

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 19 December 2019 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 2019. 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) Léon Houadja Kacou **Adom**
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 2019.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Léon Houadja Kacou Adom (Côte d'Ivoire) as Chair and the representative of Kuwait 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 tasked with, among other things, overseeing the implementation of the sanctions measures. By the same resolution, the Council established a panel of experts working under the direction of the Committee.
4. Subsequently, by its resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), the Security Council imposed additional measures, such as 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. Both resolutions contain exemptions to the measures and criteria for designation. By its resolution [2488 \(2019\)](#), the Council decided that the arms embargo would no longer apply to supplies of weapons with a calibre of 14.5 mm or less, and ammunition and components specially designed for such weapons, to the Central African Republic security forces, as notified in advance to the Committee.
5. The Panel of Experts on the Central African Republic consists of five experts. Its mandate was extended most recently in resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#).
6. Further background information on the Central African Republic sanctions regime can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

7. The Committee held two briefings for Member States, on 29 January and 6 September, and met nine times in informal consultations, on 21 January, 22 February, 22 March, 29 July (two meetings), 6 August, 12 September, 18 November and 2 December, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.
8. During the informal consultations held on 21 January, the Committee held a videoconference with representatives of the Government of the Central African Republic, including the Minister of Defence and the Minister of the Interior and Public Security, to discuss the arms embargo and efforts made by the Government.
9. During the briefing to Member States held on 29 January, the Committee invited the Permanent Representatives of Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan and the Sudan, as well as the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts, to discuss the final report of the Panel ([S/2018/1119](#)) and the challenges faced by Member States in monitoring and implementing the sanctions measures.

10. During the informal consultations held on 22 February, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts presented the Panel's progress update to the Committee, submitted in accordance with paragraph 32 (d) of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#).
11. During the informal consultations held on 22 March, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its programme of work.
12. On 29 July, the Committee held joint informal consultations with the Working Group on Children and Armed Conflict, during which members heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. Following those consultations, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts presented the Panel's midterm report to the Committee, submitted pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#), and the Committee discussed the recommendations contained therein.
13. During the informal consultations held on 6 August, the Committee received a briefing by the Chief of the Security Council Subsidiary Organs Branch on the assessment by the Secretary-General of the benchmarks established by the Council concerning the arms embargo in the Central African Republic ([S/2019/609](#)).
14. During the briefing to Member States held on 6 September, the Committee invited the Permanent Representatives of Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Congo, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, South Sudan and the Sudan, as well as the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts, to discuss the midterm report of the Panel ([S/2019/608](#)) and the challenges faced by Member States in monitoring and implementing the sanctions measures.
15. During the informal consultations held on 12 September, the Committee heard briefings on trafficking in arms in the Central African Republic and the region by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa and Head of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa, the arms expert of the Panel of Experts on the Central African Republic and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic.
16. During the informal consultations held on 18 November, the Chair of the Committee presented a report on his visit to the Central African Republic from 1 to 4 October.
17. During the informal consultations held on 2 December, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts presented the Panel's final report ([S/2019/930](#)), submitted pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#), and the Committee discussed the recommendations contained therein.
18. Following the above-mentioned briefings and informal consultations, and in accordance with paragraph 104 of the annex to the note by the President of the Security Council ([S/2017/507](#)), the Committee issued press releases containing brief summaries of the meetings.
19. On 21 February, the Chair of the Committee provided a briefing to the Security Council on the activities of the Committee, pursuant to resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#) (see [S/PV.8467](#)).
20. From 1 to 4 October, the Chair and the members of the Committee visited the Central African Republic. A report on the visit was circulated to the members of the Committee on 30 October.
21. On 1 March and 6 September, the Committee issued notes verbales to all Member States in connection with the updated list of individuals and entities subject

to the measures established pursuant to paragraphs 1, 9 and 16 of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#).

22. In 2019, the Committee received implementation reports from two Member States.

23. The Committee sent 67 communications to 45 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

IV. Exemptions

24. Exemptions to the arms embargo are contained in paragraph 54 (a) to (f) of resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#). Requirements related to the partial lifting of the arms embargo are contained in paragraph 2 (a) to (i) of resolution [2488 \(2019\)](#).

25. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraph 31 (a) to (c) of resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), as reaffirmed in paragraph 1 of resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#).

26. Exemptions to the asset freeze are contained in paragraph 33 (a) to (c) of resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), as reaffirmed in paragraph 1 of resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#).

