

Security Council (SC)

Committee Staff

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Agenda

- I. The Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- II. Strengthening Women's Role in Peacebuilding

Resolutions adopted by the Committee

Code	Topic	Vote
1/1	The Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo	Passed by consensus

Summary Report for the Security Council

The Security Council considered the following agenda items:

- I. The Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
- II. Strengthening Women's Role in Peacebuilding

Representatives of all 15 Member States of the Security Council attended each session. On Wednesday, the committee adopted the agenda in the order of I, II, beginning discussion on the topic of "The Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo." Delegates debated potential paths to move forward, following the recent press statement of the Security Council on 22nd November 2022 concerning a ceasefire between armed groups, regional engagement in the Eastern Congo, and an ongoing humanitarian crisis.

Throughout Thursday morning and afternoon sessions, delegates developed solutions for both the pressing matters at hand as well as to provide for a sustainable peace, leading into the general elections anticipated for next year. The dais received a total of three working papers prior to Thursday evening's committee session. On Friday, delegates worked diligently to combine their ideas into one working paper that reflected the consensus of the body on the Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and on Saturday, delegates worked briskly to ensure all components of the working paper reflected the consensus of the full Council.

The dais approved a single draft resolution, which had zero amendments. The committee adopted this resolution following the voting procedure, which resolved to extend through 2023 the mandate of the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) and provide additional support for the upcoming general elections as well as imminent humanitarian and civilian protection needs in light of the resurgence of the M23 armed group. The Council also decided to implement additional sanctions upon persons who are responsible for or illegally obtained conflict minerals and set targets to lift current sanctions regimes depending on progress towards governance goals. Overall, the outcome work of the committee reflected the spirit of collegiality and mutual respect upheld between delegates throughout the entire week.



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Code: SC/1/1

Committee: Security Council

Topic: The Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo

The United Nations Security Council,

Reaffirming Sustainable Development Goal 16 pertaining to peace, justice, and strong institutions,

Recalling the existing mandate of The United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's (MONUSCO) as set by Security Council resolution 2612 (2021) on "Extension of the mandate of the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)" which renewed the mandate of MONUSCO until 20 December 2022 with a mandate that prioritizes the protection of civilians, providing support to state institutions including through assistance with security sector reform and election security, and outlines the drawdown of MONUSCO's presence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo through 2024,

Recognizing Security Council resolution 2641 (2022) which renews the Sanctions Committee of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and requires all actors to refrain from providing weapons to non-governmental entities operating in the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Stressing the importance of the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) which oversees sanctions and embargoes by the Security Council and provides information regarding the actions taken to implement effectively the measures imposed,

Recalling Security Council resolution 1533 (2004) on the Situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (2004), and recognizing that sanctions should benefit the present situation through the use of the Group of Experts and not worsen the human rights situation,

Alarmed by support to armed non-state actors such as the March 23 Movement (M23), whether it be financial or through the movement of resources and arms prohibited under the sanctions regime of Security Council resolution 1533 (2004),

Taking note of Security Council resolution 2582 (2021) on "The situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo" which addresses the illegal exploitation of natural resources for the enrichment of armed groups,

Emphasizing the Security Council's commitment to uphold and prioritize the human rights of the civilians of the Democratic Republic of the Congo in regard to sanctions implemented,

Concerned by the recent events regarding attacks on humanitarian aid workers and UN representatives within the Democratic Republic of the Congo by recognizing the violence against humanitarian personnel and by regional armed groups,

Keeping in mind the multicultural nature of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the need for cultural awareness among volunteers, peacekeepers, and UN personnel that work in the region as cultural awareness will help to build horizontal and vertical trust within the local society and UN personnel,

Acknowledging the UN Secretary General's Action for Peacekeeping (A4P) Initiative in helping build reporting on the number of trafficking and displacement of victims in conflict areas,

Reiterating the Security Council's call for a ceasefire and any further advances of M23 in order to address the state of internally displaced persons (IDPs),

Recognizing the Joint Statement on M23 Advances in the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and bringing awareness to developments concerning warring groups including the M23 movement, and the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF) movement,

