



UNITED ARAB EMIRATES
SECURITY COUNCIL
2022 - 2023

High-level Briefing

Cooperation between the Security Council and the League of Arab States

Wednesday, 23 March, 2022



Background

Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter is dedicated to regional arrangements and recognizes the role regional organizations can play in the maintenance of international peace and security. In particular, Article 52 stipulates that “the Security Council shall encourage the development of pacific settlement of local disputes through [...] regional arrangements.” Article 53 establishes a mechanism that allows the Council to use regional arrangements to implement its enforcement measures, and Article 54 requires regional organizations to keep the Council informed of their activities pertaining to the maintenance of international peace and security.

Over the years, the Council has recognized the importance of strengthening its cooperation with regional and subregional organizations. In resolution 1631 (2005), the Security Council expressed its determination to take appropriate steps to further the development of such cooperation in pursuit of maintaining international peace and security.

More recently, the Council has sought to enhance its cooperation with the League of Arab States (LAS) through the adoption of presidential statements in 2019 and 2021. It also reiterated its intention to consider further steps to promote closer cooperation between the two organizations in the fields of conflict early warning, prevention, peacekeeping, peacebuilding, sustaining peace, addressing root causes of conflicts, and counter-terrorism, as well as in other areas of common interest. Through these presidential statements, the Council also supported holding an annual briefing by the Secretary-General of the LAS, in addition to encouraging an annual informal meeting between the members of these organizations, as well as an informal meeting between its members and Representatives of the Arab Summit Troika and the Secretary-General of the LAS on the margins of the General Assembly high level segment.



Objective and focus of the meeting

The meeting will offer an opportunity to explore the following issues:

- Consider the progress made on cooperation between the LAS and the Security Council and explore concrete measures to expand and institutionalize this cooperation within the framework of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations.
- Discuss ways to enhance coordination and cooperation between the LAS and the Security Council in challenges facing the Arab region, such as armed conflicts, terrorism, and the COVID-19 pandemic.

- Identify innovative approaches to strengthen conflict prevention and mediation efforts to conflicts in the Arab region in support of the Council's efforts.
- Look at ways to facilitate regular interaction and engagement between the Council of the LAS and the UN Security Council, which would constructively contribute to the achievement of common goals.
- Identify areas where the two organizations can collaborate to promote dialogue, de-escalation, confidence-building, bridge-building, and reconciliation between and among countries of the region in order to restore regional stability and open new doors for economic cooperation.
- Enhance the joint work between the two organizations on issues impacting international peace and security, including areas of early warning, conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, and peacebuilding with the aim of ending conflicts and sustaining peace as well as promoting the role of women and youth in the maintenance of regional and international peace and security.

Member States may take into consideration the following questions to enhance the discussion:

- 1) What are some best practices of United Nations cooperation with regional organizations in peace and security? How can cooperation between the LAS and United Nations benefit from the experiences of UN cooperation with similar regional organizations?
- 2) What steps should the Security Council take to enhance the Arab role in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, and sustaining peace in the Arab region? How can the League of Arab States use its comparative advantage to play a more prominent role to that end?
- 3) How can the LAS and the United Nations develop their institutional framework to facilitate further cooperation and coordination to address conflicts at all stages and to work towards sustainable peace?
- 4) Given that the Arab region is one of the most youthful regions in the world, how can the UN and the LAS further collaborate on addressing challenges facing Arab youth and advancing the implementation of the Youth, Peace and Security agenda?



Format

The following speakers will brief the Council during the meeting which will be chaired by His Excellency Khalifa Shaheen, Minister of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, United Arab Emirates:

- 1) UN Secretary-General António Guterres
- 2) LAS Secretary-General Ahmed Aboul Gheit
- 3) Razan Farhan Alaqil