

Code: SC/1/1 Committee: Security Council Topic: The Situation in the Central African Republic

## The Security Council,

*Recalling* all of its previous resolutions, statements of President, and press statements on the situation in the Central African Republic (CAR),

*Guided by* the strong commitment of the Security Council to respect the territorial integrity, sovereignty, and independence of the CAR,

Aware of the urgency of the crisis in the CAR and the time sensitive nature of the multiple security threats at hand,

*Reaffirming* the basic principles of peacekeeping, such as impartiality, consent of the parties, and non-use of force, except in self-defence and defence of the mandate,

*Agreeing* that building trust and credibility is foundational to the creation of the strong political institutions, which is Goal 16 of the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the ultimate goal of United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission (MINUSCA),

*Understanding* that women comprise approximately 6.6% of deployed uniformed peacekeeping personnel, as reported in August 2020 by the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (UNDPKO),

*Remembering* that the UN Police Division's recruitment target for 2028 is to have at least 15% of those serving in military contingents and 25% of military observers and staff officers be women as a part of their "Global Effort" initiative to improve gender equity within their peacekeeping ranks and expand the ways in which peacekeepers can effectively engage with all members of local communities,

*Noting* that women currently comprise only 8% of parliamentary representatives in the CAR according to the latest report by UN-Women, a number which falls far below gender parity and undermines women's representations and protections in the Member State,

*Recognizing* that victims of sexual and gender-based violence (SGBV) are less likely to return to school, and that half of the CAR's children are out of school due to the current conflict according to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF),

*Condemning* in the strongest terms violations of the Peace Agreement and violence perpetrated by armed groups and other militias, throughout the Member State, including violence aimed at obstructing the electoral process, use of landmines, incitement to ethnic and religious hatred and violence, violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses, including those committed against children and those involving SGBV in conflict, as well as violence directed at civilians from specific communities, resulting in deaths, injuries, and displacements,

*Affirming* the use of the Integrated Training Services (ITS) materials on training that include specific standards that monitor interactions that result in the prevention of SGBV in the CAR,

*Prioritizing* the need for transparency and accountability for those who are meant to provide safety and protection for the citizens of the CAR, including countering biases within policing which both the Security Council and UN-Women are concerned exacerbate inadequate responses to SGBV,

*Seeing* that in 2018 there were 1,969 cases of sexual violence reported to the Gender Based Violence Information Management System in the CAR, with 4,256 more being reported to Doctors Without Borders alone and over 225 being documented to the Security Council since January 2021,

*Notion with concern* that the actual number is believed to be much higher than the World Bank's latest evidence, which found that over 26% of women within CAR reported cases of sexual violence,

- 1. *Recommends* the endorsement made in Security Council resolution 2272 (2016) on "Sexual Exploitation and Abuse by United Nations Peacekeepers" and requests that:
  - a. The current repatriation actions be composed in reports and shared with the members of the Security Council;
  - b. Information on these accountability mechanisms be broadly shared with all troopcontributing Member States prior to their contribution of peacekeeping troops;
  - c. The United Nations Human Rights Screening Policy continues to be fully implemented in the recruitment of peacekeepers, with funding for expanded screening of peacekeeping personnel to be provided by the United Kingdom and facilitated by the UNDPKO;
- 2. *Calls upon* the UNDPKO to explore measures that aim to increase cooperation between peacekeepers and civilians on a local level, which is crucial in easing the humanitarian tasks of other UN bodies, as well as building a sense of trust between peacekeepers and civilians, by:
  - Ensuring this system of local cooperation measures between peacekeepers, civilians, and other UN bodies on the group will implement accountability measures for peacekeepers;
  - b. Recommending that the UNDPKO create more opportunities for peacekeepers to interact with the local community;
  - c. Suggesting the establishment of safe spaces on local levels where peacekeepers, other representatives of UN bodies, civilians, and authorities can cooperate;
  - d. Encouraging the UN General Assembly (GA) to explore potential solutions that can strengthen ties between civilians in the CAR with local authorities and peacekeepers, such as the example of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA);
- 3. Calls upon all parties to armed conflict in the CAR, to end SGBV;
- 4. *Further calls upon* the UNDPKO and Member States to swiftly investigate any alleged abuses in order to:
  - a. Maintain the integrity of UN peacekeepers;

