



General Assembly Security Council

Distr.: General
17 July 2024

Original: English

**General Assembly
Seventy-eighth session**

Agenda items 34, 48, 80 and 94

The situation in the Middle East

**International cooperation in the peaceful uses of
outer space**

Crimes against humanity

**Developments in the field of information and
telecommunications in the context of international security**

**Security Council
Seventy-ninth year**

Letter dated 12 July 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly

I would like to bring to your attention the statement of 25 June 2024 by the Permanent Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in connection with the deployment of Kazakhstan's peacekeeping contingent as part of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force in the Golan Heights (see annex I) and four statements by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization adopted on 21 June 2024: on pressing issues related to the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes (see annex II); on the occasion of the eightieth anniversary of the liberation of Belarus from the Nazi invaders (see annex III); on the situation in the Middle East and North Africa (see annex IV); and on expanding cooperation in international information security (see annex V).

I would be grateful for the circulation of the present letter and its annexes as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 34, 48, 80 and 94, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kairat **Umarov**



Annex I to the letter dated 12 July 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Permanent Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in connection with the deployment of a peacekeeping contingent of the Republic of Kazakhstan as part of the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force in the Golan Heights

25 June 2024

The Permanent Council of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO),

Reaffirming the commitment of CSTO member States to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and to the other generally recognized norms of international law,

Emphasizing the crucial importance of United Nations efforts for the peaceful settlement of disputes, including through peacekeeping operations,

Noting that CSTO member States act on the basis of Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, the provisions of the resolution of the seventy-seventh session of the General Assembly on cooperation between the United Nations and CSTO, the Joint Declaration on United Nations-CSTO Secretariat Cooperation dated 18 March 2010 and the memorandum of understanding between the CSTO secretariat and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the United Nations Secretariat on peacekeeping operations dated 28 September 2012,

Recalling the interest of United Nations Member States, in particular troop- and police-contributing countries, in contributing to the development of United Nations peacekeeping, including through participation in the work of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations,

Guided by the Agreement on Peacekeeping Activities of the Collective Security Treaty Organization dated 6 October 2007:

Notes that peacekeeping is one of the most effective tools available to the United Nations to assist countries in difficult times;

Reaffirms the commitment of CSTO member States to the maintenance of international peace and security in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, and considers assistance in United Nations peacekeeping as a vital task for CSTO;

Welcomes, in this connection, the independent participation of the national peacekeeping contingent of the Republic of Kazakhstan in the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force in the Golan Heights and expresses confidence that this experience will serve as a practical contribution to further building the capacity of CSTO peacekeeping forces and expanding the range of their capabilities;

Declares that the training of contingents of CSTO peacekeeping forces will continue on a systematic basis, both under national programmes and through the “Enduring Brotherhood” regular joint CSTO peacekeeping exercises, including by taking United Nations standards into account;

Being committed to the provisions of the CSTO collective security strategy for the period to 2025 in the context of the possible involvement of CSTO peacekeeping forces in United Nations peacekeeping operations, reaffirms the readiness of CSTO member States to cooperate on peacekeeping with the United Nations.

Annex II to the letter dated 12 July 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization on pressing issues related to the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes

21 June 2024

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan,

Realizing the importance of maintaining international peace and security at the global and regional levels,

Considering the growing risks of the further militarization of outer space and of the deployment of weapons in outer space, and the need to ensure the long-term sustainability of outer space activities,

Noting the common interest in promoting the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes on the basis of international law, including the 1967 Treaty on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Use of Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies,

Recognizing that the exploration and use of outer space, as the province of all humankind, should be carried on for the benefit of all peoples irrespective of the degree of their economic or scientific development,

Emphasizing the need to address the risks to the long-term sustainability of outer space activities through political and diplomatic means,

Recognizing the need to develop universal approaches to international information exchange on the situation in outer space to enhance the safety of outer space operations,

Emphasizing the need to enhance transparency and trust among States, which contribute towards the exploration and use of outer space for exclusively peaceful purposes,

Note the importance of strict compliance with the current legal regime providing for the exclusively peaceful use of outer space,

Advocate using civil space systems, including commercial ones, and the benefits of space science, technology and services exclusively for the stated peaceful purposes,

Reaffirm that it is unacceptable to use civil space systems and related ground infrastructure for undeclared purposes,

Emphasize the need to increase the level of coordinated engagement among our States at specialized international forums,

Have agreed to intensify dialogue on a wide range of issues related to strengthening international cooperation among the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization in the exploration and use of outer space for peaceful purposes,

Are convinced that only through joint efforts can we preserve outer space for future generations as a peaceful space free of armed conflict and weapons of any kind.

Annex III to the letter dated 12 July 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization on the occasion of the eightieth anniversary of the liberation of Belarus from the Nazi invaders

21 June 2024

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan, on the eve of the eightieth anniversary of the liberation of Belarus from the Nazi invaders, honour the heroic deeds of our heroes and the courage, indomitable will and fortitude they showed during the Great Patriotic War.

