflict prevention. The United States will continue to prioritize UN efforts aimed at fully inclusive conflict prevention with women participating fully, equally, and meaningfully.

As a responsible member of the Security Council committed to the climate change, peace and security agenda, the United States stands ready to consolidate our efforts to advance a systematic, responsive, and evidence-based approach to these challenges.

More broadly, the international community needs to build effective, science-based management of natural resources themselves, and ensure that its activities are environmentally and socially responsible, well governed, gender-responsive, and climate-resilient. Thank you.

17. Japan

PERMANENT MISSION OF JAPAN TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Statement by H.E. Mr. YAMANAKA Osamu
Deputy Permanent Representative of Japan to the United Nations at
the Security Council Arria Formula Meeting on
Stepping up Preventive Action:
From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace
Monday, 8 July, 3 p.m. - 6 p.m.
ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters

Mr. Chair,

I would like to start by thanking to the Ambassadors of the Republic of Slovenia, the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, the Republic of Korea, and the Republic of Sierra Leone for hosting this important Meeting. I would also like to thank the briefers for their informative and insightful inputs.

Environmental challenges, including climate change, biodiversity loss, the issues on water, food, and forests, as well as conflict, are closely interlinked in complexed ways.

These challenges affect not only vulnerable and developing countries, but also the peace and security of the international community, as an amplifier of global risks and threats. These complex interlinkages should be addressed to prevent further conflicts.

In this regard, I would like to stress the following three points.

Mr. Chair,

First of all, a comprehensive approach, ensuring the HDP nexus, is crucial to tackle these intertwined root-causes. Such a comprehensive approach will not only alleviate vulnerable situations that people face in the short term, but also help to prevent future conflicts in the mid- and long-term perspectives, by building an inclusive and resilient society that is equipped to detect early warning signs and counter challenges.

We would also like to reaffirm the relevance of the WPS Agenda, through which women should participate more actively in decision-making processes, particularly for more inclusiveness and resilience.

With these ideas well in mind, Japan supported the “African initiative for combating desertification to strengthen resilience to climate change in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa” to raise the awareness and strengthen the capabilities of the governments in the region, by providing capacity building, enhancing financial access, and strengthening regional cooperation.

Second, UN bodies, including the Security Council, must strengthen their collaboration with more diverse actors to fully utilize the UN toolbox to implement the comprehensive approach. Such collaboration will help us assess risks and horizon-scan situations.

To convene relevant stakeholders, including Member States, civil society, UN bodies, regional and sub-regional organizations, IFIs, the Peacebuilding Commission should be better utilized as an advisory body to the Council to serve as a hub.

Moreover, the Resident Coordinators (RCs) and the Peace and Development Advisors (PDAs) could play more proactive roles for the UN system, strengthening coordination and synergies on the ground.

Finally, the UN peace operations themselves need to “do no harm” in the environmental perspective as well. In this regard, Japan aligns itself with the statement by Italy on behalf of the Group of Friends for Leading on Environmental Management in the Field (LEAF).

Mr. Chair,

Sustainable peace cannot be achieved without establishing a society resilient to environmental challenges. Japan will continue to make efforts in this regard, toward achieving a world in which "human dignity" and “human security” are protected and enhanced.

I thank you for your attentions.

18. Mozambique

REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE

STATEMENT BY MARTINS KUMANGA PERMANENT MISSION OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOZAMBIQUE TO THE UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL

AT ARRIA FORMULA MEETING ON STEPPING UP PREVENTIVE ACTION: FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE

8 July 2024 (3:00)
ECOSOC Chamber
United Nations
New York

Mr. Chair,

1. Mozambique thanks Slovenia, Guyana, the Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone, for convening this Arria Formula meeting under the theme, ***"Stepping up Preventive Action: from Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace".***

2. We also thank Ms Amy Pope, Director-General of the International Organization for Migration, Ms Hanna Tetteh, Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa, and Ms Nohora Quiguantar, Colombian Indigenous Youth Leader/Representative of Civil Society, for their insightful briefings.

Mr. Chair,

3. At the United Nations Conference on the Human Environment, held in Stockholm in June1972, and at the Earth Summit held in Rio de Janeiro in June 1992, States have expressed their commitment and determination to cooperative solutions to climate change. And today, more than ever, cooperation among states is critical as climate change becomes one of major threats to peace and security.

4. Climate change is increasing climate-related security risks, causing uneven and devastating environmental impacts, including pollution and biodiversity loss, human mass displacement, competition over natural resources, which exacerbate tensions and conflicts.

5. We are of the view that solutions to problems caused by climate change can only be found on environmental policies that we collectively adopt and

implement. By focusing on mitigation, adaptation, prevention and early warning measures, we can make significant progress in this regard.

6. In the same vein, the search for appropriate solutions requires a shared responsibility and partnership between governments, communities and civil society organizations in order to build capacity for the management of natural resources and conflict prevention.

7. This participatory approach is critical to foster synergies, collaboration and connections that can contribute to reduce the risks of climate change through using resilient programs and actions that promote peace and security.

8. We trust that the role of women and youth is important to address climate-related security risks. Their participation in policy and decision-making processes can contribute to the prevention, management and resolution of conflicts emanating from climate change related problems.

Mr. Chair

9. My own country, Mozambique, is one of the most affected by the environmental crisis with cyclical damaging events, which undermine our national agenda of development.

10. We share the view that the Horn of Africa's experience on dealing with effects of climate change should be replicated to other regions in Africa and beyond that are also vulnerable to this phenomenon.

11. In conclusion, I wish to reiterate the importance of technical and financial support for developing countries with a view to having the necessary capacity to coordinate efforts to build resilience, adaptation and prevention, among other measures, to address climate change challenges.

I thank you!

19. Nauru (on behalf of the Group of Friends of Climate and Security)

Arria Formula Meeting: Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Statement Group of Friends Climate & Security,
8 July 2024

Excellency,

It is my honour to deliver this statement on behalf of the Group of Friends on Climate and Security, a diverse group comprising 70 UN Member States from all regions of the world. We thank the organizers for convening this important and timely meeting.

Climate change increasingly threatens livelihoods, ecosystems, access to natural resources, and stability, leading to negative impacts on peace and security. Currently, 18 out of the 30 countries most vulnerable to climate change are also experiencing conflict and fragility [1]. Addressing this multi-faceted challenge necessitates a comprehensive approach. Implementing conflict-sensitive mitigation and adaptation measures is essential not only to avert severe climate change and environmentally driven threats to peace and security, but to foster cooperation and sustainable peace.

Further action is imperative. All relevant parts of the UN system should prioritize addressing this multidimensional challenge. The interagency Climate Security Mechanism serves as a powerful example of dismantling silos between different UN entities and leverages their collective expertise to analyze and confront the challenge at hand, while also informing the work of the Security Council.

Given its primary responsibility for the maintenance of peace and security, we are calling on the Security Council for concrete, tangible steps to scale up preventive action:

1. Systematically incorporate climate change and disaster risk dimensions into the mandates of UN peacekeeping and special political missions, where relevant. We welcome the inclusion of climate-related language in more mission mandates and encourage the Council to continue this trend.
2. Utilize comprehensive risk assessments, drawing from the climate, development, humanitarian and peace spheres, and consider the specific needs of groups in vulnerable situations, including women, girls, children, persons with disabilities and Indigenous Peoples.
3. Make use of climate-related early warning systems to encourage anticipatory action.

[1] https://gain.nd.edu/our-work/country-index/rankings/; World Bank

4. Regularize, within existing resources, and promote the appointment of Climate, Peace, and Security advisors in relevant UN missions and regional and subregional organizations.
5. Consider the appointment of a Special Representative for Climate, Peace, and Security, to enhance coordination between relevant UN entities and improve the organization's ability to address the adverse impacts of climate change on peace and security.

Finally, we encourage member states to ensure that the Pact for the Future addresses the issue of the adverse impacts posed by climate change on peace and security, and creates additional momentum and interlinkages to the crucial sections on humanitarian and peace-building affairs.

The Group of Friends stands ready to support all efforts to better respond to the challenges posed by climate change on peace and security.

Thank you.

20. Italy (on behalf of the Group of Friends of LEAF - Leading on Environmental Management in the Field)

UNSC Arria Formula Meeting

Stepping Up Preventive Action:
From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Monday, 8 July 2024, 3:00-6:00pm
ECOSOC Chamber

STATEMENT BY AMBASSADOR MAURIZIO MASSARI
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF ITALY TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP OF FRIENDS FOR
LEADING ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN THE FIELD (LEAF)

Mr. Chair,

Thank you for convening this meeting.

I am pleased to deliver this statement on behalf of the "Group of Friends for Leading on Environmental Management in the field" (LEAF), which includes 34 Members: Australia, Bangladesh (as Co-Chair), Bhutan, Colombia, Cyprus, Egypt, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Germany, India, Indonesia, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mali, Morocco, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Qatar, Senegal, Slovenia, Solomon Islands, Sudan, Tanzania, Thailand, Ukraine, United States, Uruguay, European Union and my own Country, Italy (as Co-Chair).

The LEAF Group, representing all UN regional groups, was launched with the main purpose of supporting the implementation of the UN Secretariat's Environment Strategy for field missions issued in 2016. It has been at the forefront of the comprehensive consultation process led by DOS, culminating in the 2023-2030 Way Forward for the Environment Strategy for Peace Operations and which embodies our collective aspiration for more sustainable and environmentally responsible peacekeeping operations.

Mr./Madam Chair,

Today's discussion includes an essential dimension of conflict prevention, one where environmental stewardship and peacebuilding converge.

Environmental challenges alter the parameters of security and push us to develop more holistic and forward-thinking approaches to maintaining stability, including in UN peace operations.

This is why the LEAF Group has been advocating for incorporating aspects of environmental management in these missions.

Our explicit call to consider and manage the environmental footprint of field missions is also in line with the wider framework set out by international agreements to protect the environment and promote sustainable development.

