Section 4

Complex and Diverse Regional Conflicts and Approaches of the International Community

1 Efforts to Stabilize the International Community

The characteristics of regional conflicts recently emerging around the world differ from one to another. They may result from various ethnic, religious, territorial, or resource-related issues, and some are entangled at multiple levels in each region. They also range in form from armed conflict to sustained armed confrontation. Furthermore, it has been pointed out that the impact of global-scale problems such as climate change could also constitute a cause of conflict[1]. In addition, human rights violations, refugees, famine, poverty, and terrorism resulting from the conflicts sometimes evolve into international issues. For that reason, it has become increasingly important that the international community discern the character of such complex and diverse conflicts, consider international frameworks and involvements matched to their particular circumstances, and then seek out appropriate responses.

The end of the Cold War was accompanied by rising expectations for the peacekeeping system by the United Nations, which up to that time had not functioned adequately, and, as a result, many U.N. peacekeeping operations (PKO) were established. Their roles have come to include civilian activities encompassing disarmament monitoring, security organization reforms, election and administration monitoring, and humanitarian assistance for refugees returning home, as well as their traditional roles of the monitoring of truce and withdrawals of armed forces[2]. In addition to the PKO activities, there are cases in which multinational forces and regional organizations, that have been authorized by the U.N. Security Council, are in charge of conflict prevention, peacekeeping and peace-building operations.
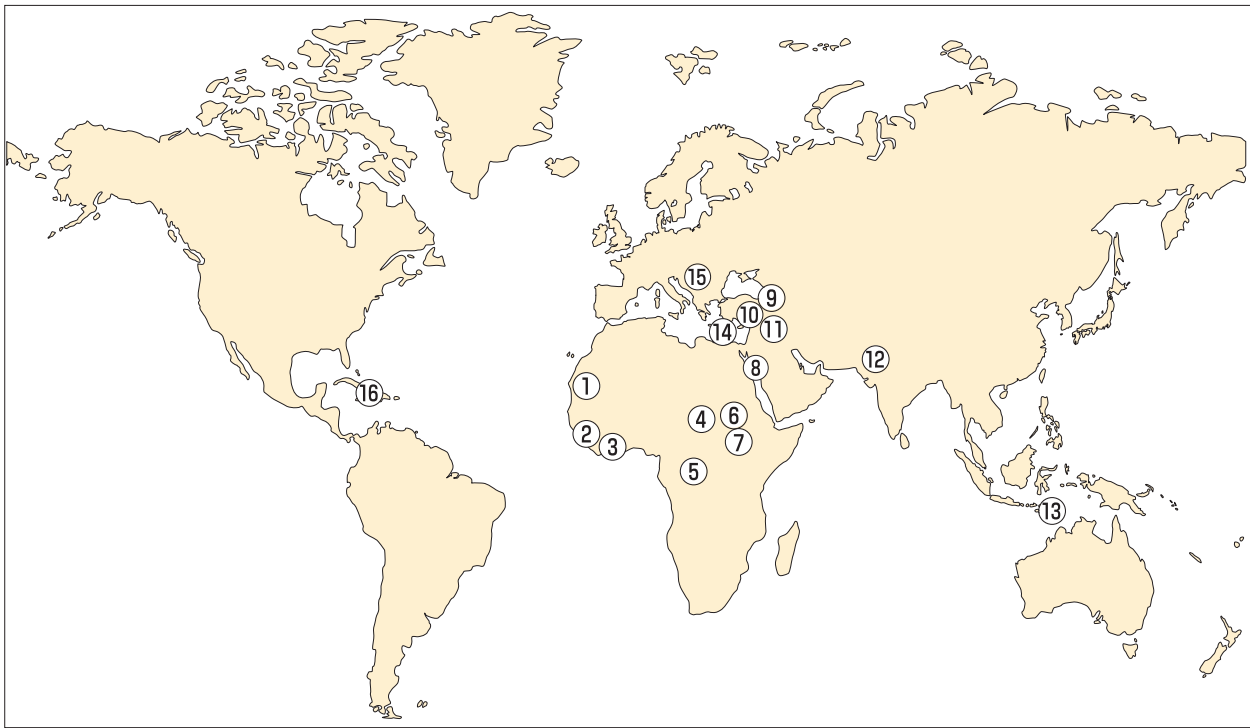
However, the environment surrounding peacekeeping operations in recent years has grown increasingly harsh. Although some of their activities have been vested with strong authority under Article 7 of the Charter of the United Nations, there remain issues of securing equipment and materials, ensuring the security of personnel and the capability improvement of forces, all of which are essential for the effective performance of operations in areas with poor infrastructure. The Departments of Peacekeeping Operations and Field Support of the United Nations created "A New Partnership Agenda: Charting a New Horizon for U.N. Peacekeeping" in July 2009 to make an assessment of the major policy and strategy dilemma of U.N. peacekeeping and to discuss passive solutions among stakeholders[3]. The United Nations used this document to work on the so-called "New Horizon Process" and published the first report to update the status of the process in October 2010. The report mentions that intensified efforts have been made in developing guidelines for critical areas like protection of civilians[4] and peace-building and developing capabilities required to execute missions, all of which are the issues of the reform of the peacekeeping operations. The second report released in December 2011 describes the progress in these areas.

