

At the same meeting, the Council also decided, by a vote, that an invitation should be accorded to the representative of the Palestine Liberation Organization to participate in the debate and that that invitation would confer upon it the same rights of participation as those conferred on a Member State when it was invited to participate under rule 37 of the provisional rules of procedure.

Adopted by 10 votes to 1 (United States of America), with 4 abstentions (France, Germany, Federal Republic of Italy, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland).

At its 2815th meeting, on 31 May 1988, the Council proceeded with the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East: report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/19895)".¹⁶

Resolution 613 (1988)
of 31 May 1988

The Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force,¹⁸

Decides:

(a) To call upon the parties concerned to implement immediately Security Council resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973;

(b) To renew the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for another period of six months, that is, until 30 November 1988;

(c) To request the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of this period, a report on the developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement resolution 338 (1973).

Adopted unanimously at the 2815th meeting.

Decisions

At the same meeting, following the adoption of resolution 613 (1988), the President made the following statement:¹⁹

"In connection with the resolution just adopted on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, I have been authorized to make the following complementary statement on behalf of the Security Council:

¹⁸ *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for April, May and June 1988*, document S/19895.

¹⁹ S/19912.

"As is known, the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force" states, in paragraph 24: "Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached." That statement of the Secretary-General reflects the view of the Security Council."

In a letter dated 23 June 1988,²⁰ the Secretary-General informed the Security Council that the Commander of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, Major-General Gustaf Welin of Sweden, was being recalled by his Government to assume a new command and that it was his intention, subject to the usual consultations, to appoint Major-General Adolf Radauer of Austria to the post of Commander of the Force, effective 10 September. In a letter dated 30 June 1988,²¹ the President of the Council informed the Secretary-General as follows:

"I have the honour to inform you that your letter dated 23 June 1988²⁰ concerning your intention to appoint Major-General Adolf Radauer of Austria as the new commander of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force has been brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council. They considered the matter in informal consultations held on 29 June and agreed to the proposal contained in your letter."

At its 2822nd meeting, on 29 July 1988, the Council proceeded with the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East: report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (S/20053)".²²

Resolution 617 (1988)
of 29 July 1988

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 425 (1978) and 426 (1978) of 19 March 1978, 501 (1982) of 25 February 1982, 508 (1982) of 5 June 1982, 509 (1982) of 6 June 1982 and 520 (1982) of 17 September 1982, as well as all its resolutions on the situation in Lebanon,

Having studied the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon of 25 July 1988,²³ and taking note of observations expressed therein,

²⁰ S/19972.

²¹ S/19973.

²² See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for July, August and September 1988*.

²³ *Ibid.*, document S/20053.

Taking note of the letter dated 13 July 1988 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General,²⁴

Responding to the request of the Government of Lebanon,

1. *Decides* to extend the present mandate of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon for a further interim period of six months, that is, until 31 January 1989;

2. *Reiterates* its strong support for the territorial integrity, sovereignty and independence of Lebanon within its internationally recognized boundaries;

3. *Re-emphasizes* the terms of reference and general guidelines of the Force as stated in the report of the Secretary-General of 19 March 1978,²⁵ approved by resolution 426 (1978), and calls upon all parties concerned to co-operate fully with the Force for the full implementation of its mandate;

4. *Reiterates* that the Force should fully implement its mandate as defined in resolutions 425 (1978), 426 (1978) and all other relevant resolutions;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue consultations with the Government of Lebanon and other parties directly concerned on the implementation of the present resolution and to report to the Security Council thereon.

Adopted unanimously at the 2822nd meeting.

Resolution 618 (1988)
of 29 July 1988

The Security Council,

Taking note of paragraph 23 of the Secretary-General's report on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon²⁶ concerning the abduction of Lieutenant-Colonel William Richard Higgins, a military observer of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization serving with the Force,

Recalling the Secretary-General's special report on the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon,²⁵

Recalling also its resolution 579 (1985) of 18 December 1985, which, *inter alia*, condemned unequivocally all acts of hostage-taking and abduction and called for the immediate release of all hostages and abducted persons wherever and by whomever they are being held,

1. *Condemns* the abduction of Lieutenant-Colonel Higgins;

2. *Demands* his immediate release;

3. *Calls upon* Member States to use their influence in any way possible to promote the implementation of the present resolution.

Adopted unanimously at the 2822nd meeting.

²⁴ *Ibid.*, document S/20014.

²⁵ *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for January, February and March 1988*, document S/19617.

Decision

At its 2831st meeting, on 30 November 1988, the Council proceeded with the discussion of the item entitled "The situation in the Middle East: report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (S/20276)".²⁶

Resolution 624 (1988)
of 30 November 1988

The Security Council,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force,²⁷

Decides:

(a) To call upon the parties concerned to implement immediately Security Council resolution 338 (1973) of 22 October 1973;

(b) To renew the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force for another period of six months, that is, until 31 May 1989;

(c) To request the Secretary-General to submit, at the end of this period, a report on the developments in the situation and the measures taken to implement resolution 338 (1973).

Adopted unanimously at the 2831st meeting.

Decisions

At the same meeting, following the adoption of resolution 624 (1988), the President made the following statement:²⁸

"In connection with the resolution just adopted on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force, I have been authorized to make the following complementary statement on behalf of the Security Council:

"As is known, the report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force²⁷ states, in paragraph 24: "Despite the present quiet in the Israel-Syria sector, the situation in the Middle East as a whole continues to be potentially dangerous and is likely to remain so, unless and until a comprehensive settlement covering all aspects of the Middle East problem can be reached." That statement of the Secretary-General reflects the view of the Security Council."

²⁶ See *Official Records of the Security Council, Forty-third Year, Supplement for October, November and December 1988*.

²⁷ *Ibid.*, document S/20276.

²⁸ S/20306.