Peace operations are often deployed in fragile contexts and in complex, changing environmental landscapes. They must conjugate a responsible presence with operational effectiveness. This means achieving maximum efficiency in the use of natural resources, operating at minimum risk and having a positive impact on people and ecosystems.

The lessons learned from implementing sustainable practices in peacekeeping missions can provide valuable insights for our collective efforts to prevent conflicts and build resilience in environmentally stressed regions.

The UN Department of Operational Support's Environment Strategy and its 2023-2030 Way Forward illustrates how environmental management, beyond being instrumental in "doing no harm" to the ecosystems of the host country, can strengthen operational effectiveness and efficiency.

Environmental management can improve the operational resilience of UN field missions and the security of peacekeepers, restore confidence locally and leave a positive legacy after the missions' departure.

Experience has shown that the use of renewable energy can reduce reliance on long supply lines for fuel and decrease the risks of asymmetric attacks on resupply convoys.

When missions implement water conservation techniques or introduce renewable energy sources, they not only reduce their own footprint but also showcase critical solutions to resource scarcities.

By engaging and bringing together local communities around shared environmental goals, peace missions can create new avenues for dialogue and collaboration. The missions also help building the capacity of the host country for environmental management and green energy.

The Environment Strategy has been successful: data measurement has been strengthened; risks have been identified and mitigated; technical support capacity has improved.

Reducing the environmental footprint of field missions has become an established priority reflected in policies within the UN system. Progress achieved on inclusion of environmental considerations across Security Council and General Assembly resolutions as well as reports of the C-34 Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations is truly commendable; however, more can and should be done in addressing these considerations.

Mr. Chair,

The continued success of the UN Department of Operational Support's Environment Strategy, which demonstrated substantial progress in enhancing management systems and performance across UN peace operations, requires the collaboration of multiple actors bringing together different perspectives, knowledge and resources. Training for deployed personnel in this area needs to be enhanced and further supported as well.

The "Group of Friends for leading on environmental management in the field" (LEAF) will continue to support the Environment Strategy and its 2023-2030 Way Forward.

Thank you.

21. European Union

United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting

Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Statement by

ECOSOC Ambassador

Axel de La Maisonneuve

Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations

8 July 2024

Colleagues,

- First, I would like to thank Slovenia, together with Guyana, the Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone, for the organisation of this important meeting on environmental degradation and security risks.
- Research by UNEP shows that many domestic armed conflicts have been triggered, funded or sustained by the exploitation of natural resources
- With global population steadily rising, demand for resources will continue to grow, a tendency which is setting the stage for potential conflict escalation. The climate crisis is intensifying competition for farmland, water and forest resources.
- In addition, natural resources are subject to large-scale illegal trade, often in the form of organized crime activities. This has not only dramatic impacts on the environment but often creates the conditions for further funding for militia or terrorist groups.
- We must pay more attention to these connections at all levels, including at the UN, and address their root causes, not only their symptoms.
- The European Union has recognised the importance of a nexus approach to climate, environment and security, through our Communication on the Climate Security Nexus of June 2023.
- In practice, we have committed to

- (1) strengthen climate and environment informed planning, decision-making and implementation, through enhanced evidence-based analysis and foresight; and
- (2) operationalise the climate and security nexus in all aspects of EU external action.

- We also support the UN in this endeavour. Climate and environment are integral to the EU-UN Strategic Partnership Priorities for Peace Operations and Crisis Management. The EU's deployment of environmental advisors to all its missions and operations also enables joint EU-UN local capacity building efforts and data sharing.
- We reiterate our commitment to the integration of climate and environmental factors and risks into our strategic engagement with partner countries and work on preventive measures such as early warning systems.
- For an effective response, the human rights, development and peace & security pillars of the UN must work closer together at all levels. The UN Climate Security Mechanism, composed of several UN entities, is an excellent example in that regard. In this regard, we underline the important role that the Peacebuilding Commission with its bridging and convening role can play. We further stress the importance of implementing multilateral environmental agreements to effectively reduce pressure and conflicts over natural resources.

- And finally, we should not forget the links between these issues and the fight for gender equality and woman empowerment, nor the imperative to include young persons in processes regarding climate, environment, and security.

Dear colleagues,

- Today’s discussions underline the need for the United Nations to deal more comprehensively with the interlinkages between climate change, environmental degradation and security, and for the Security Council to expand its focus to cover the slow-onset impacts of environmental degradation, so as to design the right preventive and remediating measures.

- We have to do much more to reverse this ongoing catastrophe.

- I thank you

22. Guatemala

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
Misión Permanente de Guatemala ante la Organización de las Naciones Unidas (ONU), Nueva York

PROYECTO DE INTERVENCIÓN DE GUATEMALA
Reunión de Fórmula Arria del Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU titulada: "Intensificar la acción preventiva: de los desafíos ambientales a las oportunidades para la paz"
8 de julio de 2024, ECOSOC
(3 min)

1. Agradecemos a la Misión Permanente de Eslovenia por convocar a esta Reunión de Fórmula-Arria, así como a cada uno de los panelistas por sus aportes, que demuestran la **importancia de fortalecer la acción preventiva para la paz**.

2. Siendo Guatemala un **país altamente vulnerable a los efectos del cambio climático**, estamos convencidos sobre la urgente necesidad de promover soluciones innovadoras para la justicia climática. El **huracán Beryl**, que está impactando nuestra región, así como el aumento de la temperatura sin precedentes, son solo una muestra de cómo los eventos climáticos son cada vez más frecuentes e intensos, destruyendo cosechas, medios de vida e infraestructura crítica, generando también un preocupante aumento de la migración.

3. La dinámica de **movilidad humana** es notablemente influenciada por el cambio climático, por lo que resaltamos la necesidad de fortalecer la cooperación internacional, dado que ningún país puede abordar estos desafíos de manera individual. Para mi país es primordial la **protección de las personas migrantes** y garantizar sus derechos fundamentales durante todo el ciclo migratorio, así como apoyar el financiamiento de proyectos que promueven el desarrollo socioeconómico y la estabilidad.

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4. El cambio climático y el hambre son **multiplicadores peligrosos del riesgo en el mundo**, que agravan las crisis humanitarias, exacerban los conflictos y la inestabilidad, especialmente en situaciones frágiles donde los gobiernos tienen medios limitados para ayudar a sus poblaciones a adaptarse.

5. Instamos a seguir trabajando en la **Iniciativa de Alerta Temprana para Todos** del Secretario General para garantizar su plena implementación.

6. Por nuestra experiencia en el terreno, sabemos que el cambio climático también impacta la **capacidad de las misiones políticas especiales y de mantenimiento de la paz** para implementar sus mandatos. Es importante que el Consejo de Seguridad integre **evaluaciones de seguridad climática** en todos los informes obligatorios de situaciones en su agenda, y puedan determinar riesgos con la ayuda de perspectivas climáticas.

7. El Consejo de Seguridad también puede y debe beneficiarse de una mayor interacción con otros órganos de la ONU, según sus respectivos mandatos. Reconocemos el valor agregado de las acciones realizadas por la **Comisión de Consolidación de la Paz (PBC)** y estamos listos para aportar desde nuestra experiencia para que la misma tenga un rol cada vez más relevante en las acciones preventivas para alcanzar la paz.

8. Creemos firmemente que la consolidación de la paz debe estar fundamentada en una **democracia participativa e incluyente**. Es sumamente importante promover la **participación de las mujeres** en todos los niveles, incluyendo aquellos roles de liderazgo como agentes de cambio y de paz. También **debemos apoyar a los líderes comunitarios, a los Pueblos Indígenas y a la juventud**, quienes tienen una incidencia en la promoción de soluciones a nivel local.

9. Finalizo recordando la oportunidad que nos brinda la **Cumbre del Futuro y la creación de una Nueva Agenda para la Paz**, para abordar cuestiones críticas como

la eliminación de las armas nucleares, el fomento de la diplomacia preventiva y la necesidad de un enfoque integrado que vincule la paz, el desarrollo sostenible y los Derechos Humanos. Juntos, podemos hacer frente a estos problemas y construir un mundo más resiliente y equitativo para todos.

Muchas gracias

23. Portugal

United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting
Stepping up Preventive Action:
From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

New York, July 8th, 2024

Statement by the Deputy Permanent Representative of Portugal to the United Nations in New York, H.E. Jorge Aranda

[Check against delivery]

Thank you Chair,

Portugal aligns itself with the statements delivered by the Group of Friends on Climate and Security, as well by the Group of Friends for LEAF (Leading on Environmental Management in the Field)

Climate change is an existential threat to humanity. It affects global peace and security. Indeed, the adverse impacts of climate change multiply risks that contribute to an increased vulnerability of societies and exacerbate the potential for conflicts.

Additionally, these adverse impacts undermine the ability of countries, economies, and societies to achieve sustainable development in all its dimensions. Sea-level rise is a special case in point.

In turn, conflicts have severe environmental impacts.

As a result, the climate-security nexus has gained prominence in the global agenda, namely here at the UN, where Portugal organized the first Security Council debate on the topic, in 2011.

The Permanent Mission of Portugal
to the United Nations

At home, my country recently launched its National Defense Strategy for the Environment, Security and Climate Change, whose main guiding principles are sustainability and carbon neutrality, while safeguarding operational effectiveness, but also cooperation training, including at the international level. Abroad, Portugal will be financing the installation of solar panels in MINUSCA.

Mr. Chair,

Prevention is the backbone of the United Nations. Even though the concept is firmly imbedded in the Charter, recent overarching initiatives, such as the New Agenda for Peace, underline the need to make prevention the indispensable approach to address the multiplying issues the international community is facing.

Only combined investments, including in prevention, can help reduce vulnerabilities and build resilience to withstand shocks, soften risk factors for conflict and help establish, in the long term, conditions for international peace and security.

The Summit of the Future offers an opportunity for us to come together and renew our commitment to a holistic approach to peace and security. This Council is central to that approach. We count on you. And you can count on Portugal.