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1   In April 2007, a panel discussion on the impact of climate change on security was held at the Security Council, in which 55 member and non-member states participated. This shows that the awareness that climate change may have an impact on the security environment is becoming increasingly pervasive. Furthermore, the Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) released by the U.S. Department of Defense in February 2010 regards climate change as a key factor that will shape the future security environment. It claims that climate change may accelerate instability and conflict by causing water and food scarcity, the spread of disease, and so on.

2   The number of personnel dispatched declined temporarily to about 12,000 after 1993 when large-scale PKO missions were sent to the Balkan Peninsula and Somalia, However, from around 2000, the number of personnel dispatched began to rise again following increase in large-scale missions mainly in Africa and the Middle East. The scale of the PKO peaked in 2010 (with 102,000 personnel dispatched to 15 missions as of the end of March 2010). As of the end of May 2012, 16 peacekeeping operations are conducted in 117 countries, with about 99,000 participants from around the world.

3   As U.N. peacekeeping operation capabilities come close to their limit with increasing diversification and expansion of their roles, the paper revealed its analysis on the status quo of peacekeeping operations and a direction for their improvement. It also points out the necessity of continuous consultation among those concerned, and the necessity of developing guidelines and strategy regarding ways to implement peacekeeping operations mandates. Furthermore, it shows that U.N. peacekeeping operations critically lack mobility such as helicopters, logistics and transportation troops, police organizations with specific expertise, and female personnel.

4   The protection of civilians has recently been becoming more important in peacekeeping operations (PKO). In 1999, the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone (UNASMIL) was the first mission that had the protection of civilians as its mandate. Currently, eight PKO missions have the protection of civilians as their mandates. However, host countries are mainly responsible for the protection of civilians. PKO which have the protection of civilians as their mandate are also allowed to use force only in self-defense and defense of the mandates under the principles of PKO: 1) consent of the parties, 2) impartiality, and 3) non-use of force except in self-defense and defense of the mandate For instance, during the United Nations Operation in Cote d' Ivoire (UNIOCI) in April 2011, military operations were launched to prevent the use of heavy weapons against civilians in accordance with the U.N. Security Council Resolutions 1962 and 1975.