27. The Committee received 19 arms embargo notifications in pursuance of paragraph 1 (b) of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#) and subsequently paragraph 2 (b) of resolution [2488 \(2019\)](#), as well as 1 notification in pursuance of paragraph 1 (a) of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#) and subsequently paragraph 2 (a) of resolution [2488 \(2019\)](#). The Committee also approved six arms embargo exemption requests pursuant to paragraph 1 (h) of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#) and subsequently paragraph 2 (i) of resolution [2488 \(2019\)](#), and three arms embargo exemption requests pursuant to paragraph 1 (g) of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#) prior to the adoption of resolution [2488 \(2019\)](#).

V. Sanctions list

28. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze are set out in paragraphs 15, 20 and 21 of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

29. As at the end of the reporting period, there were 11 individuals and two entities on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Panel of Experts

30. On 22 February, in accordance with paragraph 32 (d) of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), the Panel of Experts provided a progress update to the Committee on information obtained during the Panel's visits to the Central African Republic following the presentation of its final report for 2018 ([S/2018/1119](#)) to the Committee on 7 December 2018.

31. On 4 March, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#) on 31 January, the Secretary-General appointed five individuals to serve on the Panel, with expertise in finance and natural resources, regional issues, arms, armed groups and humanitarian issues (see [S/2019/210](#)). The mandate of the Panel expires on 29 February 2020.

32. On 8 May, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 2454 (2019), the Panel provided a progress update to the Committee.
33. On 12 July, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 2454 (2019), the Panel presented its midterm report to the Committee (S/2019/608), which was transmitted to the Security Council on 30 July and issued as a document of the Council.
34. On 11 November, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 2454 (2019), the Panel provided its final report (S/2019/930) to the Committee.
35. On 26 February, in accordance with paragraph 32 (f) of resolution 2399 (2018), as subsequently renewed in resolution 2454 (2019), the Panel provided confidential information, comprising supporting evidence, on an individual who, in the Panel's view, had met the listing criteria delineated in paragraphs 20 and 21 of that resolution.
36. On 3 September, in accordance with paragraph 32 (f) of resolution 2399 (2018), as subsequently renewed in resolution 2454 (2019), the Panel provided confidential information, comprising supporting evidence and updated information, on three individuals who, in the Panel's view, had met the listing criteria delineated in paragraphs 20 and 21 of that resolution.
37. On 2 December, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 2454 (2019), the Panel presented its final report to the Committee, which was transmitted to the Security Council on 6 December and issued as a document of the Council (S/2019/930).
38. The Panel conducted visits to Benin, Cameroon, Chad, Equatorial Guinea, France, Gabon, the Russian Federation and the United States of America. It also conducted a visit to the European Union headquarters in Belgium.
39. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel has, through the Secretariat, sent 80 letters to 41 Member States, the Committee and international and national entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

40. The Security Council Affairs Division provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and the members of the Committee. Advisory support was also provided to Member States to promote understanding of the sanctions regimes and facilitate the implementation of the sanctions measures. Induction briefings were also provided to incoming members of the Council to familiarize them with the specific issues relevant to the sanctions regime. The Division, together with the Department of Peace Operations and the Department of Safety and Security, supported the visit of the Chair and the members of the Committee to the Central African Republic from 1 to 4 October.
41. To support the Committee in its recruitment of well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 18 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for membership of the roster of experts. In addition, a note verbale was sent to all Member States notifying them of upcoming vacancies on the Panel of Experts and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements. On 15 November, the vacancy announcement was also made available online at careers.un.org.
42. The Division continued to provide support to the Panel of Experts, conducting an induction for newly appointed members and assisting in the preparation of the Panel's midterm report, submitted to the Committee in July, and its final report, submitted to the Committee in November. The Secretariat convened a two-day

inter-panel workshop, at which 60 experts representing 10 sanctions panels were invited to share experiences and good practices and to discuss issues of common interest. The Secretariat also organized an investigative techniques workshop, which was focused on investigative methods and tools for panel experts.

43. The Secretariat continued to update and maintain the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List and the committee-specific sanctions lists in the six official languages and the three technical formats. Furthermore, the Secretariat implemented improvements concerning the effective utilization of and access to sanctions lists, as well as further developing, in all official languages, the data model approved in 2011 by the Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, as requested by the Security Council in paragraph 54 of resolution [2368 \(2017\)](#).

44. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#), the Secretary-General submitted his report concerning progress achieved on the key benchmarks, on 31 July 2019 ([S/2019/609](#)). He also submitted his update report on progress achieved by the authorities of the Central African Republic in relation to the benchmarks, in pursuance of paragraph 7 of resolution [2488 \(2019\)](#), on 31 December ([S/2019/1008](#)).