[307 words]

24. Colombia

Reunión Fórmula Arria del Consejo de Seguridad "Avanzando en la acción preventiva: de los desafíos ambientales a las oportunidades para la paz"
Julio 8 de 2024, 3:00 – 6:00 p.m., ECOSOC

Intervención de Colombia a cargo de S.E. embajadora Leonor Zalabata Torres, Representante Permanente ante las Naciones Unidas

3 minutos
Verificar contra el discurso pronunciado

Agradecemos a Eslovenia, Guyana, República de Corea y Sierra Leona la organización de esta oportuna discusión.

El cambio climático, la pérdida de biodiversidad y la degradación ambiental deterioran los medios de vida y afectan el disfrute efectivo de los derechos humanos, especialmente de las personas más vulnerables; limitan el acceso a recursos esenciales como agua y alimentos; pueden causar desplazamiento forzado; y pueden actuar como multiplicadores de riesgos, amenazando no solo la salud de los ecosistemas sino también la estabilidad social, económica y política.

Al mismo tiempo, como lo ha subrayado el Presidente de Colombia, Gustavo Petro, la naturaleza ha resultado ser una víctima más de los conflictos y las guerras; y las guerras están desviando la atención y recursos que deberíamos estar dedicando a solucionar los problemas más apremiantes de la humanidad, como la crisis climática y ambiental.

Por esta razón, el Gobierno del Cambio que represento está convencido de que la protección del medio ambiente y la promoción y construcción de la paz están intrínsecamente vinculadas. No habrá paz sin desarrollo sostenible, ni desarrollo sostenible sin paz; y no habrá paz entre nosotros mientras no hagamos la paz con la naturaleza.

Colombia quiere hacer un llamado a abordar los desafíos ambientales de manera integral y a cambiar la relación entre los seres humanos y la naturaleza, haciendo la "Paz con la Naturaleza".

Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores
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Por esta razón, estamos lanzando la iniciativa “Coalición Mundial por la Paz con la Naturaleza”, una iniciativa multi-actor que busca impulsar la regeneración de la vida y revertir la crisis climática, poniendo a los derechos humanos en el centro de nuestros esfuerzos por conservar la naturaleza.

Esta ambiciosa iniciativa será presentada oficialmente en el marco de la COP16 de Biodiversidad que tendrá lugar en Cali, Colombia, en octubre de este año.

Queremos hacer hoy una amplia invitación a todos los aquí presentes a acompañar y promover la “Coalición Mundial por la Paz con la Naturaleza: Un llamado por la vida”.

Muchas gracias.

25. Morocco

The Permanent Mission
of the Kingdom of Morocco
to the United Nations
New York

البعثة الدائمة للمملكة المغربية
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

Speech of His Excellency

Mr. Omar Hilale, Ambassador Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the United Nations

During

United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting

Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Monday 8 July 2024, 3 PM, ECOSOC Chamber

[03 minutes]

Mr. Chair,
Allow me at the outset to thank the Permanent Missions of Slovenia, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, and Sierra Leone for convening this important meeting that will give us a new opportunity to examine further the interlinkages between climate, peace, and security. I commend the distinguished participation of all the esteemed briefers and thank them for their insightful remarks.

Mr. Chair,
The uneven suffering created by the effects of climate change ranks among the world's greatest injustices. **African countries, Small Island developing States, and those affected by conflicts bear the brunt of a severe situation that they did not create**. Climate change is an enabler of conflicts and an aggravating factor in fragile countries. Therefore, **it is obvious that the primary body in charge of maintaining peace and security should keep dealing with this critical challenge**.

We recognize that other underlying risk drivers such as poverty, demographic development, tensions over natural resources, and land degradation are aggravating exposure and vulnerability to climate-related hazards. Therefore, **risk assessment and management in the context of climate change through a comprehensive and systemic perspective should remain among our top priorities, due to the complex and partly systemic nature of climate-related risks.**

In this same vein, **Morocco** believes that climate policies through green energy transitions, and addressing the causes of conflicts can offer avenues for sustaining peace and promoting socio-economic development, namely by promoting the **inclusion of women, indigenous communities, the economically disadvantaged, and youth in the decision-making process**.

Mr Chair,
Morocco has been a passionate advocate for **elevating the role of the PBC,** to serve as a space to address the nexus between peace and development. The PBC can create opportunities for South-South and triangular cooperation and assist countries that are exiting the Council’s agenda in this regard.

In the same vein, **the 2025 review of the Peacebuilding Architecture** will be a renewed occasion to operationalize the recommendations contained in the **New Agenda for Peace** in terms of conflict prevention efforts and consider the adjustments that need to be made to better perform these functions.

Furthermore, we see the need for **early-warning systems** that incorporate c**limate and environmental data and socioeconomic factors related to environmental degradation and climate change impacts**. In this regard, we call for **the promotion of more funding within the Peacebuilding Fund for more risk- tolerant climate finance investments**.

Mr Chair,
With its commitment to combating the adverse effects of climate change and strengthening socio-economic development, the **Kingdom of Morocco** is sparing no effort to boost cooperation on these two aspects, particularly for the benefit of African countries, by providing financial and technical support within the framework of South-South cooperation for **the Congo Basin Climate Commission, the Climate Commission for the Sahel Region and the Small Island States Climate Commission, launched at the COP22**, held in Marrakech.

Aware of the disproportionate effects of climate change on vulnerable populations, **Morocco** deems it essential to focus more on strengthening climate resilience in our African continent, with targeted approaches to take into account the sociocultural diversity and geography of African countries. That is the essence of **the Adapting African Agriculture to Climate Change initiative, which Morocco launched at COP 22,** as an innovative and very specific response to the common challenges posed by

climate change. It has already been endorsed by some 30 countries since its launch and continues to receive additional financing for adaptation activities that benefit African small farmers.

To conclude Mr. Chair, we encourage Member States to ensure that the Pact for the Future addresses the issue of the adverse impacts posed by climate change on peace and security, and creates additional momentum and interlinkages to the crucial sections on humanitarian and peace-building affairs. Morocco stands ready to support all efforts to better respond to the challenges posed by climate change on peace and security.

I thank you

26. Denmark on behalf of the Nordics

Arria formula meeting on

Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Statement on behalf of the Nordic Countries by Christina Markus Lassen, PR of Denmark to the United Nations

8 July 2024 from 3-6 pm @ ECOSOC Chamber

Excellences, Colleagues,

I am pleased to deliver this statement on behalf of the Nordic countries: Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and my own country, Denmark.

Natural resources management can be a powerful driver of fragility and conflict on the one hand. And, a critical tool for conflict prevention and peacebuilding, on the other. Renewable resources and extractive industries – including the minerals needed for the green transition – often finance and enable conflict parties to continue fighting. In addition, natural resources – across the board - are targeted or can become collateral damage in conflicts.

With climate change adding pressure on available resources, and with a growing world population, this issue will only become more prevalent in the future. We therefore welcome this opportunity for Member States to discuss how natural resource management relates to conflict and peace. I would like to make three points:

First, we must find ways to protect, share, and sustainably manage resources in new and better ways to prevent fuelling tensions and increasing the risk of conflict. Instead of managing more and more conflicts caused by scarcity, we also need to think beyond sharing ever-dwindling resources and look towards ways to expand the pool of resources. To truly prevent resource conflicts in the long run, we must begin to better protect the environment and even restore damaged

areas. We need to change from a zero-sum logic around natural resources to cooperation over how to increase their availability. The wider UN system can play a significant role in this regard.

Second, the Security Council must continue to strengthen its focus on climate change and the management of natural resources to remain relevant and to effectively carry out its responsibilities. The Council ought to take an inclusive approach and listen when affected countries and communities tell us how the effects of climate change fuel conflicts. And those of us committed to prioritizing conflict prevention, in line with the New Agenda for Peace, should continue to educate ourselves on the links between climate change, natural resources, and peace and security.

Third, women are often at the forefront of bridging divides in their communities and have know-how of needs and priorities. It is therefore also critical that women participate in a meaningful way at all levels and in decisions on conflict prevention, management and resolution in relation to natural resource management and environmental peacebuilding.

Excellences,

If we want the UN system to play a more effective role and truly leverage the information at our disposal, we must build a stronger UN architecture for addressing the links between climate, peace, and security, including those we are discussing here today, and be better coordinated.

As an example, the Nordic countries support the call to establish a position as Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Climate, Peace, and Security to improve coordination across the UN system. The mandate should include addressing the role of environmental degradation and biodiversity loss in conflicts.

Thank you.

27. Jordan

Permanent Mission of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan to the United Nations

Arria Formula: Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

8 July 2024, ECOSOC

Mr. President,

I would like to begin by thanking Slovenia, Guyana, the Republic of Korea, and Sierra Leone, for convening this important meeting. We also deeply appreciate the insightful contributions from the distinguished briefers.

Mr. President,

The adverse effect of armed conflicts on the environment is well-established. And in many situations, such adverse effects will take years -if not decades- to contain and reverse. Unfortunately, the environment has been, for a long time, considered a natural casualty of war and secondary in terms of emphasis on the protection in the event of armed conflicts. This has to change; and as an international community we have an opportunity to bring the protection of the environment at the forefront when dealing with or responding to armed conflicts.

The first step is to work collectively towards implementation and enforcement of the rules relating to the environmental protection. Parties to an armed conflict must abide by their relevant obligations, including not targeting the environment, using precaution and applying

the other rules under the law of armed conflict. The same applies to the protection of natural resources, especially during situations of foreign occupation.

In our region, Israel's war in Gaza has brutally harmed both civilians and the environment. Israel has severely damaged Gaza's vital infrastructure, including water and sanitation systems, electricity networks, and agricultural lands. This war has had a severe detrimental impact on both the environmental and natural resources in the Strip which will take decades to reverse.

Even before the current war on Gaza, Israel has been systematically depriving the Palestinian people of the natural resources in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including its underground water, and has diverted its water resources into Israel, resulting in substantial environmental degradation.

Second, the Security Council which has in the past addressed the environmental implications of specific armed conflicts should play a more pre-active role in devising a comprehensive policy on environmental protection in the event of armed conflicts. Such a policy should involve all relevant stakeholders and be based on the implementation of the rules related to the protection of the environment and natural resources. It also should include comprehensive risk assessments and the application of early warning systems.

