

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 31 December 2013 from the Chair of the
Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#)
and [1989 \(2011\)](#) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals
and entities addressed to the President of the Security Council**

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#) and [1989 \(2011\)](#) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2013

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

(Signed) Gary **Quinlan**
Chair

Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#) and
[1989 \(2011\)](#) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities



Report of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#) and [1989 \(2011\)](#) concerning Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities

I. Introduction

1. The purpose of the present report is to provide a factual summary of the Committee's activities during the period from 1 January to 31 December 2013, in accordance with the transparency measures outlined by the President of the Security Council in his note of 29 March 1995 ([S/1995/234](#)). The previous annual report of the Committee was issued on 19 December 2012 ([S/2012/930](#)).

II. Background information

2. Following consultations among the members of the Security Council, the Council agreed to elect the Bureau of the Committee for 2013, which consisted of Ambassador Gary Quinlan (Australia) as Chair, with the delegations of Guatemala and the Russian Federation providing the two Vice-Chairs (see [S/2013/2/Rev.1](#)). The Committee was guided in the discharge of its mandate by Council resolution [1904 \(2009\)](#), resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#) and other relevant resolutions. The Committee also benefited in its work from the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy (see General Assembly resolution [60/288](#)). The Committee was assisted by the New York-based Analytical Support and Sanctions Monitoring Team, established pursuant to resolution [1526 \(2004\)](#) and most recently extended by resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#), which worked under the direction of the Committee.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

3. During 2013, the Committee continued its proactive approach to discharging its mandate and enhanced its role in countering Al-Qaida-related terrorism. In line with its programme of work, the Committee convened 15 informal consultations, to discuss issues related to the implementation of the sanctions measures, the maintenance of the Sanctions List and other matters related to its mandate.

4. In 2013, the Committee approved numerous updates to Al-Qaida Sanctions List entries and narrative summaries of reasons for listing, thereby further improving the quality of the List and the narrative summaries. The Committee considered and approved 33 updates to the List.¹

Maintenance and dissemination of the Al-Qaida Sanctions List

5. Keeping the Al-Qaida Sanctions List as updated and accurate as possible greatly promotes effective and universal implementation of the sanctions measures by Member States. The Committee strives to ensure that the List is dynamic and responsive to the evolving threat posed by Al-Qaida.

¹ A single update to the List may concern one or more listed individuals or entities.

6. Building upon the comprehensive review of all listings completed in 2010, pursuant to paragraph 25 of resolution 1822 (2008), the Committee has since implemented numerous mechanisms to ensure that the List best reflects the threat posed by Al-Qaida and to guarantee that every entry is periodically reviewed to determine whether continued listing is appropriate.

7. In 2013, the Committee continued the “triennial review”, a review of all names on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List that have not been reviewed in three or more years, conducted annually pursuant to paragraph 42 of resolution 2083 (2012). Between January and December 2013, the Committee examined the 44 names identified for review by the Monitoring Team in December 2012, in consultation with all “relevant States” for each listing (the State that originally proposed the listing, known as the “designating State”, the State of nationality and residence (for individuals) or the States of incorporation and location (for entities)). As at the date of the present report, the Committee had decided to retain 33 listings on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, to remove 5 listings from it and continued the review of 6 names. Of the five names removed from the List three were delisted at the request of the designating State pursuant to paragraph 26 of resolution 2083 (2006), zero were delisted at the request of a Member State and two were delisted under the recommendation of the Ombudsperson pursuant to paragraph 21 of resolution 2083 (2006). An updated list of names to be reviewed as part of the triennial review will be submitted by the Monitoring Team in December 2013.

8. In 2013, the Committee also conducted the three specialized reviews of the Al-Qaida Sanctions List: the review of reportedly deceased individuals, the review of entities reported or confirmed to have ceased to exist and the review of entries lacking sufficient identifying information for effective implementation of the sanctions measures.

9. Pursuant to paragraph 40 of resolution 2083 (2012), the Committee reviewed the listings of 13 reportedly deceased individuals on the basis of a list of such individuals submitted by the Monitoring Team in May and then updated in November 2013. The Committee consulted with the relevant States for each listing and considered additional information submitted by Member States and by the Monitoring Team. On the basis of this review, the Committee decided to remove the listings of 3 of the 13 individuals, at the request of the designating State pursuant to paragraph 26 of resolution 2083 (2006). The Committee is currently considering the updated table of 10 names submitted by the Monitoring Team in November.

10. In March 2013, as mandated by paragraph 41 of resolution 2083 (2012), the Monitoring Team submitted a list of 18 entities that are reported or confirmed to have ceased to exist. The Committee reviewed these names and has reached out to relevant Member States, including designating States, to obtain and assess any relevant information during its consideration of whether to retain or remove the names from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List. On the basis of this review, the Committee decided to remove the name of one entity from the list and continued to review the updated list of 17 names submitted by the Monitoring Team.

11. In May 2013, the Committee also received a list of 22 names that lacked sufficient identifying information for the effective implementation of the sanctions measures, submitted by the Monitoring Team pursuant to paragraph 39 of resolution 2083 (2012). The Committee obtained additional identifying information from Member States for five of the names reviewed. The Committee continued to review

the updated list of 17 names submitted by the Monitoring Team and to engage with Member States to gather information on those names.

12. These extensive review mechanisms ensure that the List is as accurate and up to date as possible and reflects accurately the current threat. Moreover, the triennial review ensures that each and every name on the List is reviewed periodically, so that no entry remains on the List in perpetuity.