Fig. I−2−4−1 List of Presently Operating Peacekeeping Operations

Notes: According to the United Nations (as of the end of May 2012)

Africa

	Mission	Established Date
①	United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO)	1991.4
②	United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL)	2003.9
③	United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI)	2004.4
④	African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID)	2007.7
⑤	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)	2010.7
⑥	United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)	2011.6
⑦	United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS)	2011.7

Middle East

	Mission	Established Date
⑧	United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO)	1948.5
⑨	United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)	1974.6
⑩	United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)	1978.3
⑪	United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS)	2012.4

Asia

	Mission	Established Date
⑫	United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP)	1949.1
⑬	United Nations Integrated Mission in Timor -Leste (UNMIT)	2006.8

Europe/CIS

	Mission	Established Date
⑭	United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)	1964.3
⑮	United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK)	1999.6

The Americas

	Mission	Established Date
⑯	United Nations Stabilization Mission in Haiti (MINUSTAH)	2004.6

2 Present Condition of Regional Conflicts

1 Situation in Afghanistan

The United States, together with other countries, has been engaged in military operations against the Taliban and Al-Qaeda in and around Afghanistan since October 2001, in the aftermath of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

A number of efforts are being made in Afghanistan. These include operations to mop-up the Taliban as part of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), and support for the maintenance of security provided by the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF)[1], which is led by NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization), as well as improvement of the security environment and reconstruction assistance in parts of Afghanistan by the Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs)[2]. In addition, the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) provides coordination across various fields, such as politics, reconstruction and development, and humanitarian assistance between the Afghan Government, ISAF, and the relevant U.N. agencies. On top of this, the Afghan Government, with the assistance of the international community, is making efforts to improve the security situation in the country, such as improvement of the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF) (National Army and Police)[3].

With the efforts of the international community and the Afghan Government, the security situation is improving in many parts of Afghanistan; however, security in southern, southeastern and eastern Afghanistan which borders with Pakistan is still a matter of concern. There also occurred assassinations of high government officials and attacks on public organizations in the Capital Kabul[4].

The Taliban secures safe havens in Pakistan and remains resilient against ANSF-ISAF operations, but it is believed that the capacity has erodes[5]. The United States realizes the significance of the role of Pakistan in war on terror and seeks to build an effective partnership with Pakistan. However, U.S.-Pakistan relations have deteriorated throughout 2011[6].

The Afghan Government is committed to complete the transition of responsibility for security by the end of 2014 and its first phase commenced in seven areas in July 2011. Furthermore, President Hamid Karzai specified the areas for the second and third phase of the transition in November 2011 and May 2012 respectively.

In June 2011, President Obama announced a policy to commence the withdrawal of U.S. forces in July 2011, with 10,000 troops withdrawing by the end of the year, and additional 23,000 troops (a total of 33,000) by the summer of 2012. Major NATO countries also announced their policies for withdrawal of forces by 2014[7].

On the other hand, the reconstruction of Afghanistan continues to face a mountain of challenges, such as preventing corruption, strengthening the rule of law, restoring security, enhancing counternarcotics efforts and facilitating local development. Therefore, support from the international community is still needed. In May 2012, President Karzai and President Obama signed the "Enduring Strategic Partnership Agreement"[8] which provides for the possibility of U.S. forces in Afghanistan after 2014. At the NATO Chicago Summit held in May 2012, ISAF nations reaffirmed their enduring commitment to Afghan security beyond 2014 when the transition is completed and decided to make the shift from a combat mission to a new training, advising and assistance mission after 2014.

2 Situation over the Middle East peace effort

Between Israel and Palestine, the Oslo Agreement concluded

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1   Under U.N. Security Council Resolution 1386 (December 20, 2001), establishment of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was approved with the principal mission of maintaining security in Kabul and the surrounding areas. ISAF has gradually expanded its area of deployment since December 2003. Since October 2006, ISAF has been deployed throughout Afghanistan. The mission of the ISAF will be completed by the end of 2014. As of May 2012, approximately 130,000 troops from 50 countries have been dispatched to ISAF.