We should also take into consideration the effects of successive waves of refugees on the environment and natural resources in countries affected by armed conflicts. A prime example is the situation in Jordan. As a result of hosting a large number of refugees, the pressure on our

scarce water and energy resources continues to grow, not to mention the significant impact on Jordan's natural ecosystems.

Mr. President,

In the face of these challenges, we urge the international community to commit to collaborative, inclusive, and forward-thinking approaches that address the root causes of conflict, the co-relation to the environment, and utilizing natural resources to achieve sustainable peace and development. Jordan stands ready to work with all stakeholders in this critical endeavor.

Thank you.

28. Ukraine

Check against delivery

Statement by the Delegation of Ukraine
at the UN SC Arria Formula Meeting "Stepping up Preventive Action:
From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace"

(8 July 2024)

Mr. President,

My delegation is grateful to Slovenia, as well as Guyana, Republic of Korea, and Sierra Leone, for organizing this important meeting.

The challenges related to climate change, environment, and conflict are highly relevant to the maintenance of international peace and security. They should remain a priority within the UN Security Council framework.

With increased climate-related security risks, including the loss of livelihoods, food and water insecurity, competition over scarce natural resources, human mobility, and political and economic instability, it is imperative that the UN Security Council strengthens its conflict prevention efforts, particularly regarding tensions over natural resources.

Ukraine believes that it is crucial to equip the UN Security Council with comprehensive risk assessments and early warnings about risks related to natural resource tensions, environmental degradation, and the impacts of climate change. Special attention must be given to cross-border areas due to their heightened vulnerabilities.

In this context, I must highlight severe environmental damage inflicted on Ukraine by Russian aggression. The blowing up the Kakhovka HPP dam by Russian occupying forces is a stark example of ecocide war crime, resulting in devastating environmental degradation.

Much of Ukraine's rich natural resources are currently under occupation, illustrating how conflict is intrinsically connected with natural resource control and exploitation.

13 national natural parks, 8 reserves, 2 biosphere reserves, remain under Russia's temporary control. Over 20% of Ukraine's nature conservation areas were affected by the war. Almost a third of Ukrainian forests have been damaged. 600 animal species were affected, and 80 animal species are on the verge of extinction. The damage to water resources today is unprecedented.

The destruction wrought by Russia's aggression not only impacts Ukraine's environment but also exacerbates global ecological and security crises. This underscores the urgency of integrating environmental considerations into conflict prevention and peacebuilding efforts.

Ukraine's Peace formula includes addressing ecocide as an integral component, emphasizing the need for accountability and restoration of our natural environment.

Mr. President,

Conflicts are devastating for all our nations no matter where in the world they take place.

Particularly are those that deliberately target civilian population with the aim to terrorize and overmaster it. As the Russian Federation is doing to Ukraine. As it did today by attacking with missiles the largest pediatric facility – Okhmatdyt Children's Hospital in Kyiv.

We call on international community to support all means for holding the aggressor State accountable. By addressing accountability, as an important effective investment in conflict prevention, we pave the way for sustainable peace and security.

Let me reiterate Ukraine's full support of the initiatives aimed at addressing climate change and environmental damage in the context of international peace and security.

Thank you

29. Togo

REPUBLIQUE TOGOLAISE

REUNION DU CONSEIL DE SECURITE DES NATIONS UNIES
(FORMULE ARRIA)

New York, 08 juillet 2024

THEME : ***intensifier les actions préventives : des défis environnementaux aux opportunités pour la paix***

DECLARATION DE :

M. Koffi AKAKPO, Chargé d'affaires a.i.

Vérifier au prononcé

NEW YORK, LE 08 JUILLET 2024

Monsieur le Président,

1. Le Togo voudrait remercier la Slovénie, la Guyane, la République de Corée et la Sierra Leone pour avoir organisé cette réunion à laquelle il se réjouit de prendre part.

2. Nous tenons à saluer les précédents orateurs pour la qualité de leurs interventions et souhaiterions faire les observations ci-après.

3. Le thème retenu pour nos échanges représente un grand intérêt pour mon pays, au regard du contexte particulier en Afrique de l'ouest et au Sahel marqué par une situation sécuritaire préoccupante aggravée par les tensions existant autour des ressources naturelles, causées en partie par le dérèglement climatique et la désertification.

4. Le cas du bassin du lac Tchad est également pertinent à relever avec la complexité de la lutte contre le terrorisme dans un contexte de diminution des eaux, de dégradation des terres, de sécheresses prolongées et de changement climatique.

Monsieur le Président,

5. Avant de proposer quelques pistes de réflexion sur le renforcement du rôle du conseil de sécurité en matière de prévention des conflits autour des tensions que subissent les ressources naturelles, je voudrais relever quelques initiatives conduites, à tous les niveaux, en lien avec l'objet de nos discussions.

6. Tout d'abord, au niveau national, sur la question de la transhumance, qui illustre assez bien le lien pertinent qui existe entre les besoins prononcés en ressources naturelles et la prévention des conflits, le gouvernement de mon pays met en œuvre un plan opérationnel de gestion de la transhumance qui repose sur quatre piliers à savoir un cadre légal et institutionnel permettant d'encadrer la mobilité du bétail, la mise en place d'infrastructures agropastorales adaptées, la prévention et la gestion des conflits ainsi que la sécurisation et le dialogue transfrontalier.

7. Ensuite, le gouvernement togolais a engagé un processus d'actualisation du mécanisme national d'alerte précoce et de réponse aux risques sécuritaires en

vue de s'adapter au contexte sous-régional marqué ces dernières années par les manifestations de l'extrémisme violent et du terrorisme.

8. A cet égard, je voudrais rappeler que lors de la rencontre sous-régionale sur l'opérationnalisation des mécanismes d'alerte précoce, qui s'est tenue à Lomé en février 2023, à l'initiative de la commission de la CEDEAO et du gouvernement togolais, cinq (05) menaces liées à la sécurité humaine, incluant l'environnement, ont été identifiées afin de faire l'objet d'une prise en compte d'ensemble.

9. Sur les plans sous-régional et régional, des initiatives importantes sont prises en appui aux efforts déployés par les Etats. C'est le cas du réseau d'alerte précoce et de réponse de la CEDEAO, dénommé ECOWARN qui a été établi en vue de faire face aux menaces potentielles sur la paix et la sécurité en Afrique de l'ouest.

10. Il convient également de souligner toute l'importance que revêt pour mon pays la stratégie intégrée des nations unies pour le Sahel, au regard de l'influence qu'exerce cette zone au sein de l'espace ouest-africain.

Monsieur le Président,

11. Pour la délégation togolaise, le renforcement de l'action du conseil de sécurité autour des enjeux relatifs aux ressources naturelles passe par les trois mesures non-exhaustives suivantes.

12. En premier lieu, il est important de poursuivre le dialogue afin que le conseil de sécurité s'inscrive dans une approche intégrée et coordonnée sur la base d'une analyse approfondie des risques actuels et futurs posés sur la sécurité par les changements climatiques.

13. En exprimant ce souhait, nous avons le souvenir de l'initiative portée par l'Irlande et le Niger, en décembre 2021, au sein du conseil, en vue de reconnaître l'effet amplificateur du changement climatique sur les facteurs d'instabilité régionale, qui, malheureusement, n'a pu obtenir le consensus souhaité.

14. Ensuite, le conseil doit renforcer le dialogue et la concertation avec ses partenaires afin que les initiatives prises sur le plan universel s'alignent davantage sur les réalités existant aux niveaux sous-régional et régional.

15. De même, il est fondamental que les Etats les plus concernés par les défis sécuritaires liés aux questions environnementales participent au même titre que les membres du conseil à la prise de décision sur cette problématique. Aussi au-delà d'une rencontre comme celle à laquelle nous assistons, est-il important que ces Etats soient mieux représentés au sein du conseil, d'où le rappel de l'urgente nécessité de la réforme de cet organe.

16. Pour conclure, je voudrais saluer l'engagement des organisateurs de cette assise au sein du conseil de sécurité et les rassurer de la disponibilité de mon pays à poursuivre sa coopération avec eux sur des questions d'intérêt commun comme celle qui nous rassemble ce jour.

17. Je vous remercie de votre aimable attention.

30. United Arab Emirates

PERMANENT MISSION OF THE
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
TO THE UNITED NATIONS
NEW YORK

البعثة الدائمة
للإمارات العربية المتحدة
لدى الأمم المتحدة
نيويورك

Statement of the United Arab Emirates
At the Security Council Arria Meeting on:
"Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace"
Mohammad Bastaki, Counsellor
Monday, 8 July 2024

Please check against delivery

I would like to thank Slovenia, Guyana, Republic of Korea, and Sierra Leone for convening this meeting. I'd also like to thank the briefers for their thoughtful contributions.

This debate could not have been more timely. Countries on the frontlines of climate-related disasters are facing immense challenges in managing their effects. Many of these nations, often with limited resources and infrastructure, struggle to respond effectively to the growing number of extreme weather events. This increasing strain on fragile and conflict-affected countries is creating a significant burden also on global humanitarian budgets. The need for emergency aid, disaster relief, and long-term recovery assistance is escalating, stretching financial resources thin. Moreover, the economic toll of these disasters exacerbates the already precarious financial situations of these nations undermining global efforts to achieve sustainable development goals.

In the context of climate security, water-related conflicts are becoming an increasingly critical issue as well. As climate change accelerates, it aggravates water scarcity and variability, intensifying competition over this vital resource. The impacts are felt most acutely in regions already vulnerable due to political,

economic, and social stressors. Water scarcity can lead to significant tensions between communities, regions, even nations. These conflicts are not merely about water; they also ultimately affect food security, energy production, and overall economic stability, thus creating broader climate security challenges. The UAE's COP28 Presidency and the decision adopted under the UAE Consensus made significant strides to bring closer climate and security through its action agenda, primarily by spotlighting the particular financial needs of fragile and conflict-affected states. The widespread endorsement of the 'Declaration on Climate, Relief Recovery and Peace' by over 91 countries and 43 organizations demonstrates a growing recognition that the nexus of climate, peace and security, and humanitarian issues are imperative to be brought to attention. It is our hope that this work will be taken forward at COP29 in Baku.