Further emphasizing the importance of implementing measures that will ensure youth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo are in positions of decision-making and are protected from becoming forcibly involved in armed groups,

Fully supporting the National Demobilization, Disarmament, Community Recovery and Stabilization Program that is currently in effect with the support of MONUSCO,

Reaffirming the importance of an inclusive, peaceful, and credible political process to promote sustainable development, peace, and security through the Democratic Republic of Congo,

Cognizant of the importance of women's inclusion in the electoral process to empower women's role in peacebuilding by supporting their participation and protecting their political rights,

Expressing appreciation of the efforts made by leaders of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, and Angola to reach an immediate ceasefire on November 22, 2022, through the facilitation of political dialogue between the Congolese government and armed groups by the Eastern African Community heads of state,

Fully aware of current efforts by regional Member States to alleviate the ongoing conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo working towards peaceful dialogue and cooperation towards a multidimensional, multilateral, and lasting peace solution,

Recalling further the importance of training border and migration officials to ensure capacity building and protect screening and referral systems,

Expressing concern at recent controversies surrounding troops under MONUSCO's mandate which influence perceptions of the credibility and efficacy of the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo,

Stressing that the path to everlasting peace is the improvement of the material conditions and social standings of the rebel fighters, due to their involvement not being a product of intrinsic malicious intent, but out of economic necessity,

Emphasizing the need for greater trust and greater cooperation between communities, the Democratic Republic of the Congo's governmental institutions, and the United Nations,

Noting the importance of increasing gender equality in MONUSCO and peacekeeping forces,

Recalling a report from Transparency International which found that the Democratic Republic of the Congo is ranked as one of the 10 most corrupt countries in the world,

Welcoming the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) Certification Mechanism which functions as a mineral tracking and certification scheme among Member States in the ICGLR to prevent armed groups from being involved with the natural resources,

Dismayed by the fact that Human Rights Watch has noted that fighting between Congolese troops and rebels from M23 have forced around 200,000 people to flee from their homes,

Concerned by the loophole of natural resources exploitation by armed groups providing a persistent source of funds for violent non-state actor groups,

Taking note that gendered hierarchies further prevent communities from speaking with civil society organizations that can help facilitate these dialogues and trust,

Emphasizing the establishment of a national transitional justice strategy, providing accountability and reconciliation for past crimes against peacekeeping workers, as well as reparations for victims and protections against future human rights abuses,

Encouraging the development of comprehensive communication strategies by emphasizing Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration, Repatriation, and Resettlement (DDR/RR) of combatants which are essential in stabilizing peace and security,

Reaffirming the commitment to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Member States in the Great Lakes region,

Acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Resolves* to extend until 31 December 2024 the mandate of MONUSCO to include:

- i. PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS

- a. Expanding Disarmament, Demobilization, Reintegration, Repatriation, Resettlement and Community Violence Reduction (DDR/RR-CVR) efforts to include providing linkages with existing local organizations catered towards children and adolescents to reintegrate former child soldiers into future communities as well as assisting with reintegration and disarmament of child soldiers in the North and South Kivu regions who had previous affiliation with the M23 movement;
 - b. Protecting civilian security and the stabilization of strengthening public institutions through major governance security reforms with the goal of gradual withdrawal to support the Democratic Republic of the Congo's government institutions for sustainability and security;
 - c. Reviewing plans for timely and adequate planning and execution of an additional amount of regional military troops in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for security in the upcoming 2023 election with a provisional plan following the consent of the African Union through the participation of the regional forces in regard to the election within the scope of the African Union's abilities;
 - d. Working with regional groups such as the African Democracy and Electoral Assistance Unit, the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption, and the African Union Commission on International Law to ensure election security;
 - e. Requesting closer cooperation between MONUSCO, the African Union, and the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC), through events such as bilateral

training and drills, anti-internal corruption initiatives, and to strengthen the security capabilities of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