2   The Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) are designed to extend the authority of the Afghan Central Government across the country, and work to improve the security environment and implement reconstruction and development activities. The PRTs are comprised of military personnel and civilian reconstruction assistance personnel. As of April 2012, there are 28 teams active in various parts of the country.

3   The Afghan National Security Forces have about 344,000 personnel (195,000 of the Afghan National Army and 149,000 of the Afghan National Police) (as of May 2012). The size of the Security Forces will grow to about 352,000 personnel by October 2012, which will be maintained for three years, and then will be reduced.

4   Jan Mohammad Khan, a senior adviser to President Karzai, was murdered at his home in July 2011 and former president Burhanuddin Rabbani (Head of Afghan Supreme Council) was killed in a suicide bombing at home in September 2011. In the same month, rockets were fired at the U.S. Embassy, and in April 2012, foreign embassies including that of Japan, and ISAF headquarters got attacked by rockets. These incidents all took place in Kabul.

5   U.S. Department of Defense, "Report on Progress Towards Security and Stability in Afghanistan" (April 2012), etc.

6   The U.S. conducted a military raid to kill Osama Bin Laden in May 2011 without notifying Pakistan beforehand. The ISAF helicopters attacked border posts in Pakistan in November 2011. These incidents are thought to have caused the troubled U.S.-Pakistan relations.

7   Canada started the withdrawal of its combat forces in July 2011 and currently, only the training forces are stationed. The U.K., Germany, France, Italy and Poland also expressed their intention to leave.

8   As of May 2012, Afghanistan has also signed long-term strategic partnership agreements with India, Italy, France, U.K. and Australia.

in 1993 marked the beginning of a peace process through comprehensive negotiations; however, the Israelis and the Palestinians subsequently suspended negotiations due to the second intifada that started in 2000 and resulted in reciprocal violence between the two parties. In 2003, the Israelis and the Palestinians agreed on a "Roadmap" that laid out a course leading to the establishment of a Middle East peace initiative based on the principle of the peaceful coexistence between the two nations. However, the Roadmap has yet to be implemented. Negotiations between Israel and Palestine were then halted as the result of large-scale Israeli military operations, such as air raids and deployment of ground forces to the Gaza Strip from the end of 2008 through early 2009 in response to rocket attacks from the area against Israel. In September 2010, direct negotiations started between Israel and Palestine through arbitration by the United States, but the move was once again interrupted by Israel's settlement activities in the West Bank of the Jordan River, with no peace agreement concluded as of now[9]. On the Palestinian side, Fatah, the mainstream faction of the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) which seeks peace agreement through negotiations with Israel, and the Islamic fundamentalist organization, Hamas, which does not recognize Israel and advocates a continuation of armed conflict against

Israel, had long been pitted against each other, perpetuating political disarray. In May 2011, however, a reconciliation agreement was reached between Fatah and Hamas on forming an interim government.

Israel has yet to sign peace treaties with Syria and Lebanon. Israel and Syria disagree on the return of the Golan Heights which Israel has occupied since the 1967 Arab – Israel War. The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) is deployed in the Golan Heights region to observe the implementation of ceasefire and military disengagement between the two parties[10]. Concerning Israel and Lebanon, the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) increased its presence following the 2006 clash between Israel and Hezbollah, a Shiite Muslim organization[11]. Although there have not been any prominent conflicts since[12], there are reports that Hezbollah is enhancing its military strength again[13].

3 Situation in Syria

Since March 2011, anti-government pro-democracy demonstrations have taken place all over the country in Syria, leading to large casualties through clashes with security forces. The Syrian Government, in response to this situation, took measures such as lifting the state of emergency in April 2011 and holding a referendum on its new constitution in February 2012[14], while deploying military and security forces in a number of cities to rein in demonstrations by force, and conflicts between military forces and defectors in some cities have been reported[15].