- b. Ensure that those responsible for such crimes are excluded from further peacekeeping;
- c. Facilitate immediate access for all survivors of sexual violence to available services, including legal services;
- 5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to encourage the empowerment of women in the CAR by:
  - a. Involving women in the process of free and fair elections;
  - Inviting collaboration with women's civil society organizations, such as the Womens' Peace and Humanitarian Fund, in order to promote gender inclusion and local peacebuilding initiatives;
  - c. Ensuring diverse inclusion of women and girls in civil society, including those with disabilities, those who are sexual minorities, and those who have faced SGBV;
  - d. Further involving women at all levels of MINUSCA and in positions of leadership by actively sourcing talent from the United Nations Police Female Command Cadre;
  - e. Designating the CAR as a high-priority region for the deployment of currently-enlisted female peacekeepers;
  - f. Involving the CAR Panel of Experts to advise the UNPKO on the best methods of achieving gender parity and boosting women's involvement in peacekeeping efforts;
  - g. Encouraging the collaboration between bodies such as the African Union, UN-Women, UNICEF, and local organizations to increase protection of educational settings as well as increase informal educational opportunities, such as mentorship programs and others to ensure access to education for girls in conflict-affected areas are receiving the educational resources needed;
- 6. Requests the development of a bias prevention training conference in partnership with UN Women and hosted in coordination with non-governmental organization Peace Direct for all supervisory peacekeeping personnel active within the CAR in order to improve engagement between peacekeeping officers, local communities, and accountability agencies, with features including:
  - A mandatory requirement for all peacekeeping officers who oversee other peacekeeping personnel within the CAR to complete this conference at least once in their term of service;
  - Subject matter that prepares peacekeeping officers to identify how their personal preconceptions about different identities, specifically gender, affect their decision-making and actions;
  - c. An annual schedule for meetings and events, with dates set in conjunction with Peace Direct, Member States contributing peacekeeping troops, and the UNDPKO;

- 7. *Establishes* a mandatory SGBV prevention training that all peacekeepers must complete before deployment to the CAR by:
  - Recommending UNDPKO, in collaboration with other UN bodies and civil society organizations, develop training that provides peacekeepers confidence and knowledge on how to report SGBV committed by fellow peacekeepers;
  - b. Further recommending that SGBV prevention training places emphasis on preventing SGBV at the hands of UN Peacekeepers before any act of SGBV is committed;
  - Requesting that Member States provide additional funding to UNDPKO specifically earmarked for SGBV training and prevention for peacekeepers being deployed to the CAR;
  - d. Inviting non-governmental organizations and Central African civil society to begin an exchange of ideas and to advise UNDPKO on how to implement SGBV training for peacekeepers in order to ensure the communities that UN Peacekeepers are protecting are given input on the implementation of SGBV prevention training;
  - e. Authorizing UN Peacekeeping Operations to implement this SGBV training and prevention for all future peacekeepers under the MINUSCA;
- 8. *Encourages* the ITS to streamline the actions taken against peacekeepers who have committed acts of SGBV by:
  - a. Requesting that Member States follow decisions made by ITS in regards to Peacekeepers who have committed acts of SGBV;
  - Encouraging inclusion of the educaion of SGBV in the Civilian Pre-Deployment (CPT) for the distribution of justice in the development of institutions for individuals and their involvement in sexual violence towards civilians;
- 9. *Urges* the Secretary-General to coordinate with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence on Conflict to authorize and deploy Women's Protection Advisors (WPAs) to the CAR, whose purpose would be to:
  - a. Provide information to assist the United Nations' Monitoring, Analysis, and Reporting Arrangements (MARA) efforts and other associated investigations;
  - Advocate on behalf of and with women, girls, and others affected by sexual violence within local offices and camps within the CAR for considerations of sexual violence threats and incorporation of comprehensive strategies to prevent conflict-related SGBV within MINUSCA peacekeeping operations;
- 10. *Suggests* a working group which would implement robust and discrete reporting for local communities, in order to promote safety and access to reporting by:
  - a. Developing greater access to safe reporting for victims of SGBV by utilizing centralized facilities and secure mobile units in effort to ensure safe reporting access;

b. Maintaining and protecting anonymous documentation and recordkeeping by collecting and providing all records, documentation, data, and findings to the Mixed Unit for Rapid Intervention and Suppression of Sexual Violence against Women and Children and the World Health Organization.



