

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 9 December 2015 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) concerning the Central African Republic addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) concerning the Central African Republic, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2015. The report, which was approved by the Committee, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 ([S/1995/234](#)).

I should be grateful if the present letter and the report were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Raimonda **Murmokaitė**
Chair
Security Council Committee established
pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013)
concerning the Central African Republic



Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) concerning the Central African Republic

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) concerning the Central African Republic covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Raimonda Murmokaitė (Lithuania) as Chair and the representative of Jordan as Vice-Chair.

II. Background

3. By its resolution 2127 (2013), the Security Council imposed a general and complete arms embargo on the Central African Republic and established a committee to oversee its implementation. By the same resolution, the Council established a panel of experts working under the direction of the Committee.
4. Subsequently, in its resolution 2134 (2014), the Security Council imposed a travel ban and an asset freeze on individuals and entities designated by the Committee in accordance with the listing criteria delineated in paragraphs 36 and 37 of the resolution. Exemptions to the measures were provided for in both resolutions.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

5. The Committee met eight times in informal consultations, on 9 February, 31 March, 12 June, 3 and 21 August, 10 September, 20 November and 3 December. The Committee also held two formal meetings, on 22 April and 21 August, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.
6. During the informal consultations held on 9 February, the Committee received a briefing on the work of the United Nations Mine Action Service in the Central African Republic. On 31 March, the Panel of Experts presented its programme of work to the Committee. On 12 June, the Panel presented its first progress update, submitted pursuant to paragraph 17 (d) of resolution 2196 (2015). On 3 August, the Committee held a meeting via videoconference with the representative of the Government of the Central African Republic and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) to discuss the situation in the country and the requests from the Government to ease the arms embargo. On 21 August, during informal consultations, the Coordinator of the Panel presented the Panel's midterm update, submitted pursuant to paragraph 17 (c) of resolution 2196 (2015). On 10 September, the Chair of the Committee presented a report of her visit to the Central African Republic from 24 to 28 August. On 20 November, the Panel presented its final report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 17 (c) of resolution 2196 (2015). On 3 December, the Committee held joint informal consultations with the Security Council Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, which featured a briefing

by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict on the impact of the conflict on children in the Central African Republic.

7. On 22 April, the Committee held a formal meeting and invited representatives of the Permanent Mission of the Central African Republic, as well as those of Chad, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, South Africa and Uganda, and the Acting Special Representative of the Office of the International Criminal Police Organization to the United Nations to discuss the reported violations of the travel ban by two sanctioned individuals, François Bozizé and Nourredine Adam. During the formal meeting held on 21 August, the Committee met representatives of the Permanent Mission of the Central African Republic and those of Cameroon, Chad, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan and the Sudan, as well as the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts, who participated via teleconference, to discuss the arms embargo and its related exemptions.

8. From 24 to 28 August, the Chair visited the Central African Republic to engage in outreach activities aimed at improving the effective implementation of the sanctions measures imposed in resolutions 2127 (2013) and 2134 (2014), as renewed in resolution 2196 (2015).

9. The Committee sent 84 communications with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures, 62 to Member States and 22 to United Nations and international and regional bodies.

IV. Exemptions

10. Exemptions to the arms embargo are set out in paragraph 1 of resolution 2196 (2015).

11. Exemptions to the asset freeze are set out in paragraphs 8 to 10 of resolution 2196 (2015).

12. Exemptions to the travel ban are set out in paragraph 5 of resolution 2196 (2015).

13. The Committee received 17 notifications pursuant to paragraph 1 of resolution 2196 (2015) concerning requests for exemptions with regard to the arms embargo. No objections were raised by the Committee with regard to those exemption requests.

V. Sanctions list

14. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze are set out in paragraphs 6, 11 and 12 of resolution 2196 (2015). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

15. During the reporting period, the Committee listed five individuals and one entity subject to the measures imposed by paragraph 4 (travel ban) and paragraph 7 (asset freeze) of resolution 2196 (2015). The Committee also approved amendments to the list entry of one individual on its sanctions list.

16. As at the end of the reporting period, there were seven individuals and one entity on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Panel of Experts

17. On 17 February, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2196 (2015) on 22 January, the Secretary-General appointed five individuals to serve on the Panel of Experts, with expertise in finance and natural resources, regional issues, arms, armed groups and humanitarian issues (see [S/2015/119](#)). The mandate of the Panel expires on 29 February 2016.