Moreover, there is an urgent need to fund gender-responsive climate action that ensures women's equal, and meaningful participation at all levels, including in decision-making. The UAE's strategic partnership with UN Women includes the establishment and operationalization of a flexible and rapid funding mechanism through a Women's Climate Fund. This Fund aims to support women's civil society and grassroots organizations in building their capacities, as well as strengthening gender-responsive policies and investments around climate resilience.

The United Nations Security Council has a pivotal role in addressing the nexus between climate, peace and security, and it should consistently integrate climate security considerations into peacebuilding efforts and peacekeeping mandates.

Finally, the international community must prioritize and scale up efforts to build resilience and support sustainable development in fragile and conflict-affected regions, ensuring that financial resources are effectively utilized to address both immediate needs and long-term challenges posed by climate change. The UAE is committed to supporting global climate action and recognizes the vital importance of sustainable management of natural resources to ensure a prosperous and secure future for all.

Thank you.

31. Croatia

Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Arria formula SC meeting

Delivered by the Permanent Representative of Croatia to the UN Dr.

Ivan Šimonović

Monday, 8 July 2024, 3:00 – 6:00 pm ECOSOC

Chamber

Mr. Chair,

Thank you for organizing this important meeting.

Preventing, managing and resolving natural resource conflicts is an important peace and security challenge of the 21st century.

United Nations Security Council as a primary body for maintaining international peace and security, has an important role to play to recognize potential signs of conflict due to pressure on natural resources or forced displacements and loss of livelihoods due to climate change especially through peacekeeping missions, but also through foresight and early warning.

Nevertheless, my delegation would argue that the Council has an important body to assist it - the Peacebuilding Commission. It is mandated to support peacebuilding and sustaining peace. The PBC can provide recommendations through its bridging role to the General Assembly and ECOSOC and convening role to gather all relevant stakeholders, thus relying on their expertise and knowledge.

Failure to respond to environmental needs of war-torn societies may greatly complicate the difficult tasks of peacebuilding and sustaining peace. It can worsen tensions related to access to natural resources, which can lead to renewed conflict and undermine reconciliation, political institutionalization, and

economic reconstruction. However, as much as environmental degradation is a risk factor for conflict; environmental protection can create peacebuilding opportunities: providing an agenda of shared interests, promoting confidence building and restoring social fabric.

And these are all issues that PBC can provide recommendations on through its long-standing experience in peacebuilding and sustaining peace.

Let us use all we can at our disposal. The upcoming review of the peacebuilding architecture next year can be an opportunity to discuss this important issue and provide recommendations how to work together with the Security Council, but also the GA and ECOSOC to better integrate environmental protection early on in peacebuilding efforts and use it as a prevention tool in national prevention strategies.

I thank you.

32. ICRC

Check against delivery

ICRC

Statement delivered by Laetitia Courtois

Permanent Observer and Head of Delegation of the International Committee of the Red Cross to the United Nations in New York

UN Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting: Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace,

8 July 2024, New York

Mr. Chair, Excellencies,

The International Committee of the Red Cross welcomes today's important discussion on the need to step up preventive action to protect the environment and how doing so can contribute to peace.

The natural environment has too often remained a silent casualty of war, with severe and complex consequences for conflict-affected populations. The intersection of conflict, climate risks and environmental degradation can amplify tensions, exacerbate vulnerabilities, and deepen inequalities.

The growing use of explosive weapons in densely populated or urban areas – for instance – destroys civilian infrastructure and disrupts essential services, worsening environmental damage through the contamination of soil, water, air, and other life-sustaining resources, persisting far beyond the end of hostilities themselves.

For conflict-affected communities feeling the direct impact of climate hazards, adaptive capacities are already limited, as people, systems, and institutions struggle to survive the devastation of war.

Rather than securitized responses alone, what is needed are concrete measures to spare the environment from conflict and comprehensive, conflict-sensitive efforts to strengthen people's and communities' resilience, improve adaptive capacity and meet the protection and assistance needs of the most vulnerable.

International humanitarian law contains rules that set limits to the damage that can be exacted on the environment in wartime. One way to promote better compliance with IHL is to ensure these rules – including those restated in the ICRC's 2020 Guidelines on the Protection of the Natural Environment in Armed Conflict – are integrated into armed forces' doctrine, training, and disciplinary systems before conflict breaks out. Indeed, respect for IHL from the outset of a conflict can help protect the environment and prevent situations spiraling into extremes in the first place.

For instance, some militaries have established units and appointed staff with specific environmental expertise and responsibilities to reduce the impact of military operations on the environment. Others consult maps of areas of particular environmental importance or fragility during military planning. States can also use international and

national fora, platforms or initiatives to increase awareness of IHL rules, including among the general population, and promote their implementation.

Measures such as these can facilitate and bolster peace initiatives by reducing the material cost of war, while maintaining a pathway to stability, peace, and recovery. When conflicts are characterized by violations of IHL and widespread destruction, including of the natural environment, then development and peace become ever more elusive.

In the ICRC's view, environmental wartime protection is central to the protection of civilians. Recalling that parties to armed conflict have obligations to take the environment into account as they fight is an important component of the environment, peace, and security discussion. Additionally, any discussion around climate risks should reflect the reality that solutions will not be found through security measures alone, but through investment in systemic measures to manage current and future risks, promote adaptation and strengthen resilience.

We encourage States to consider the adoption of pledges on IHL and the natural environment at the upcoming 34th International Conference of the Red Cross and Red Crescent, and to share their practice at the Spotlight Session on this topic.

Mr. Chair, Excellencies,

In the contexts where we work, we see strong determination to find ways to address the devastating environmental consequences of war and a changing climate. Decisive support from the international community and strong compliance with IHL are essential to enable effective action and prevent existing vulnerabilities and crises from multiplying.

Those most at risk must remain our urgent priority. Thank you.

33. Czechia

United Nations Security Council Arria Formula Meeting

Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Monday, 8 July 2024, ECOSOC Chamber

Statement on behalf of Czechia

[Align this statement with the statements delivered on behalf of the EU and the Group of Friends on Climate and Security.]

Excellencies,

Protection of the environment in relation to armed conflict should be of major importance in international relations. Armed conflicts too often lead to environmental degradation or even destruction. They not only take a toll on nature itself but also exacerbate food, water, and energy insecurity and contribute to the increased vulnerability of the affected communities.

Damage to the environment in times of conflict impairs ecosystems and natural resources and often extends beyond the limits of national territories and the present generation. The illegal exploitation and trafficking of natural resources have been the source of numerous conflicts worldwide for a long time. Moreover, it constitutes a significant source of funding for armed groups and terrorists, causing insecurity and suffering to civilians. Combatting illegal exploitation and trafficking of natural resources must be a critical aspect of conflict prevention, peacebuilding, and post-conflict development that requires enhanced cooperation at all levels as well as the whole-of-government and whole-of-society approaches.

Effective protection of the environment in relation to armed conflict requires measures to be taken by all relevant actors to prevent, mitigate, and remediate harm to the environment before, during, and after an armed conflict in accordance with applicable international law and international humanitarian law.

Russia's illegal, unprovoked, and unjustified war of aggression against Ukraine has had severe consequences for the environment not only in Ukraine but also far beyond. The war has caused damage across the country, with incidents at nuclear power plants and facilities, and the destruction of critical infrastructure. There has been widespread chemical contamination of air, water, and soil. However, the Russian authorities have absolutely no respect for international law and no consideration for the environmental impacts of the “military operation” as they call this brutal war of aggression.

Climate change poses increasing risks to international peace and security. It is a threat multiplier that may exacerbate conflict and instability, in particular in conflict-affected and fragile settings. The Secretary-General´s New Agenda for Peace calls us to recognize climate, peace, and security as a political priority and strengthen connections between multilateral bodies to ensure that climate action and peacebuilding reinforce each other.

We acknowledge that the UN Security Council has recognized the climate-related security risks by having adopted over 70 related resolutions and presidential statements since 2017. We are convinced that response to the environment- and climate-related security risks must rely on evidence-based policies and actions, including new information and developing insights, highlighting the importance of reliable and accessible analytics. In this context, we appreciate the key role played by the Climate Security Mechanism. As a member of the UN Group of Friends on Climate and Security, Czechia calls for regular reports by the Secretary-General and the appointment of a dedicated UN envoy for climate and security.

In addressing the environment- and climate-related security risks, there is a need to recognize the differentiated impacts of climate change on women, children and youth, and other vulnerable groups. It is essential to apply a human-rights-based approach and integrate a gender-responsive perspective, youth dimension, and child protection in all climate measures we take. This must also go hand in hand with supporting context-sensitivity, local ownership, and do-no-harm approaches.

I thank you.

34. Netherlands

[check against delivery]

Arria Formula meeting

“Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace”

Statement by Kavish Bisseswar
First Secretary at the Permanent Mission of the Kingdom of the Netherlands to the United Nations

NEW YORK, 5 July 2024

Mr President,

At the outset, the Netherlands aligns itself with the statements made by the European Union and by Nauru on behalf of the Group of Friends on Climate and Security. I make the following remarks in my national capacity. I thank the organizers for convening this timely meeting on what is an acute threat to global peace and security: the triple planetary crisis of climate change, biodiversity loss, and pollution.

This triple planetary crisis disproportionally affects already vulnerable and marginalized communities. It is a risk multiplier that exacerbates existing social, political and economic drivers of conflict. We can clearly see this around the world: droughts and crop failures are impacting livelihoods from Somalia to Afghanistan. Affected communities vie for scarcer natural resources such as food and water.

Mr President,

The Kingdom of the Netherlands believes that we need to integrate climate and environmental considerations in the work of the UN on peace and security. Allow me to briefly highlight three points.

Firstly, we need to integrate climate and environment-related security risks in the UN's conflict-prevention strategies and early-warning tools.