One of the first countries to bear the brunt of the Nazi onslaught in June 1941, Belarus was severely tested. During the years of occupation, a third of the country's population perished. Thousands of towns and villages were burned to the ground and destroyed, and dozens of death camps and other places of mass extermination were established. A telling symbol of the tragedy of the Belarusian people was the village of Khatyn, which was incinerated together with all its inhabitants. Another sorrowful page of the Great Patriotic War was the Maly Trostenets concentration camp, where more than 200,000 prisoners of war and civilians from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and other European countries were exterminated.

The resistance and fighting spirit of the population of Belarus could not be broken by the Nazis. The entire population took up arms against the invaders. An unprecedented partisan and underground movement was organized in the territory of the Republic, which made an invaluable contribution to the expulsion of the enemy.

We are proud of the fact that thousands of our countries' envoys fought for the liberation of Belarus from the Nazi invaders in united ranks with other nations. We honour the memory of all Soviet citizens who gave their lives in bloody battles, liberating Belarusian land. Their feat is forever inscribed in the annals of history of the struggle against Nazism. The strategic offensive known as Operation Bagration played a decisive role in the liberation of Belarus and has gone down in history as one of the outstanding victories of the Second World War, becoming an important step towards the complete liberation of the European continent from Nazi enslavement.

On the eightieth anniversary of the liberation of Belarus from the Nazi invaders, we call to hold sacred the memory of the unprecedented courage shown by the millions of soldiers, partisans, underground fighters, home front workers and civilians who gave their lives in the fight for peace and freedom.

We shall keep the memory of the victory over the plague of fascism alive forever and reject and strongly condemn all attempts at revisionism in respect of the events of the Second World War and its outcome, including attempts to assign equal responsibility for starting the war to both Nazi criminals and the countries of the anti-Hitler Coalition. We stress that the military cemeteries and military monuments of the Great Patriotic War must be conserved and properly cared for. Vandalism against such sites of memory is unjustifiable.

We call upon all States and peoples to combat all manifestations of neo-fascism and neo-Nazi ideology, the justification and glorification of Nazism, and the

promotion of racial, ethnic and religious intolerance. We consider that the glorification in any form of the Nazi movement and of former members of the Waffen SS organization, including the erection of monuments and memorials, the renaming of streets and the holding of public demonstrations to glorify the Nazi past and neo-Nazism, is unacceptable and blasphemous. We reject cynical attempts to declare that the members of that organization and those who fought against the countries of the anti-Hitler coalition, collaborated with the Nazi movement and committed war crimes and crimes against humanity were participants in national liberation movements.

Cherishing the memory of all those who died for the freedom and independence of our peoples and with deep gratitude to our veterans, to whom we owe a debt that can never be repaid, we are confident that the eightieth anniversary of the liberation of Belarus will become a celebration of the triumph of peace and harmony, and will once again remind us of the disastrous consequences that can result from cultivating and indulging Nazi and other hateful ideology.

Annex IV to the letter dated 12 July 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization on the situation in the Middle East and North Africa

21 June 2024

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan, express our concern at the persistence in the Middle East and North Africa of a number of hotbeds of instability characterized by unresolved armed conflicts and the consolidation of negative trends in the economy, including through the adoption of unilateral restrictions on the supply of food and fertilizers, which undermine the food security of these countries. All of this triggers increased social tension and radicalization and exacerbates religious and ethnic strife, leading to a humanitarian crisis.

We advocate the resolution of all existing internal and inter-State conflicts and tensions in the Middle East and North Africa by diplomatic means through political dialogue with the support of the United Nations and key regional organizations, in full compliance with the basic norms of international law.

We express our deep concern over the current escalation in the Palestinian-Israeli conflict zone, which has led to a large number of civilian casualties and increased tension in the Middle East. We condemn the killing of tens of thousands of civilians and call for an immediate cessation of hostilities, the uninterrupted operation of humanitarian corridors to assist the residents of the Gaza Strip, and restraint amid the threat of an expanding zone of armed confrontation.

We reaffirm our conviction that stabilization of the situation is possible only through a comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue on a recognized international legal basis, including Security Council and General Assembly resolutions and the Arab Peace Initiative, and involving the establishment of an independent Palestinian State based on the 4 June 1967 borders, with East Jerusalem as its capital. We emphasize the need to consolidate international efforts in order to launch as soon as possible a negotiation process between the parties aimed at achieving such a solution to this issue. We emphasize the need to reject unilateral steps that impede progress towards the realization of a two-State solution.

We reaffirm our strong and continued commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Syrian Arab Republic and condemn any action that jeopardizes them. We emphasize the need to end any foreign military presence in this country that violates international law.

