

**Security Council**

Seventy-third year

**8234**<sup>th</sup> meeting

Monday, 16 April 2018, 10 a.m.

New York

*Provisional***Statement by the Secretary-General of the United Nations, Antonio Gutierrez:**

In accordance with rule 37 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the representatives of Argentina, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belgium, Botswana, Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Egypt, Estonia, Germany, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Mexico, Montenegro, Myanmar, Namibia, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Paraguay, Portugal, Qatar, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, the Sudan, Switzerland, the Syrian Arab Republic, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates and Uruguay to participate in this meeting.

In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I invite the following briefers to participate in this meeting: Ms. Pramila Patten, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict, and Ms. Razia Sultana, Senior Researcher of Kaladan Press.

In accordance with rule 39 of the Council's provisional rules of procedure, I also invite the following to participate in this meeting: Mr. Gerton van den Akker, Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Delegation of the European Union to the United Nations; Ms. Fatima Kyari Mohammed, Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations; and Ms. Clare Hutchinson, Special Representative for Women, Peace and Security of the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

I propose that the Council invite the Permanent Observer of the Observer State of the Holy See to the United Nations to participate in the meeting, in accordance with the provisional rules of procedure and the previous practice in this regard.

There being no objection, it is so decided.

The Security Council will now begin its consideration of the item on its agenda.

I wish to draw the attention of Council members to document S/2018/250, which contains the report of the Secretary-General on conflict-related sexual violence.

I also wish to also draw the attention of Council members to document S/2018/311, which contains the text of a letter dated 2 April 2018 from the Permanent Representative of Peru to the United Nations

addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a concept note on the item under consideration. I wish to warmly welcome Her Excellency Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed, to whom I now give the floor