As a concrete example, the Kingdom of the Netherlands has been a driver of the Water, Peace and Security Partnership. This Partnership has pioneered the development of innovative open-access tools that signal water-related security risks. This knowledge is used in analyses, capacity building and awareness raising activities to support timely, informed and inclusive action in regions prone to water-related conflict, from Mali to Iraq, and from Ethiopia to Kenya.

Second, we need to further mainstream climate in the UN's peacebuilding architecture. In this regard, we welcome the work of the Climate Security Mechanism as a catalyst to use climate-informed approaches to climate-related security risks.

Lastly, we emphasize the importance of including women in decision making processes with respect of natural resources management. An example of the positive role of women is the *Women in Water Diplomacy Network in the Nile.* Since its launch in 2017, this network has contributed to building trust and enabling environment for cooperation on the Nile.

Mr President,

Millions around the world are currently living in fragile societies, and the effects of the triple planetary crisis threaten to add fuel to the fire. They look at this Council for concrete actions. Let us not fail them.

I thank you.

Australian Mission to the United Nations
New York

AUSTRALIA

35. Australia

Arria Formula Meeting: Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

1 July 2024

Statement delivered by Deputy Permanent Representative to the UN, H.E. Ambassador Rebecca Bryant, Australian Mission to the United Nations

Check against delivery

Thank you, Chair

I thank Slovenia, Guyana, the Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone for convening this important discussion.

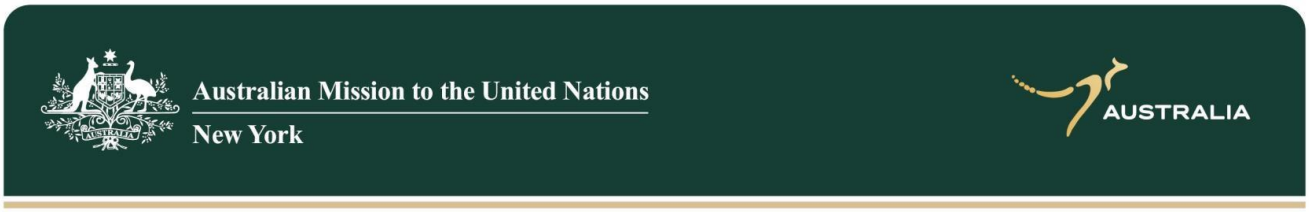
I also thank today's briefers for their valuable contribution.

Climate change and environmental degradation are increasingly threatening livelihoods, ecosystems, and stability, leading to very real threats to global peace and security.

My own region, the Indo-Pacific, is home to some of the most vulnerable countries to climate change.

Climate change is the single greatest threat to the livelihoods and wellbeing of people in the Pacific.

Sea level rise threatens the homes, and ways of life of many low-lying Pacific Islands.



Addressing this challenge requires a comprehensive approach, including strengthening climate resilience.

Australia does this through our International Development Policy, which acknowledges climate change as the greatest shared threat to all countries.

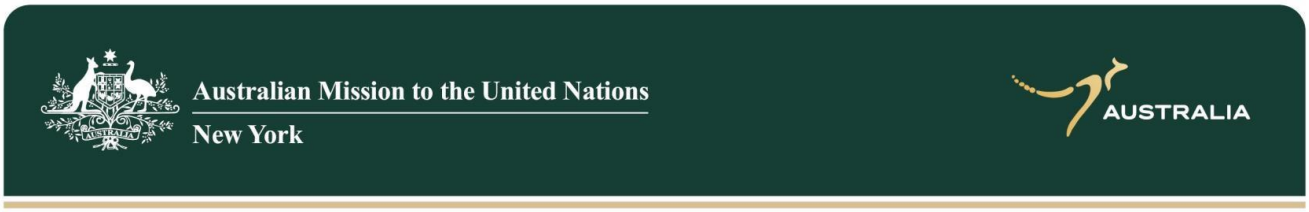
While recognising the importance of national and regional efforts, we also underscore the need for international action, including by the UN Security Council.

We encourage the Security Council to consider climate resilience in UN peacekeeping and special political mission mandates, including by incorporate climate change and disaster risk assessments, where relevant.

We further encourage the Security Council to utilise the Climate Security Mechanism – which leverages expertise across the UN system, and builds a common understanding of the linkages between climate, peace, and security – to inform the Council's work.

Australia also recognises that women and girls often bear the brunt of climate impacts because of prevailing and persistent gender inequalities.

We know, for example, that peace is more likely to be established and sustained when women are involved in conflict resolution and peace negotiations, including in situations of climate insecurity.



Strengthening approaches that work, Australia is supporting networks of women peace mediators in Southeast Asia and in the Pacific; regions highly susceptible to climate crises and disasters.

To secure and sustain peace, it is imperative that we collectively tackle climate change – our greatest existential threat.

We urge the Security Council to take tangible, concrete steps to address the adverse impacts posed by climate change, including its gender dimensions.

Australia will continue to support all ongoing and future initiatives and encourages Council members to prioritise addressing this existential threat.

Thank you.

Word count: 359

36. Germany

VNSR Arria Formula Meeting
Stepping up Prevention Action:
From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Mo, 8. Juli 2024, 15:00 - 18:00 Uhr
ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters

Statement

Excellency,

I would like to thank Slovenia, Guyana, the Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone for convening this meeting on a pressing topic as well as today's briefers for their insightful contributions. Germany aligns itself with the statement delivered by Nauru on behalf of the Group of Friends on climate and security.

Germany agrees with the Secretary General's assessment in the New Agenda for Peace: in order to successfully deal with common challenges, we need to adapt and enhance the existing UN toolbox.

Let me share some concrete tools and initiatives that Germany has been supporting:

- The **Peacebuilding Fund** is the UN's leading instrument to invest in prevention and peacebuilding in countries that face conflict, to address root causes of violence and instability. Its projects include environmental peacebuilding approaches. Last year's Thematic Review provides excellent guidance for investments in climate-security interventions. We should all support this approach. Germany is proud to be the biggest donor to the PBF.

- We also support the **Climate Security Mechanism** as we believe in its crucial role to mainstream climate, peace and security within the UN system and to develop **holistic approaches to address the multiple challenges of human security and climate change.** One of the CSM's flagship instruments are the **climate, peace and security advisors**. They work with missions in South Sudan, Iraq, the Horn of Africa – providing climate security trainings, establishing strategies and exploring innovative solutions. They are also crucial to provide reporting to the Security Council.

Good data sets and analysis are important for early warning in the climate-security context. Therefore, Germany contributes to the **Complex Risk Analytics Fund** that conducts climate-fragility data, for example for UNDPs INFORM Warning project.

- We need to ramp up **early warning** in the context of **anticipatory humanitarian action**, triggering action before a climate-related disaster strikes, making it more efficient. This leads to less damage and tension, and also saves costs. That is why the German government spends at least 5% of its humanitarian budget on anticipatory action. To share an encouraging example: Recently, the World Food Program was able to support around 400.000 people in seven districts of Somalia with pre-flood radio messages broadcast twice a day in all locations and warning tones on mobile phones as well as boats for evacuation.

- Lastly, at COP28, Germany launched the new **"Women and Climate Security Funding Initiative"** together with our partner – the Women's Peace and Humanitarian Fund. It provides funding for grassroots and local women's organizations at the forefront of preventing and responding to climate-related conflicts, for example in Nigeria, Colombia and the Pacific Islands. The briefer gave an impressive account of how important the work of civil society organizations is. We thank Slovenia for joining this initiative early on and hope more countries will follow.

To conclude: While environmental peace-building is essential to address current needs, we urgently require ambitious climate action to contain the crisis. At COP28 a historical decision was taken: phasing away from fossil fuels. By reducing emissions, the world community also invests in security.

Thank you.

37. Ireland

Arria Formula Meeting: Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Permanent Mission of Ireland to the United Nations - National Statement

8 July 2024

Excellencies, thank you.

As a member of the Group of Friends on Climate and Security, Ireland aligns with its statement today and its calls for the Security Council to take concrete action in this area.

It is vital that the Council continues to build on its understanding of how climate change, insecurity and peacebuilding interact in order to deliver on its mandate and strengthen its conflict prevention and resolution efforts.

During Ireland's term on the Security Council, we consistently endeavoured to raise awareness of and address climate-related security risks on the ground, including in Africa, Small Island Developing States, and beyond. We are pleased to see the Informal Expert Group and the the Group of Friends on Climate and Security continuing this work, and we commend the progress made in this regard.

We must progress preventive action, including through policy coherence, coordination, implementation, and adequate financing. Ensuring adequate climate financing in fragile and conflict-affected situations is particularly important. Ireland is doubling its climate finance to at least €225 million per year by 2025, and is the largest donor to the CERF Climate Action Account, with an initial allocation of €5 million. We commend the decision to provide assessed contributions to the UN Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund, which is committed to helping communities manage conflict risks emanating from climate change.

Taking early and anticipatory action, before disaster strikes, can reduce humanitarian need. We need inclusive and comprehensive risk assessments, high quality data, and early warning systems on climate-related risks that take the specific vulnerabilities of women and girls and other vulnerable groups into account. Let me highlight the importance of bridging the Women, Peace and Security and Climate, Peace and Security agendas.

The disproportionate impact of climate change and environmental degradation on women and girls cannot be ignored, given the adverse effects on health, education, livelihoods, food security and increased risk of sexual and gender-based violence. The empowerment of women and girls in conflict and fragile settings remains critical to effective peacebuilding. Supporting local ownership, improving leadership, and ensuring their full, equal, meaningful and safe participation in decision-making and in governance processes on climate action, including around natural resources, is essential.

Advancing work on this intersection is key. Ireland commends the coordinators of the joint pledges on Climate, Peace and Security and were pleased to initiate such pledges on Women, Peace and Security during our time on the Council. We remain committed to these efforts.