18. On 21 January, the Panel provided four statements of case, together with supporting evidence, for three individuals and one entity that, in the Panel's view, met the listing criteria delineated in paragraphs 11 and 12 of resolution 2196 (2015).

19. On 22 January, in accordance with paragraph 17 (d) of resolution 2196 (2015), the Panel submitted a progress update to the Committee on information obtained during several visits to the Central African Republic.

20. On 28 April, in a letter addressed to the Committee, the Panel responded to claims contesting the findings in its 2014 final report ([S/2014/762](#)) by the legal representatives of a company cited in the report. The company was subsequently listed by the Committee on 20 August.

21. On 20 May, in accordance with paragraph 17 (d) of resolution 2196 (2015), the Panel submitted a second progress update to the Committee on information obtained during its work in the Central African Republic from 7 April to 12 May.

22. On 29 July, in accordance with paragraph 17 (c) of resolution 2196 (2015), the Panel submitted a midterm update on information obtained since its first visit to the Central African Republic on 7 April and following the transmission of its progress update of 20 May.

23. On 12 October, the Panel submitted, for the Committee's consideration, draft amendments to the list entry of a listed individual.

24. On 5 November, in accordance with paragraph 17 (c) of resolution 2196 (2015), the Panel submitted its final report to the Committee, which is expected to be transmitted to the Security Council in January 2016 following its discussion by the Committee and issued as a document of the Council.

25. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel conducted multiple visits to the Central African Republic and also visited Angola, Belgium, Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, France, Italy, the Netherlands, Uganda and the United States of America.

26. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel, through the Secretariat, sent 100 letters to Member States, the Committee and international and national entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

27. The Security Council Affairs Division provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and members of the Committee. Between 25 and 28 August, the Secretariat and MINUSCA provided support to the Chair's visit to the Central African Republic to discuss the implementation of the sanctions regime. Advisory support was also provided to Member States to promote understanding of the sanctions regime and facilitate the implementation of the sanctions measures. On

1 December, a sanctions workshop was organized for incoming members of the Security Council to familiarize them with the substantive and procedural aspects of chairing a sanctions committee, including interaction with the United Nations system, sanctions experts and other relevant actors.

28. On 14 October, the Division launched a redesigned website for the subsidiary organs of the Security Council. The new website, which is available in the six official languages of the United Nations and accessible to the visually impaired, features an improved and user-friendly layout. It offers swift and easy access to the current sanctions measures and applicable exemptions, the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List and individual committee sanctions lists. Narrative summaries of the reasons for listing are displayed in an easy-to-navigate and searchable format. The website also provides clear and practical explanations of the procedures for listing, delisting and exemptions.¹

29. On 28 December, the Division made available all the Security Council sanctions lists in the six official languages. This builds upon last year's standardization of the format of all Council sanctions lists and the establishment of the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List, in response to resolutions 2083 (2012) and 2161 (2014).

30. As part of the Division's effort to recruit well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 1 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for membership of the Division's roster of experts. Upon the receipt of nominations, the Division will assess the suitability of nominated candidates for its roster for future consideration for the relevant expert panels. In addition, the Division sent notes verbales to all Member States notifying them of upcoming vacancies on specific sanctions panels and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements.

31. The Division continued to provide substantive advice and support to the Panel of Experts, conducting an induction for newly appointed members, in New York, and assisting in the preparation of the Panel's midterm report in October.

32. From 8 to 11 September, the Division, in cooperation with United Nations system partners, conducted a pilot training workshop on investigative techniques for 12 experts from sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels. The objective of the training was to equip the participants with an understanding of basic investigative techniques, processes and tools and to strengthen their understanding of the approach to investigations within the framework of the Security Council sanctions regimes.

33. Moreover, to promote greater cooperation among the different expert panels, the Division organized a third annual inter-panel coordination workshop, held in New York on 16 and 17 December. The event was attended by members of all 12 monitoring groups, teams and panels. The workshop afforded sanctions experts the opportunity to discuss strategic and technical issues relating to Security Council sanctions with representatives of the sanctions committees, as well as United Nations system, other international, private sector and non-governmental partners.

¹ The website is accessible at www.un.org/sc/suborg/ or from the Security Council's website at www.un.org/en/sc/.

34. During the reporting period, the Secretariat established the Inter-Agency Working Group on United Nations Sanctions under the leadership of the Department of Political Affairs. The Working Group brings together 25 United Nations entities to support Security Council sanctions regimes and integrate United Nations sanctions with other peace and security efforts of the United Nations system, as appropriate.