- f. Establishing that trust is built between civilians and both the government and MONUSCO peacekeeping troops aiding in protecting individuals including relocating efforts of peacekeepers to ensure the protection of civilians during the upcoming 2023 general election and supporting individuals affected by the ongoing conflict to have access to adequate resources;
 - g. Building upon the existing food security framework of MONUSCO by the re-establishment of the Ad Hoc Working Group on Africa for the development of Food Supply and Distribution Systems (FSDS) in local regions, and the establishment of close cooperation between the Democratic Republic of the Congo with capable national and international programs in guaranteeing the security of the FSDSs;
 - h. Establishing further humanitarian action strategies in collaboration with the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo at Maneima and Tshopa;
 - i. Creating long-term action plans to plan the safe relocation or return of IDPs to their regions of origin;
- ii. STABILIZATION AND STRENGTHENING OF STATE INSTITUTIONS
- j. Protecting the integrity of fair elections by:
 - i. Utilizing the oversight of non-UN, non-western, independent election observers to ensure the legitimacy of the incoming government and earn the trust of the population;
 - ii. Including blockchain election security, which will ensure the legitimacy, fair elections, and security of the incoming government and embolden it with the trust of the Democratic Republic of the Congo population;
 - k. Expanding operations to mitigate the spread of internally displaced people (IDPs) in the North Kivu province, with emphasis on Masisi and Rutshuru communities, through collaboration with Member States of the East African Community and the International Conference of the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) to find durable solutions for refugees as well as IDPs, and should include their voluntary, safe, and dignified return, and reintegration in their communities of origin;
 - l. Assisting with, not only aiding the Democratic Republic of the Congo's government in protecting the citizens of their nation, but also focusing on peacebuilding after peace is achieved via strengthening local, regional, and international organizations that are assisting or planning to assist
 - m. Determining appropriate responses towards disarmament and recovery of the M23 armed group and its relations with neighboring Member States including facilitating social and economic development in conflict-affected Democratic Republic of the Congo provinces with funding from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF);

- n. Strengthening protections of humanitarian workers delivering necessary aid act with equity throughout all regions by:
 - i. Furthering negotiation with community leaders and complying with creating open discussion to ensure that all regions receive equitable aid;
 - ii. Raising awareness of equity among communities to ensure that regions in dire need are prioritized;
 - iii. Building cultural awareness for the benefit of humanitarian workers in order to further understand the current social processes and provide information on how to promote peace through traditional cultural values through implementation of education and training programs for humanitarian workers to provide an understanding of how to address the current situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo as well as implementing education and transparency of this social process informs Member States and regional communities on how we can further supplement their needs;
2. *Resolves* that with the exit date of MONUSCO in 2024 the following sanctions will be lifted, in line with the protection of human rights and as it benefits the situation through the use of the Group of Experts based on Security Council resolution 1533 (2004) to conduct a review on existing UN sanctions of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to have a tiered system for removal of sanctions against the Democratic Republic of the Congo government by 2024 assuming the following criteria in line with the end of MONUSCO through:
 - a. Lifting the sanctions of assets freeze on Butembo Airlines, Compagnie Aérienne Des Grands Lacs (CAGL); Great Lakes Business Company (GLBC), Congomet Trading House, Machanga Ltd, Tous Pour La Paix Et Le Develop\Pement (NGO), Uganda Commercial Impex (UCI) Ltd. as these companies are stipulated on the 1533 Sanctions List, should the Democratic Republic of the Congo government achieve implementation of asset recovery measures before the elections and have been proven no longer any separatist groups;
 - b. Lifting the sanctions gradually that implement a travel ban on certain non-government organizations (NGOs) and private enterprises from the 1533 Sanctions List, should the Democratic Republic of the Congo government have peaceful and safe elections in 2023 and have a substantial amount of eligible voting population in participation in the election;
 - c. Creating an action plan to implement on individuals with affiliation with the FARDC, should the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo commence and implement measures to investigate human rights abuses committed by certain individuals in the FARDC;
 - d. Lifting the sanctions implementing an arms embargo should the Democratic Republic of the Congo government achieve implementation of sustainable peace efforts in line with the end of the mandate of MONUSCO;
3. *Expands* the mandate of the 1533 Committee to implement additional sanctions upon persons who are responsible for or complicit in the proliferation of illegally obtained conflict minerals regime

through the United Nations Democratic Republic of the Congo Sanctions Committee to combat the corruption of conflict minerals such as coltan and gold in accordance with the *UN Convention Against Corruption* (2004) and General Assembly resolution 58/4 (2004) by:

- a. Placing shipping limits on the aforementioned conflict minerals based on their actual level of production within their national borders to prevent the exploitation of conflict minerals by actors funding violent non-state groups by the authority of the 1533 Committee;
 - b. Utilizing programs such as the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region Certification Scheme and the Responsible Minerals Assurance Process (RMAP) which ensures there is a proper monitoring system in place to trace the origins of mineral exports from the aforementioned states;
 - c. Cooperating with the East African Community and the African Union to support the independent audits of mineral exports from the aforementioned states alongside an annual report on the compliance and ethical standards that may be used as a basis to lift the export limits placed;
4. *Requests* the cooperation of international and regional leaders to cooperate with MONUSCO and for the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development that is self-sustainable and provides for food and water security in line with the Sustainable Development Goals with the assistance of the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, for the protection of these societies by the Peacekeeping Commission, and in cooperation with the UN Peacekeeping Fund and the UN Development Programme alongside with regional and local solutions within villages by requesting the assistance of local trusted leaders and individuals;
 5. *Encourages* all relevant regional and international actors to work in accordance with General Assembly Resolution 60/1 "Responsibility to Protect" (2005) and support MONUSCO's efforts to maintain peace and security in all aspects;
 6. *Further recommends* the building of National Action Plans by utilizing accurate reports to ensure trafficked and displaced victims have access to basic humanitarian aid and assistance from recognized authorities for voluntary resettlement or local reintegration by renewing dialogue through these mechanisms and for Congolese non-state armed groups to participate in the Nairobi process, which creates a dialogue between non-state armed groups;
 7. *Calls upon* the Group of Experts by Security Council resolution 1533 (2004) to gather information on resources in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and to analyze resources preventing funds and natural resources from funneling to non-state armed groups fighting against the legitimate Democratic Republic of the Congo government by:
 - a. Conducting a review of the due diligence measures to include elements of the ICGLR Regional Certification Mechanism;
 - b. Creating independent anti-corruption review boards to reduce and diminish corrupt activities within the FARDC and related legal institutions that are responsible for the protection of civilians alongside the support of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;
 8. *Requests* the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) to facilitate open dialogue in order to build trust and restore transparent relationships in conflict zones through

incorporating local traditions, values, and customs, including the recognition of regional-based inequalities in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;

9. *Advises* Member States to fully collaborate with OCHA to organize the United Nations Student Task Group Addressing Recovery (UNSTAR) by:
 - a. Calling upon community members to foster awareness and trust in fellow youths surrounding resources and services offered to them such as the Red Cross Movement and UN agencies;
 - b. Amplifying the voices of student volunteers to ensure that conflict recovery efforts include the opinions of those directly affected;
 - c. Utilizing this program to serve as a method of reintegration for child combatants;
10. *Underlines* the need for humanitarian aid within the Democratic Republic of the Congo due to the 27 million Congolese that are experiencing acute malnutrition, difficulties in access to healthcare, poverty, exposure to violence from armed groups, protracted political instability, and lack of governmental systems;
11. *Further Requests* additional assistance from the World Food Programme (WFP) in the mobilization of food and funds for transport for large-scale refugee-feeding operations;
12. *Reiterates* the necessity for immediate withdrawal of armed groups from occupied territory by strongly advising efforts to support conditions for voluntary reintegration;
13. *Demands* the immediate cease of funding to rebel groups and exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo by violent non-state actor groups especially within the eastern provinces, with support of reintervention of the East African Community in the event of non-compliance with the current ceasefire as well as increased involvement from the AU;
14. *Further requests* Member States and international organizations resume consultations on concrete steps to de-escalate current tensions;
15. *Encourages* collaboration of the African Union within the security apparatus of the Democratic Republic of the Congo under the supervision and support of the United Nations and supporting organizations through:
 - a. Urging the use of the African Standby Force in conflict prevention within the Eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo region alongside supporting legal institutions and local governments;
 - b. Encouraging the use of the African Peace Facility and the State and Peacebuilding Fund to support the security efforts of the African Union to achieve a peaceful transition within the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
16. *Suggests* regional forces coordinate efforts with MONUSCO to ensure compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights law;