In response to the repression of demonstrations by Syrian security authorities, the United States and the European Union (EU) have called on President Bashar al-Assad to step down and imposed sanctions such as freezing assets and banning travel on Assad and other senior regime leaders, and banning oil imports from Syria. The League of Arab States[16] decided on suspension of the Syrian delegation from all Arab League meetings and

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9　While there is no prospect of resuming the talks, Palestine applied for admission to membership as a nation in the United Nations in September 2011. In November 2011, however, a report was submitted from the Committee on the Admission of New Members of the U.N. Security Council, stating that the Committee was "unable to make a unanimous recommendation."

10　Military observers of the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) are also active within this region.

11　Ditto

12　The tension along the border between Israel and Lebanon has occasionally been heightened with incidents such as the one that took place in August 2010, where troops from both sides initiated exchange of fire on a limited scale at border areas and caused casualties. However, the situation has not been aggravated.

13　Report of the Secretary-General to the Security Council on the implementation of resolution 1559 (April 2010), etc.

14　Some reforms are included in the new constitution, such as the removal of the provision that stated that "the leading party in the society and the state is the Socialist Arab Ba'ath Party" from the old one and introduction of the presidential term limit.

15　According to reports by the independent international committee of inquiry of the U.N. Human Rights Council, 8,079 had killed during the period from March 15, 2011 to February 15, 2012 and additional 207 deaths were confirmed from February 15 to May 10, 2012. Under these circumstances, in May and June 2011 pro-Palestine protestors opposing Israel tried to intrude in the Israel-controlled Golan Heights from the Syrian side, clashing with Israeli Defense Forces and causing casualties.

16　The members are 21 states and one organization (Egypt, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Syria, Lebanon, Jordan, Yemen, Algeria, Bahrain, Djibouti, Kuwait, Libya, Mauritania, Morocco, Oman, Qatar, Somalia, Sudan, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates, Comoro, and the Palestine Liberation Organization)

economic sanctions against Syria in November 2011, and had sent observers to Syria to monitor a cessation of violence from December 2011 to January 2012. The U.N. General Assembly adopted Resolutions in December 2011 and February 2012 to call on the Syrian government to immediately end all human rights violations and attacks against civilians[17].

Under such circumstances, since the Syrian government accepted the six-point plan proposed by Kofi Annan, Joint Special Envoy of the United Nations and the League of Arab States[18], the U.N. Security Council adopted the Resolution 2043 in April 2012 to establish the United Nations Supervision Mission in Syria (UNSMIS), comprising unarmed military observers and others, to monitor a cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties as well as to monitor and support the implementation of the Envoy's six-point proposal, and subsequently the UNSMIS personnel initiated its activities in Syria. Despite these efforts of the international community, it has been reported that violence across Syria has not stopped and casualties have been mounting. As UNSMIS suspended its activities in June 2012 due to an intensification of armed violence, the future prospect of Syrian situation remains uncertain.

stage, but the authority to command and control all the military operations was transferred to NATO by the end of March 2011[19].

After the military activities were initiated by the multinational forces, the Transitional National Council (TNC) organized by anti-government forces dominated the battle with the Qadhafi's regime and gradually expanded its zone of control. In August 2011, the TNC seized control of most of Tripoli, the nation's capital, leading to the de facto collapse of the 42-year rule of Qadhafi's regime.

Even after the fall of Tripoli, Pro-Qadhafi forces continued fighting in Sirte, birthplace of Qadhafi, and some other places, but the TNC took control of Sirte on October 20, 2011 and announced the death of Qadhafi, which was followed by the Declaration of Liberation on October 23. The NATO-led multinational forces ended its operation on October 31[20].

Then, an interim government headed by interim Prime Minister El-Keib was formed on November 22, 2011. Through the National Congress election, scheduled to be held in July 2012, Libya is slated to draw up a new constitution and transfer to a permanent government. The development of democratization process of the country attracts attention.