38. INTERPOL

INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL POLICE ORGANIZATION
ORGANIZACIÓN INTERNACIONAL DE POLICÍA CRIMINAL

ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE POLICE CRIMINELLE
المنظمة الدولية للشرطة الجنائية

INTERPOL

United Nations Security Council Arria-Formula Meeting
Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Delivered by Sophia Xin Hwee Tan, Policy Analyst

8 July 2024 | ECOSOC

Opening

- Excellencies;
  Ladies and gentlemen; Good afternoon.
- I thank the permanent missions of Slovenia, Guyana, the Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone for convening this meeting and encouraging the participation of Permanent Observers.

Impact of environmental crime on peace and security

- Today, INTERPOL would like to highlight the role environmental crime plays in the interaction between environmental degradation and security.
- Transnational environmental crime, including activities such as illegal logging, fishing, wildlife trafficking, mining and waste dumping, is an increasingly important and profitable driver of the over-exploitation of natural resources globally.
- These activities (1) contribute to resource scarcity, (2) exacerbate climate change, (3) promote scarcity-induced violence and instability, (4) undermine the rule of law and (5) hinder sustainable development.

INTERPOL For official use

Role of law enforcement cooperation

- INTERPOL promotes climate-sensitive approaches to international peace and security. In this regard, (1) **addressing environmental crime is crucial to the effective governance** and management of natural resources and (2) global law enforcement cooperation

  plays a vital role.
- To this end, INTERPOL shares three best practices for tackling environmental crimes:
- First, data utilisation allows for an **intelligence-led and case-centred approach.**
  - INTERPOL works to bridge intelligence gaps, producing actionable reports that provide investigative and operational support.
  - Further, INTERPOL delivers capacity building to empower and equip member countries to identify, investigate and disrupt environmental crimes, as well as apply a gender perspective to policing.
- Second, leveraging mechanisms for the **timely exchange of police information** bolsters collaboration.
  - INTERPOL's key policing capabilities, including the I-24/7 secure global police communications system and its 19 global databases, enable police agencies from our 196 member countries to share alerts and cooperate efficiently and securely.
- Third, **coordinated, multi-country operations** can disrupt environmental crime networks working across borders.
  - For example, last year, INTERPOL's Operation Thunder VII connected law enforcement officials from 133 countries and led to over 2000 seizures of wildlife, marine and forestry products, including more than 300kg of ivory and 400 shipping containers of timber.

Conclusion

- Excellencies, colleagues, in the face of the global challenges brought by climate change, multilateral mechanisms for cooperation are paramount.
- INTERPOL reiterates our commitment to human security: we support member countries in safeguarding natural resources and the communities dependent on them.
- I thank you.

INTERPOL For official use

39. Greece

PERMANENT MISSION OF
GREECE TO THE
UNITED NATIONS

DIALOGUE DIPLOMACY DEMOCRACY
GREECE
UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL
2025-2026

Arria Formula Meeting
Stepping up Preventive Action:
From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace
(08.07.2024, 3:00- 6:00 ECOSOC Chamber)

Statement by Ambassador Evangelos Sekeris
Permanent Representative of Greece to the UN

Mr. Chair, Excellencies, Distinguished colleagues,

(I would like to congratulate the Permanent Missions of Slovenia, Guyana, the Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone for organizing this meeting.)

Greece aligns itself with the statements delivered by the European Union and by the Group of Friends on Climate and Security and I would like to add a few thoughts in my national capacity.

Climate change impacts are obvious, undeniable and multi-dimensional and the climate crisis affects us all, and in particular women, children, people in already fragile and vulnerable situations and communities that have limited capacity to cope with additional shocks.

We are pleased to see that (members of) the Security Council consistently revisit the issue of climate change on peace and security. However, further action is imperative.

PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

DIALOGUE DIPLOMACY DEMOCRACY
GREECE
UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL
2025-2026

This is why Greece, sensible to the climate change impacts on peace and security has decided that the climate, peace and security nexus will be one of the basic pillars of its elected membership on the UNSC for the 2025-2026 term.

We will continue to support enhanced cooperation for advancing UN responses to climate-related security risks as well as the efforts for development of synergies between the relevant UN bodies and entities in addressing climate change and international peace and security.

Mr. Chair,

Acknowledging the interconnections between international security and climate change is key to develop effective multi-sectoral initiatives and actions. Therefore, we must ensure better synergies at policy level on climate and peace-building efforts.

Climate security concerns have to be integrated into early warning and conflict prevention systems, with the aim of strengthening foresight capability to anticipate new security and geopolitical challenges for a more effective prevention of crises.

As peace and security should be viable in time, it is important to establish ambitious climate policies as well as strengthen the fulfillment of the Paris Agreement objectives and the Sustainable Development Goals, aligning their implementation, to achieve durable sustainable development and resilience to climate change.

PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

DIALOGUE DIPLOMACY DEMOCRACY
GREECE
UNITED NATIONS
SECURITY COUNCIL
2025-2026

For Greece, the fight against climate change and the protection of the Ocean are key priorities. With the aim of enhancing cooperation on all related issues, including maritime security, Greece hosted in Athens, last April, the successful 9th Our Ocean Conference, which concluded its works with 471 new commitments for the protection of the ocean, worth about USD 11,5 billion.

Mr. Chair,

The convergence of the Conference of the Parties (COPs) of the three Rio Conventions -Climate Change, Biodiversity and Desertification)- later this year, is a great opportunity to highlight the synergies between these challenges. By explicitly linking climate action today with a more secure tomorrow, we can strengthen our response to climate change, while ensuring a safer and more peaceful future for people and our planet.

And the best way to do it is through enhanced multilateral cooperation. Greece stands ready to contribute in every way possible.

I thank you.

40. Viet Nam

Statement
of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam,
at the UNSC Arria Formula Meeting on "Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace"
(New York, 8 July 2024)

Mr. President,

1. My delegation appreciates the initiative of Slovenia, Guyana, Republic of Korea and Sierra Leone to convene this important meeting.

2. The risks associated with climate change and environmental challenges have become more prominent, threatening the security and existence of nations and livelihood of their people. The report of the Secretary General on the UN emergency humanitarian assistance highlighted the increasing frequency of natural disasters, killing tens of thousands of people and affecting millions others annually. Many of those affected are in conflict areas, thus exacerbating their suffering.

3. Viet Nam is of the view that the Security Council, with its principal mandate to maintain international peace and security, could play a greater role in addressing environmental challenges, as among the root causes of conflict.

We believe the agenda of the Security Council should strike a greater balance in tackling conventional and non-traditional security challenges. More attention and priority need to be given to preventing and addressing the impacts of climate change and environmental degradation as among the major impediments to development. Climate-risk analysis should continue to be integrated in the mandate of peacekeeping and special political missions, many of which operate in areas affected by climate change and natural hazards.

Better coordination between the Security Council and other relevant entities such as the UN Environment Program and Secretariat of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, is needed to ensure these agencies and Member States are kept abreast of the latest developments relating to the impacts of climate change, sea level rise, bio-diversity loss and other environmental issues, especially in conflict zones. This will help increase the quality of risk analysis and early warning capabilities, and contribute to improving decision-making for UN missions operated in these areas.

Mr. President,

4. As one of the countries most severely impacted by climate change, Viet Nam will continue to advocate for global actions to address the correlations between environmental challenges and international peace and security. I thank you./.

41. FAO

Security Council Arria Formula Meeting Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

Guangzhou Qu, Director of the FAO Liaison Office with the United Nations in New York

Thank you, Mr President.

- Climate change undermines agrifood systems, jeopardizes livelihoods, makes land and water scarcer, reduces biodiversity, and compromises the environment.
- This can increase competition and conflict over natural resources, cause human and livestock mobility and push the most vulnerable to the brink of starvation.
- Ultimately, food producers bear the brunt of impacts of climate change, biodiversity loss, pollution and land degradation, as they rely on natural resources for their livelihood and income.
- Furthermore, the consequences of climate change are not gender-neutral, with women taking on more work for less income in weather extremes.
- We must recognize that investments in agriculture are not only an integral part of the solution to the climate crisis, they can also help prevent competition and conflict over natural resources.
- This is why FAO has been working closely with humanitarian, development and peace actors to:
    - undertake joint analyses,
    - strengthen early warning systems,
    - promote climate services,
    - scale up anticipatory action,
    - support local solutions, and
    - empower women to have agency.
- Let me conclude by sharing four recommendations:
    1. One, support climate-related early warning systems and climate services that integrate conflict dynamics to advance evidence-based risk analysis.
    2. Two, replicate specialized climate, peace and security advisor roles in UN missions and regional hubs for analyses, information sharing and coordination.
    3. Three, foster trust, mutual understanding and inclusive dialogue, by empowering women, in discussions around sustainable natural resource management, environmental protection and climate adaptation.
    4. Four, invest in climate-resilient agrifood systems and related infrastructure – including in fragile and conflict-affected contexts – drawing on disaster risk reduction and community-based resilience approaches.

Thank you.

42. Sri Lanka

Permanent Mission of Sri Lanka to the United

Nations [SPEECH TRANSCRIPT]

Thank you Mr President,

Mr President, Stepping Up Preventive Action from Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace requires comprehensive and multifaceted approach. I wish to present a few ideas in this regard. I think it is important to foster international and regional cooperation to address environmental challenges while engaging in environmental diplomacy. Environmental diplomacy involves negotiating and implementing international agreements, such as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change or the Convention on Biological Diversity to collectively address global environmental challenges.

Mr President, we need to recognize the interlinkages between environmental challenges and conflicts, integrate environmental considerations into conflict prevention strategies and peacebuilding efforts. We need to promote sustainable development practices that prioritize environmental protection, social inclusion and economic resilience. We need to emphasize sustainable and equitable management of natural resources to prevent conflicts and promote peace, which includes responsible resource extraction practices. We need to prioritize climate change adaptation and resilience-building measures to reduce the vulnerability of communities to environmental shocks and stresses.

Mr President, I think it is also important to establish robust early warning systems to monitor environmental changes and identify potential conflicts, invest in building capacity of communities and government institutions to address environmental challenges. It is equally important, we believe, that we raise public awareness about the linkages between the environment, conflicts and peace. So by taking these steps, we believe, we can shift the narrative from perceiving environmental challenges solely as sources of conflict to recognizing them as opportunities to promote peace, sustainable development and harmonious relationship with nature.