17. *Calls upon* the Ad Hoc Working Group on Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa to collaborate with the United Nations Office of Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to implement the *UN Convention Against Crime (UNCAC)* through implementing asset recovery measures within the Democratic Republic of the Congo government;
18. *Suggests* the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo take further action to assist in the rehabilitation of the North Kivu, South Kivu, and Ituri provinces;
19. *Urges* the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, in synergy with MONUSCO, to honor the conditions of the ceasefire by resuming the process of incorporating rebel fighters into the Democratic Republic of the Congo's armed forces, giving them a path to long-term employment and improvement of economic standings;
20. *Recommends* the further development and updating of the strategic plan for the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo to ensure the protection of their civilians and refugees during armed conflicts by:
 - a. Taking proactive steps to further turn attention to human rights and atrocities through updating current efforts based on OCHA reports;
 - b. Continuing mediation efforts by UN Peacekeepers to facilitate peace monitoring efforts to stop armed groups from further attacking civilians in conflict-affected provinces;
 - c. Working with local government units to utilize timely information in protecting the rights of marginalized groups and communities;
 - d. Promoting women's social and economic standing within the country by including them in rebuilding and strengthening the country before and after peace;
21. *Calls upon* the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission to coordinate with the Democratic Republic of the Congo to establish more preparedness and response networks to conflict-affected individuals, with a focus on the Eastern provinces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
22. *Recommends* more adequate and sustainable funding from the FATF voluntary repatriation and reintegration programs to create conditions conducive to safe and dignified returns of displaced persons and encouraging participation in such programs;
23. *Emphasizes* strategies outlined by the UN High Commission for Refugees to lead coordination and management sites that host internally displaced people and refugees in North Kivu and Tanganyika region specifically through:
 - a. Addressing the urgency of the situation resulting from the spillover of the conflict from neighboring Member States which has displaced many civilians;
 - b. Engaging the International Organization for Migration in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which has previously reached 31.7 million people in their crisis response program in 2021 through their global crisis response platform;

- c. Utilizing conflict mediation strategies outlined in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development in reference to Sustainable Development Goal 16;
24. *Requests* the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) strengthens partnerships with the African Development Bank, United Nations Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs (DPPA), regional partners, and international partners, by:
 - a. Developing substantial internet infrastructure focusing on identity, prioritizing the creation of verifiable digital identities for all citizens of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and internally displaced persons and refugees, for the purpose of securing and legitimizing upcoming elections to promote a peaceful procedure of governance,
 - b. Enabling prospects for future digital economic development facilitated by the same secured and verifiable infrastructure, to be funded by any specific interested and capable Member States;
 - c. Increasing internet capabilities with the goal of ensuring the security of the Democratic Republic of the Congo's elections by registering eligible voters with verified digital identities, resistant to hacking, fraud, and other manipulation;
 - d. Integrating information security personnel within teams of election observers to protect the information integrity of electronic machines in the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
 - e. Protecting voter databases from unauthorized access, which can threaten the security of voting populations;
 - f. Improving protections for electronic and information channels of candidates to prevent the sharing of sensitive information that could be used to damage and manipulate candidates;
25. *Further invites* the UN system in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to consider proposals to work with the government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo regarding the construction of necessary infrastructure for the delivery of essential goods and services, specifically food, medicines, and sanitation, in the Eastern region of the Democratic Republic of the Congo;
26. *Calls upon* the end of recruitment, exploitation, and abduction of children by armed groups, and demands the immediate release of children from armed groups' ranks;
27. *Further calls upon* civil society groups to provide emergency and long-term assistance and recovery methods to children whose communal support systems have been affected by armed groups and conflict-related violence.