4 Situation in Libya

With the continued control over Libya by the Brother Leader and Guide of the Revolution Qadhafi over a long period of time, his administration resorted to the use of violence against its own citizens, when it faced the anti-government demonstrations in February 2011. The U.N. Security Council adopted Resolution 1973, which decides to establish a ban on all flights in Libyan airspace and authorizes U.N. Member States to take any necessary measures to protect civilians and civilian-populated areas under threat of attack in Libya. Following this move, multinational forces, composed of forces from countries such as the United States, United Kingdom, and France, initiated military operations against Libya in March 19, 2011. The U.S. commanded and controlled the multinational forces at the initial

5 Situation in Sudan and South Sudan

In Sudan, a 20-year north-south civil war broke out in 1983 between the Sudanese Government, which is predominantly composed of Muslim Arabs from northern Sudan, and anti-government forces comprising African Christians from southern Sudan. In response to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) that was concluded between the north and the south in 2005, the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS), established by U.N. Security Council Resolution 1590, has been deployed and is assisting the implementation of the CPA and facilitation and coordination of returning refuges and internally displaced people. In July 2009 the Permanent Court of Arbitration announced its final decision on the boundary line for the Abyei area in the center of Sudan, which was premised on

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17 The U.N. Security Council failed to adopt a resolution on Syria, which was vetoed by China and Russia twice in October 2011 and February 2012. In February 2012, meanwhile, the Chairman's Conclusions, whose substance was similar to the U.N. General Assembly resolutions mentioned in the main text, was adopted by the "Group of Friends of the Syrian People" participated by 60 countries and representatives from international organizations (the U.N. the EU, the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, the Arab Maghreb Union, the League of Arab States, and the Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf).

18 The Plan contains the following six points, which asks the Syrian authorities to: (1) commit to work with the Special Envoy in a Syrian-led political process; (2) commit to stop fighting and achieve an effective United Nations supervised cessation of armed violence in all its forms by all parties; (3) accept and implement a daily two-hour humanitarian truce to ensure provision of humanitarian assistance; (4) intensify the pace and scale of release of arbitrarily detained persons; (5) ensure freedom of movement for journalists; and (6) respect freedom of association and the right to demonstrate peacefully as legally guaranteed.

19 Initially the United States Africa Command, one of the Unified Combatant Commands of the U.S. Armed Forces, commanded and controlled the multinational forces. After the authority was transferred to NATO, the Allied Joint Force Command located in Naples, Italy, commanded and controlled the Allied Air Command in Izmir, Turkey, and the Allied Maritime Command in Naples.

20 The military operation by NATO is called "Operation Unified Protector" with the following three elements: (1) protection of civilians from the attacks by the Libyan government forces; (2) establishment of a no-fly zone; and (3) enhancement of arms embargo to Libya. After the end of March 2011, when all the command and control authorities were transferred to NATO, the number of air mission by the multinational forces exceeded 26,500 sorties, of which more than 9,700 strike sorties have been carried out.

the settlement of the north-south boundary line. A referendum bill on the independence of the south and attribution of the Abyei area was enacted at the end of December 2009[21].

In January 2011, a referendum was held to determine the validity of the separation and the independence of the Southern Government in accordance with the CPA and the referendum committee for Southern Sudan announced that the final result showed that the independence of Southern Sudan was supported by a 98.83% supermajority. Then, the Republic of South Sudan became an independent nation on July 9, 2011. The United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) was established in accordance with the U.N. Security Council Resolution 1996, adopted on the day before[22]. Through the mediation by the African Union, the governments of Sudan and South Sudan signed a Memorandum of Understanding on, Non-aggression and cooperation in February 2012; however, even after the independence, little progress has been made in unsettled issues, such as North-South border dispute, including the attribution of Abyei area, and revenue sharing of South Sudan oil. Tensions between the two states have escalated after late March 2012; while the Sudan military launched air raids on South Sudan's Unity state, the South Sudan military occupied Heglig, in the Sudanese province of South Kordofan. In response to these situations, the United Nations Security Council adopted the Resolution 2046 calling on both countries to cease all the hostilities immediately, and attention will be paid to the future trends.