Code: SC/1/2 Committee: UN Security Council Topic: The Situation In the Central African Republic

## The United Nations Security Council,

*Reaffirming* that the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic (CAR) signed in February 2019, should the foundation for a peaceful resolution to the situation in the CAR,

Acknowledging the importance of inclusive government and a peaceful transition of power in the CAR,

*Understanding* the importance of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), as well as its drawbacks and areas of improvement,

*Taking into consideration* the African Union (AU)-led nature of the operations of the former African-led International Support Mission to the CAR (MISCA),

*Calling upon* regional actors – particularly the AU and Economic Coalition of Central African States (ECCAS) – to take the lead on addressing the situation in CAR as outlined in the 2019 Peace Agreement,

*Believing that* the current Peacekeeper Ceiling of MINUSCA does not seem to be sufficient for the mission's efforts to reach the objective of its mandate,

*Observing* the Special Criminal Court (SCC) of the CAR's current inability to prosecute members of militia groups and war criminals, due to the lack of staff and financial resources,

*Deploring* the illegal distribution of small arms and light weapons to violent groups within CAR, which flow across the state's borders and contribute to increased attacks on government forces and civilians,

*Concerned that,* according to a United Nations Development Programme led study during the COVID-19 pandemic, violence against minority groups up 69% in CAR,

Reaffirming the engagement of the Security Council with the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC),

- 1. Modifies the MINUSCA Peacekeeper ceiling by:
  - a. Increasing the current ceiling from 11,650 an additional 30% in order to combat the rise of domestic terror within the country;
  - b. Requiring the annual reassessment of the troop ceiling by a independent panel of experts alongside the Security Council renewal of MINUSCA's mandate;
- 2. *Strongly encourages* the increase of the Secretary General's Peacebuilding Fund in order to further aid CAR with supporting effective performance and accountability;
- Calls upon the Secretary General to create a shared UN and AU coalition through the collaboration of both entities to collect, share, and utilize data analysis and conflict reconnaissance in the CAR to monitor potential hostile incursions and alert peacekeeping forces in advance to strengthen border security;

- 4. *Calls for* the implementation of increased border security for CAR in regards to illicit arms and smuggling which is continuing to fuel the conflict by:
  - a. Tasking the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa to increase research specifically regarding security threats to the border to create recommendations to Member States, CAR, and other relevant bodies to address CAR border crises in an urgent manner;
  - *b. Implementing* training programs for CAR forces using training tactics from the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization and the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan on early warning systems in regard to border violations;
- 5. Invites the Government of CAR to integrate qualified personnel of the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) into the SCC in Bangui, in order to address staffing shortages so that the SCC can continue to provide a reliable counterbalance to apparent political division in the country and rebuild the rule of law;
- 6. *Supports* the creation of a "Violence Aid and Relief Center" (VARC) as an adaptation of the Humanitarian Task Force previously utilized in the International Syria Support Group to facilitate implementation through UNHCR which would:
  - a. Seek to aid internally displaced people who are impacted by the situation in CAR by:

i.Providing a variety of relief services, such as the distribution of food, water, and medical care;

ii.Offering civilians safety workshops to help them better protect themselves and find shelter during conflict;

- b. Be implemented with the assistance from groups such as Refugees International, which provides solutions to displaced persons similar to relief and humanitarian efforts carried out by the Center for Anti-Violence Education;
- 7. *Concurs* that reassessment of the arms embargo imposed by this body is a substantial concern, and will postpone discussions surrounding this issue until after January 1, 2022.



Code: PRST/2/1 Committee: Security Council Topic: Urgent Situation in the Suez Canal and Threat of Piracy

## Statement by the President of the Security Council

On 7 November 2021, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Urgent Situation in the Suez Canal and the Threat of Piracy", the President of the Security Council issued the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council expresses deep concern regarding the crisis in the Suez Canal and the resulting threat of piracy for cargo ships which have been rerouted around the horn of Africa. The Security Council notes with utmost sadness the 143 casualties aboard the Estelle Maersk, including the ship's Captain and Head Engineer, and sends its deepest condolences to the families and Member States of those affected. The Security Council urges international cooperation in addressing these pressing issues, in full recognition of the close connection between the consequences of this blockage, the security concerns now posed, and the tragedies already incurred. The Security Council recognizes that all solutions should ensure sovereignty is respected for involved Member States.

