

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 1 April 2021 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a note verbale dated 24 March 2021 from the Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations forwarding the report on the activities carried out by French forces in support of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali from 1 December 2020 to 1 March 2021 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) António **Guterres**



Annex

[Original: French]

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit the following information.

Pursuant to paragraphs 41 and 62 of Security Council resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), France is enclosing herewith the report on the actions carried out by French forces in support of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali from 1 December 2020 to 1 March 2021 (see enclosure).

The Permanent Mission of France to the United Nations would be grateful if the United Nations Secretariat could bring the present report to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

Enclosure

Report No. 31 on the operational support provided by French forces to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali from 1 December 2020 to 1 March 2021

References

- Security Council resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#) of 29 June 2020 (paragraphs 41 and 62).
- Agreement of 12 July 2013 (as amended on 11 July 2018) between the Government of the French Republic and the United Nations on the provision, on a reimbursable basis, of goods and services in support of the operations of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA).
- Technical cooperation and assistance arrangement between the United Nations Department of Peacekeeping Operations and the French Ministry of Armed Forces of 26 March 2015.

The thirty-first report contains a summary of the support provided by French forces to MINUSMA from 1 December 2020 to 1 March 2021.

The Barkhane force provided MINUSMA with the following operational support during the period covered by the present report:

Operations

None.

Intelligence

In the area of intelligence, during the period under review the Barkhane force provided the following through FRANIC Bamako:

- Twelve weekly status updates
- Twenty-five special intelligence reports transmitted to MINUSMA
- Nine reports from the Counter-Improvised Explosive Device Exploitation Laboratory

Military engineering

Aeronautical engineering

- In accordance with the agreement indicated in point b of the “References” section above, and pursuant to letter of assist France-MINUSMA-2013-12 amendment No. 9 of 22 September 2020, the French aeronautical engineering detachment (25th Air Engineer Regiment) maintained the Gao (Mali) airfield in operational condition.
- Pursuant to the letter of assist mentioned above, the 25th Air Engineer Regiment also mentored the Cambodian detachment of MINUSMA in Tessalit (Mali) in relation to the maintenance of unpaved airfields.
- The aeronautical engineering officer at the engineering branch of the joint forces headquarters oversaw a project to construct an unpaved (laterite) runway in Kidal (Mali) until the end of January 2021.

- The airfield engineering detachment that worked on the construction of the unpaved runway in Kidal had fully disengaged by the end of January 2021. The entire project has been taken over by MINUSMA.

Countering improvised explosive devices

- MINUSMA headquarters, the United Nations Mine Action Service and the officer of the Barkhane force responsible for efforts to counter-improvised explosive devices continue to exchange information on a near-daily basis.
- The officer of the Barkhane force responsible for efforts to counter-improvised explosive devices participated in the first working group to counter improvised explosive devices, which was held in Bamako on the occasion of the last operational coordination meeting. In addition, a monthly video teleconference is held between that officer and the counter-improvised explosive device section of the U2 cell of MINUSMA headquarters and the United Nations Mine Action Service.
- Owing to the reinforced measures to counter the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), no more meetings are being held in Gao and no more resources are being accepted for tests by the Counter-Improvised Explosive Device Exploitation Laboratory. These exchanges should nevertheless resume in the next few weeks. On 3 December 2020, 12 Explosive Threat Mitigation Officers taking a post-blast investigation level-1 training course with the United Nations Mine Action Service in Mali attended a presentation by the Counter-Improvised Explosive Device Exploitation Laboratory on its activities, capacities and analytical reports.

Logistics

Since 1 December 2020, the Barkhane force has transported a total of 185 persons and 8.22 tons of cargo, at part load, on board its aircraft. None of the aircraft were refuelled, however.

Health

The Barkhane force role 1 and 2 medical services are able to support MINUSMA in the event of an influx of injuries or under exceptional circumstances. Bilateral agreements allow MINUSMA personnel of certain nationalities to have access to routine and emergency consultations, paramedical care, dental care and surgical procedures. Such services were rendered exclusively by role 2 in Gao.

MINUSMA activity from 1 December 2020 to 1 March 2021 at the Gao military field hospital

<i>Type of care</i>	<i>Number</i>
Medical consultations	1
Medical consultations	50
Surgical procedures	1
Hospitalization days	3
Nursing	39
X-rays	6
Biochemistry tests	15
Microbiology tests	39
Scans	3