In the Darfur region of western Sudan, conflict intensified between the Arab government and the African antigovernment forces in around 2003. The conflict in Darfur has produced a large number of internally displaced persons, which the international community, including the United Nations, regards as a serious humanitarian crisis. After the government and a fraction of the major anti-government forces concluded the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA) in May 2006, the U.N. Security Council adopted Resolution 1769 in July 2007, which stipulated the creation of the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). The Sudanese Government and anti-government groups based in Darfur, including the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), have engaged in peace negotiations intermittently since February 2010 in Doha, the capital of Qatar, through arbitration by the United Nations, the AU, and Qatar. In July 2011, the government of Sudan and the "Liberation and Justice Movement" (LIM) signed the Doha Document for Peace in Darfur (DDPD). However, battles between the government and anti-government forces have continually occurred. In addition, anti-government forces refuse to participate in negotiations and funding is lacking. These factors cause delay in implementation of the peacekeeping process.

6 Situation in Somalia

Somalia had been in a state of anarchy since 1991, but in 2005, the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) was inaugurated. However, battle raged between the TFG and the Union of Islamic Courts (UIC), an Islamic fundamentalist organization, and other groups opposed to the TFG. Ethiopian forces intervened in response to the request from the TFG and eliminated the UIC in December 2006. In January 2007, the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) was established, and in August 2008 in Djibouti a peace agreement was concluded between the TFG and Alliance for the Re-liberation of Somalia (ARS), which was formed by the UIC and other groups. In January 2009, ARS leader Sheikh Sharif was elected as new President of the TFG. However, as illustrated by intensified battles between TFG and anti-government Islamist militia groups such as Al-Shabaab since May 2009, tensions remains high in Somalia. In addition, Kenya claimed Al-Shabaab is responsible for a series of kidnappings of foreigners near the Kenya-Somalia border[23]. In October 2011, Kenya deployed its forces to Somalia with the aim of routing Al-Shabaab. The situation in Somalia has entered upon a new phase.

In the waters surrounding Somalia, the number of incidents of piracy and armed robbery increased rapidly in 2008[24]. The Security Council has adopted multiple resolutions since the summer of 2008, calling on member states to dispatch ships as anti-piracy measures. Against this background, a number of countries have dispatched their ships to waters off the coast of Somalia and in the Gulf of Aden to undertake anti-piracy missions.

21 The Abyei area was one of the bloodiest battlefields during the North-South conflict. Both the North and the South claim sovereignty over the area due to its abundant oil resources. Although the territorial issue was to be settled in referendum in January 2011 according to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), the referendum has not yet been held and the issue remains to be settled. In May 2011, a battle began between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA). In June 2011, the Security Council established under its Resolution 1990 the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) in the region.

22 The initial period was one year with up to 7,000 military personnel and up to 900 police personnel. UNMISS is on the ground to consolidate peace and security and to help establish conditions for development in Republic of South Sudan. Specifically the mandate of UNMISS is as follows: (1) support for peace consolidation and thereby fostering long-term state building and economic development, (2) support the Government of the Republic of South Sudan in exercising its responsibilities for conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution and protect civilians, and (3) support the Government of the Republic of South Sudan in developing its capacity to provide security, to establish rule of law, and to strengthen the security and justice sectors.

23 For example, it is reported that a British couple was attacked by an unknown group in Lamu island, a Kenyan resort, in September 2011 and a French woman was kidnapped on the opposite shore of the island of Lamu in October 2011.

24 According to the International Maritime Bureau (IMB), there were 237 cases of piracy by Somali pirates in 2011 (37 in the Gulf of Aden, 160 along the Somali coast, 39 in the Red Sea, and 1 along the Oman coast).