"The Security Council recognizes that the overarching issue to address is the logistical situation in the Suez Canal. The Security Council intends to coordinate with Egypt, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and pertinent regional bodies to provide aid and humanitarian assistance to the crew stranded on the Jamais Perdu. It is imperative to prioritize the physical safety and health of the crew of the Estelle Maersk, and the protection of crew members of other ships threatened by piracy in the region. The Security Council is prepared to consider the possibility of a new initiative to call upon Member States to send personnel and humanitarian aid to assist in the situation in cooperation with the International Maritime Organization (IMO) for the purpose of the distribution of essential aid.

"The Security Council also suggests port management companies direct attention at coordinating the high influx of returning vessels and cargo, as well as potential improvised shipping routes. The Security Council can recommend alternate trade routes including the Northern Sea route, to alleviate the strain on the Suez Canal and provide Member States and shipping companies with a means of transporting their goods free from the threat of piracy. Furthermore, the Security Council recommends that these companies begin a prioritization of cargo so that perishable cargo may be transported along the improvised shipping lines before less urgent materials.

"The Security Council continues to be gravely concerned by the threat that piracy and armed robbery at sea pose to the safety of commercial maritime routes, the security and economic development of Member States in the regions concerned, international navigation, as well as to the safety and welfare of seafarers and other persons, including those being taken as hostages, and the increasing violence employed by pirates and persons involved in piracy and armed robbery at sea. The Security Council condemns in the strongest terms the hostage-taking and use of violence against hostages conducted by pirates in the Gulf of Guinea, and calls upon Member States to collaborate and share information and intelligence in order to secure the early release of hostages, in addition to any necessary negotiations processes. The Security Council recognizes the need to strengthen Member States' capacity in taking effective measures against piracy and the

implementation of anti-piracy measures, and invites Member States to share best practices and experiences with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, the International Maritime Organization, other International Organizations and NGOS on vulnerabilities and areas of improvement.

"The Security Council reaffirms that international law, as reflected in the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982, in particular articles 100 to 107, sets out the legal framework applicable to combating piracy at sea and calls upon Member States to take appropriate steps under their national laws to facilitate, in accordance with international law, the apprehension and prosecution of those who are alleged to have committed acts of piracy.

"The Security Council remains concerned with the situation in the Suez Canal and understands that this is the second instance of a similar kind in the past year emphasizing the enormous economic impact that this has on every Member State. The Security Council understands that there must be urgent and effective reform to procedure and infrastructure to prevent future catastrophic blockages of key trade routes. The Security Council intends to work closely with the Suez Canal Authority and relevant Member States to reassess the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea to efficiently coordinate and prepare for future trade route crises. Many Member States have expressed an intent to cooperate in this issue, and to provide funds and resources to resolve the current issue.

"The Security Council offers its support to Member States and their citizens affected by the crisis in the Suez Canal and facing further threats of piracy and violence as redirected ships pass around the Horn of Africa."



## The United Nations Security Council,

*Recognizing* that the piracy occurring in the African Horn is close to the sovereign waters of African Member States and is widely disrupting international trade resulting in a loss of US \$500 million per hour,

*Further recognizing* that the levels of piracy has reached critical levels near the Gulf of Guinea, resulting in the deaths of multiple people,

*Remaining cognizant* of the state sovereignty afforded to Member States through the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) regarding their territorial sea and exclusive economic zones,

*Highlighting* that The United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization further estimates that 57% of fishes are exploited while 30% are over-exploited or depleted,

*Acknowledging* that alternative shipping routes become more available during summer months due to global warming melting ice caps in the arctic,

*Noting* that piracy is widely caused by lack of stability in Member States, specifically due to commercial overfishing and lack of economic opportunity, according to the United Nations Security Council and The Ocean and the Sustainable Development Goals Under The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,

*Noting* the existing Security Council Resolution 2554 (2020) "On Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea off the Coast of Somalia" that renews the authorization of other Member States and regional organizations to assist in naval forces and other equipment to help assist in the detriment of piracy and armed robberies at sea,