We condemn the destructive actions of outside forces against the Syrian Arab Republic, which pose a serious threat to regional security.

We note the importance of stepping up the efforts of the international community to ensure stability in Syria and alleviate the socioeconomic crisis and humanitarian suffering, as well as the need to lift unilateral restrictive measures, which would be an important step towards achieving a comprehensive political solution. We express our support for ongoing efforts within the Astana format and for

the resumption of the Constitutional Committee's work within parameters determined by the Syrians themselves.

We welcome steps to normalize inter-Arab relations, including the restoration of Syria's full membership in the League of Arab States, and express the hope that they will contribute to improving the overall situation in the region.

We stress the need for the complete destruction of Da'esh, the Nusrah Front (Hay'at Tahrir al-Sham) and all other groups, businesses, organizations and individuals associated with Al-Qaida, Da'esh or other terrorist organizations designated as such by the Security Council.

We note the importance of an immediate end to the armed confrontation in the Sudan. We express our conviction that any disagreements should be resolved around the negotiation table. We note the importance of making the inter-Sudanese reconciliation process inclusive. We oppose interference in the internal affairs of Sudan.

We express our concern about the continued instability in Libya for more than a decade. We underscore our commitment to the unity, sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity of Libya. We express our support for a Libyan-led and Libyan-owned political process with the assistance of the United Nations. We call on all parties to continue consultations in order to create the conditions necessary for the holding of free and fair elections in the country.

We welcome the decision by Saudi Arabia and Iran to normalize inter-State relations. We express our conviction that such constructive steps will contribute to an overall improvement of the situation and to the establishment of an atmosphere of trust and mutually beneficial cooperation in the Arab Gulf area.

We emphasize the importance of developing partnerships in the Arab Gulf region on the basis of the principles of good-neighbourliness, non-interference in internal affairs, respect for independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, the resolution of all disputes by peaceful means on the basis of the Charter of the United Nations and international law, and renunciation of the threat or use of force.

Annex V to the letter dated 12 July 2024 from the Permanent Representative of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly

[Original: Russian]

Statement by the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization on expanding cooperation in international information security

21 June 2024

We, the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Belarus, the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation and the Republic of Tajikistan,

Emphasizing the importance of strengthening international legal and practical cooperation on the basis of the Agreement on information security cooperation of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), dated 30 November 2017,

Noting that the use of information and communications technologies (ICTs) may have a direct impact on the political, economic, military, humanitarian and other components of international security and stability,

Considering it inadmissible to use ICTs for computer attacks against critical information infrastructure and for terrorist, extremist and other criminal purposes,

Emphasizing that it is unacceptable to use ICTs illegally to the detriment of the interests of individual, society and the State, for propaganda purposes and for inciting hatred against ethnic and religious groups,

Emphasizing that it is inadmissible for third countries and their private companies to interfere in the domestic affairs of CSTO member States using information infrastructure and technologies, including low-orbit satellite Internet communication systems:

Confirm the commonality of approaches to security issues in the use of ICTs with reference to the 22 November 2023 Decision of the CSTO Council of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and Committee of Secretaries of Security Councils, entitled “List of additional measures of the States members of the Collective Security Treaty Organization aimed at ensuring information security of the Collective Security Treaty Organization”;

Advocate against the use of ICTs in military, political and other spheres to undermine (infringe on) sovereignty, violate the territorial integrity of States and perform other actions in the global information space that impede the maintenance of international peace, security and stability;

Emphasize the key role of the United Nations in countering threats in the information space and creating a safe information space built on the principles of respect for State sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries;

Call for the adoption by the international community of measures to prevent conflicts in the digital sphere and for the development of a universal international legal instrument regulating the behaviour of States in the information space in accordance with the generally recognized principles and norms of international law as enshrined primarily in the Charter of the United Nations;

Emphasize the importance of efforts within the open-ended working group on security of and in the use of information and communications technologies 2021–2025, and recognize the importance of maintaining the open-ended working group as an effective, central negotiating mechanism on this topic at the United Nations;

Reaffirm the commitment to strengthen multilateral cooperation in countering the use of ICTs for terrorist, extremist and other criminal purposes, with the United Nations playing a coordinating role in inter-State cooperation on this issue; note the efforts of the Ad Hoc Committee to Elaborate a Comprehensive International Convention on Countering the Use of Information and Communications Technologies for Criminal Purposes; note also the efforts to promote multilateral cooperation to combat terrorism and its financing through the use of ICTs in the Central Asian region (the Dushanbe Process); and emphasize the need to intensify joint steps by CSTO member States in this area;

Emphasize the need for capacity-building, the exchange of experience and best practices and the joint training of qualified specialists in order to build confidence and ensure the digital sovereignty of CSTO member States;

Advocate the development of dialogue on ensuring international information security with external partners, including interested countries and regional organizations.