Thank you.

43. Albania

STATEMENT

BY

H. E. Mrs. Suela Janina

Ambassador and Permanent Representative of ALBANIA to the UN

Security Council Arria Formula – Stepping up Preventive Action From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace

New York, 8 July 2024

I would like to join the previous speakers in thanking the Permanent Missions of Slovenia, Guyana, Sierra Leone and Republic of Korea for organizing such an important event on one of the defining challenges of our time.

As climate change is increasingly threatening sustainable development and prosperity, the effective enjoyment of human rights, and, in consecuently peace and security, the renewed attention should be focused on the need for preventive action and multilateral response to such global challenge.

In our region, the Western Balkans, the interest towards global response to climate change remains crucial. The Western Balkans The Western Balkans, including Albania, are facing several significant climate risks due to their geographical and socio- economic conditions, which require coordinated efforts at local, national, regional and global levels to mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change. Investing in resilient infrastructure, sustainable practices, and effective policies is crucial to safeguard the region's future.

Albania is taking significant steps to address the challenges posed by climate change and to enhance national and regional security. The Albanian government has integrated climate considerations into its national security strategy. This includes assessing the impacts of climate change on critical infrastructure, such as energy

and water supply, and planning for potential security threats related to resource scarcity.

Colleagues,

-Today more than ever it is evident that no one and nowhere is immune from climate change. It comes more visible as it diplayes the negative potential of prolonging instability and insecurity in countries already ravaged by violent conflicts and economic hardship. We strongly encourage the Security Council to keep in its agenda the debate on climate change, peace and security,

-Climate change same as conflicts affects by far more women and girls, compared to other vulnerable groups. Therefore, every contribution by the Security Council in addressing the disproportionate impact of climate change on inequalities, gender- based violence, lack of access to natural resources, insecurity, is a contribution to the security of women, prevention of human trafficking, enforced disappearance, illegal migration, sexual abuse and slavery, and conflict-related sexual-violence, unlawful detention and many other threats that women face during the conflict cycle.

Finally, we support all the efforts in promoting resilience for mitigating climate change by the United Nations. The Pact of the Future is an opportunity for us to step up to achieve our ambition to save the future generations from climate disasters. Global crises require global responses and need more partnerships to succeed for a world climate-neutral by 2050.

While climate change has put a heavy burden on many governments, countries, financial institutions, etc., we must always be mindful that this threat is developing with a fast pace. Therefore, we should sprint collectively in order to respond to its threatening advancement, the earlier the better.

I thank you

44. Türkiye

Statement delivered by H.E. Ahmet YILDIZ
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Türkiye to the UN

UN Security Council Arria Formula Meeting
"Stepping up Preventive Action: From Environmental Challenges to Opportunities for Peace"
(8 July 2024, Tuesday)

Mr. President,

We thank all briefers for their presentations.

Climate change as well as other environmental challenges together with the economic and social problems are threatening the lasting implementation of the 2030 Agenda and its Sustainable Development Goals.

We need to unite forces at all levels to address the impacts and drivers of environmental degradation and climate change more effectively.

Multilateralism and international cooperation are the most viable solutions.

There is **a large body of Multilateral Environmental Agreements** designed over decades to promote international cooperation on a specific set of environmental issues, such as climate change, protection of the ozone layer and biodiversity, as well as sustainable management of hazardous chemicals and waste.

The UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, where all members sit on an equal footing, is our primary intergovernmental forum for negotiating, developing and strengthening our global response to climate change.

The **strengthening of effective implementation of the Multilateral Environmental Agreements is a key area of action** for a healthy, prosperous and peaceful planet.

Climate change remains one of the greatest challenges of our time.

We should commit to accelerate action on climate change on the basis of the best available science, reflecting equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in light of different national circumstances.

Developing countries, which bear the least historical responsibility for climate change, disproportionately bear the burden of climate-related impacts.

The already scarce financing resources should not to be diverted from “development”, “climate change” and “environmental protection” actions to security-related approaches.

The UN system as well as developed countries should continue to support developing countries for enhancing and enforcing robust environmental and climate legislation, as well as strengthening national capacity for effective implementation of multilateral environmental agreements.

Most importantly, developed countries should fulfil their climate finance commitments.

Mr. President,

It would be misleading to consider increasing pressures of climate change and environmental degradation as a direct cause or the sole reason for conflicts or crises.

Therefore, negative effects of climate change should rather be regarded as "risk multiplier" and addressed within the context of the Sustainable Development Agenda.

Unless and until we address the multi-dimensional root causes, we cannot ensure sustainable peace and security.

Our expectation from the Security Council is to address the root causes of conflicts around the world and fulfill its primary responsibility of maintaining international peace and security.

Mr. President,

On our side, as a "developing country", despite the devastating earthquakes that hit Türkiye on 6 February 2023, we have been relentlessly working towards achieving net-zero emissions target for 2053.

Türkiye, through the Global Zero Waste initiative has been contributing to global response to climate change, loss of biodiversity and waste pollution.

We will continue to be actively engaged in all international efforts towards addressing climate change and environmental challenges as well as achieving peace.

I thank you.

45. Nigeria

NIGERIA STATEMENT FOR ARRIA-FORMULA MEETING ON STEPPING UP PREVENTIVE ACTION: FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Greetings from the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Today, we are discussing the key role of science in bolstering our collective security and peace efforts under the auspices of the Security Council. Science's potential is vast, and when effectively harnessed, it can significantly strengthen our responses to the intricate global challenges we confront today, instilling a sense of confidence in our collective abilities. Firstly, science can significantly enhance the Security Council's ability to respond preemptively to risk multipliers by providing advanced tools and insights for better decision-making. For instance, climate science has been instrumental in anticipating the impacts of climate change on global security—a risk multiplier that affects food security, migration, and even conflict. Integrating climate science into security strategies allows us to anticipate and mitigate these risks more effectively.

To more effectively integrate scientific tools and knowledge into the Security Council's work, we must foster robust collaborations between the UN and scientific communities, including research institutions and technology companies. A key step in this direction is the establishment of formal advisory roles for scientific experts within the UN system, ensuring their invaluable insights are integrated into our decision-making processes. Moreover, creating platforms for regular dialogue between scientists and policymakers can further amplify this integration, benefiting both parties. Furthermore, the Security Council should strengthen the mandates of its peacekeeping operations to include specific requirements for scientific data collection and analysis. This approach can be underpinned by the initiatives of various UN bodies that have successfully utilised scientific methods to enhance field operations. An excellent example is the UN's use of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) to map conflict zones and track developments in real time, improving situational awareness and operational planning.

Lastly, the active participation of Member States and observers is crucial. By committing to share scientific knowledge and technology that aids in the Security Council's work, they can play a pivotal role. This collaborative approach can lead to a global repository of scientific resources, technologies, and innovations that can be utilized to address security challenges more comprehensively, benefiting all parties involved and reinforcing global security.

In conclusion, integrating science into our security strategies is not a choice but a pressing necessity. As we confront increasingly complex global challenges, the systematic inclusion of scientific knowledge and tools in the Security Council's efforts is urgent. Nigeria is steadfast in this pursuit and urges all Member States to unite in harnessing science for global peace and security.

Thank you mr chair.

46. Liberia

STATEMENT BY

H.E. AMBASSADOR JERVIS A. WITHERSPOON

AMBASSADOR/ADVISOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF LIBERIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS

AT THE

UNSC ARRIA FORMULA MEETING:"STEPPING UP PREVENTION ACTION: FROM ENVIRONMENTAL CHALLENGES TO OPPORTUNITIES FOR PEACE"

MONDAY, JULY 8, 2024

Mr. CHAIR.

- My delegation wishes to extend our heartfelt gratitude to you for convening this salient "Meeting of the United nations security council Arria Formula meeting on stepping up preventive action for environmental challenges to opportunities for peace ". As the world faces diverse issues, it is crucial that we focus our attention on environmental challenges, ranging from climate change to biodiversity loss, threatening our planet's health and stability. However, in the face of adversity lies an opportunity – and opportunity for peace, progress, prosperity and promotion of sustainable development strategies.

- Mr. Chair, As we all may be aware, climate change is no longer a distant threat but a stark reality affecting our weather patterns, agriculture and natural resources. In Liberia, we have witnessed firsthand the impact of deforestation and erratic weather patterns on our communities and economy. These challenges exacerbate poverty, hinder development, and in some cases, contribute to conflict over scare resources. Yet amidst these challenges, there is hope. By stepping up our preventive actions and embracing sustainable practices, we can turn environmental challenges into opportunities for peace and resilience.

- Mr. Chair, investing in renewable energy is key in the fight against climate change. Liberia has abundant solar potential that can be harnessed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions on fossil fuels and mitigate climate change impacts. renewable energy not only reduces greenhouse gas emissions but also creates jobs and stimulates economic growth. Our rich biodiversity is a cornerstone of our national identity and economic potential. By protecting our forests, mangroves, and wildlife, we do not safeguard our natural heritage but also enhance resilience to climate change and promote ecotourism.

- Mr. Chair, it is essential that we strengthen community resilience through education, capacity building, and disaster preparedness is crucial. Empowering local communities to adapt to climate impacts fosters stability and reduces vulnerability to environmental shocks. climate change knows no borders. Liberia is committed to working with our global partners to uphold international agreements like the Paris agreement and collaborate on innovative solutions for sustainable development.

- Our youth are leaders of tomorrow. by investing in their education, entrepreneurship, and engagement in environmental stewardship not only secures our future but also fosters a culture of sustainability of peace. Member States should uphold these values to sustain development.

- As a member state, Liberia endeavors to confront environmental challenges, let us seize the opportunity to build a more sustainable, peaceful future for Liberia and the world. We need to join hands to transform adversity into opportunity, and challenges into achievement. Together, we can pave the way towards a greener, more prosperous future where environmental stewardship becomes synonymous with peace and progress.

Thank You!