*Noting with deep concern* the desperate crisis situation in the Suez Canal and working to increase international collaboration to develop both short-term and long-term solutions,

*Observing* that, while the crisis at hand must be resolved, long-term solutions to piracy must be concurrently implemented to preclude similar incidents in the future,

*Realizing* the number of civilians onboard vessels currently stalled in the Suez Canal, which creates a necessity for humanitarian relief such as food, water, medical supplies, and others,

- 1. *Authorizes* the expansion of current resolution Security Council Resolution 2554 (2020) "On Piracy and Armed Robbery at Sea off the Coast of Somalia" by:
  - a. Calling upon Member States who are able to do so to increase their naval forces off the Somali Coast within the international High Seas;
  - b. Initiating patrolling of the area under international jurisdiction surrounding the Horn of Africa, in addition to the current patrolling off the Somali Coast;
  - c. Asking Member States that are able to do so to provide additional funding and naval security forces to major port cities, under the consent and jurisdiction of the specified Member States, near the Horn of Africa in order to augment security to combat piracy in

the region;

- 2. *Further authorizes* an International Naval Force for Fighting Piracy off the Gulf of Guinea through:
  - a. The invitation of all Member States who are able to do so to provide naval forces and security in the Gulf of Guinea to patrol international waters in order to prevent piracy;
  - b. Asking Member States that are able to do so to provide additional funding and naval security forces to major port cities, under the consent and jurisdiction of the specified Member States, near the Gulf of Guinea in order to augment security and combat piracy in the region;
- 3. Declares accordingly once more the deployment of an international naval force to:
  - a. Request that further expansion of the mandate of Security Council Resolution 2554 uses the full power of the International Piracy Tribunal for full prosecution of piracy;
  - b. Enact a voluntary international naval force will be deployed immediately with the participation of several willing member states both from the region and with naval bases in the region to protect cargo ships from piracy;
  - c. This emergency coalition will coordinate to ensure the protection of the ships left stagnant as the canal is blocked as their presence will deter piracy;
  - d. This coalition is entirely voluntary and does not call upon any specific nations, but rather on the region in general, particularly in the hopes of participation from countries in the region;
  - e. If the situation arises again in the future, the international naval force will deploy again to protect cargo ships;
  - f. Task the international naval force in coordination with Covid-19 Vaccines Global Access (COVAX) to guard and disseminate vital COVID-19 medical resources such as vaccinations, ventilators, personal protective equipment, and other vital resources;
- 4. *Strongly suggests* the utilization of alternative routes through the Arctic Sea during periods of the year where those routes are accessible, governed by a regional exploratory framework implemented between Russia and the European Union;
- 5. Encourages the promotion of protected fishing areas to create viable economic opportunities that provide more incentive than that of piracy, as the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) states, "illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing activities are responsible for the loss of... US\$10-23 billion" each year:
  - a. Partner with UNCLOS to update fishing regulations and the presence of monitoring regulatory bodies;
  - Reminds Member States of the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 14.4 "By 2020, effectively regulate harvesting and end overfishing, illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing and destructive fishing practices";
  - c. Draw attention to Article 199 on the Convention on the Law of the Sea;

- 6. *Supports* cooperation with the African Union on any action taken on piracy along African Member States that will:
  - a. Ensure open communication between the African Union and the navies that go to support the piracy crisis;
  - b. Maintains that voluntary naval vessels from African Member States are present on any force adopted by the Security Council that goes to act on piracy along the coasts of African Member States;
- 7. *Recommends* that the African Union work in partnership with non-governmental organizations and intergovernmental governmental organizations from the international community to ferry temporary aid and immediate food and oil supplies to ships that are stuck in the Suez Canal;
- 8. *Encourages* additional dialogue concerning maritime port security and avenues for global collaboration on bolstering maritime officer training as a piracy prevention measure;
- 9. *Recommends* the establishment of a research commission on the proposed expansion of the Suez Canal in relation to potential unintended consequences of such a project:
  - a. Research commission would be made up of voluntary Egyptian representatives as well as relevant UN experts on construction, environmental effects, and shipping and;
  - b. Commission would be ad hoc and can be extended by the Security Council.