13. In total, as part of the 33 updates to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List in the reporting period, the Committee decided to add 8 individuals and 2 entities to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List over the course of the year. Amendments were approved with regard to 14 existing entries on the List. In the reporting period, the Committee acceded to the delisting of 22 individuals and 2 entities, of which 12 individuals and 1 entity were delisted following review by the Ombudsperson.

14. To promote rapid dissemination and effective implementation, the Committee continues to issue a press release, a note verbale and an electronic notification to contact points in permanent missions in New York and in capitals following each update to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List. In accordance with paragraph 19 of resolution [1526 \(2004\)](#), the Secretariat also continues to transmit hard copies of the Al-Qaida Sanctions List for the convenience of Member States. During 2013, the List was transmitted on 8 April (SCA/2/13 (13)), 29 August (SCA/2/13 (26)) and 30 October (SCA/2/13 (35)) and will be transmitted again on 31 December.

15. Pursuant to paragraphs 17 and 35 of resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#), the Committee's secretariat notifies the permanent mission of the relevant country or countries regarding the listing or delisting of individuals or entities within three working days. The notifications include the country or countries where the individual or entity concerned is believed to be located, and, in the case of individuals, the country of which the person is a national. The notifications remind relevant States that they are required to take, in accordance with their domestic laws and practices, all possible measures to notify or inform in a timely manner the individuals and entities concerned of the Committee's decision to add them to or remove them from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List, as well as to provide them with relevant information.

Exemptions from the sanctions measures

16. During the reporting period, the Committee, mindful that the Security Council provided for exemptions from the assets freeze, including for humanitarian purposes, continued to consider notifications and requests for exemptions from the assets freeze submitted pursuant to paragraphs 1 (a) and (b) of Council resolution [1452 \(2002\)](#). The Secretariat also maintained and regularly updated the list of States that have approached the Committee pursuant to the resolution. In 2013, the Committee received three notifications pursuant to paragraph 1 (a) of the resolution. No negative decision was taken by the Committee with regard to those notifications. The Committee also considered one request for exemption from the travel ban, pursuant to paragraph 37 (b) of resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#). The Committee could not accede to this request, given the absence of communications from the States of transit and destination stating their agreement to the proposed travel of the listed individual.

The Committee website

17. The Committee continued to update its website (www.un.org/sc/committees/1267) with relevant, non-confidential information pertaining to work of the Committee. The Committee also maintains extensive information concerning the Office of the Ombudsperson on its website, setting out up-to-date information on the status of delisting requests submitted through the Office of the Ombudsperson, and statements by the Ombudsperson relating to her work.

Implementation of the sanctions measures

18. During the reporting period, the Committee received notes verbales from Member States and relevant entities within Member States informing the Committee of their implementation of changes made to the Al-Qaida Sanctions List.

19. Reporting on possible cases of non-compliance and presenting recommendations for improving implementation is at the centre of the Monitoring Team's mandate, as described in paragraphs (i) and (j) of annex I to resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#). The Committee considered information collected from Member States with the assistance of the Monitoring Team. The Committee also continued to encourage the Monitoring Team to further enhance its role in strengthening the capacity of Member States to fully implement the Security Council sanctions regime against Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities. The Committee in this regard encouraged cooperation between the Monitoring Team and the Executive Directorate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism, which serves as a system integrator for capacity-building initiatives within the Council sanctions framework.

20. The Committee also continued to receive requests from Member States, international and regional organizations seeking additional information that the Committee may have access to regarding the continued listing of certain individuals or entities on the Sanctions List. The Committee responded by providing additional information and by facilitating contacts between those seeking clarification and such others as might be in a position to provide clarification.

Briefings by the Chair of the Committee to the Security Council

21. The Chair, together with the Chairs of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism and the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), gave two joint briefings to the Council in 2013. The first briefing was held on 10 May (see [S/PV.6964](#)) and the second on 27 November (see [S/PV.7071](#)). In his statements on 10 May and 27 November, given pursuant to paragraph 59 of resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#), the Chair informed the Council about the current and future activities of the Committee and the Monitoring Team. The briefings focused on efforts by the Committee to ensure that the Al-Qaida sanctions regime effectively addressed the evolving threat to international peace and security posed by Al-Qaida and its affiliates and that the Al-Qaida Sanctions List was correspondingly dynamic and up to date. They also described the Committee's cooperation with the Office of the Ombudsperson in maintaining fair and clear procedures.

Dialogue and outreach

22. On 9 April 2013, the Committee met with representatives of the Department of Political Affairs, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, the Monitoring Team, the Executive Directorate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism and the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force. The purpose of the meeting was to allow the Committee to be briefed by relevant entities within the United Nations system on current challenges to the implementation of the sanctions measures faced by Member States, particularly with a focus on linked individuals and entities operating in Mali and the Sahel.

23. On 18 November 2013, Ambassador Quinlan, in his capacity as Chair of the Committee and of the Committees established pursuant to resolutions [1737 \(2006\)](#) and [1988 \(2011\)](#), joined the Chairs of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#) and the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1718 \(2006\)](#) concerning the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, to convene an open briefing between the President of Financial Action Task Force and the Chairs of the Security Council Committees engaged in countering the financing of terrorism and proliferation. The briefing had as its objective to increase awareness among Member States of the measures imposed by the Council and the related recommendations and guidance developed by the Financial Action Task Force, and the assistance that the Council sanctions committees and experts groups, and the Task Force and affiliated regional bodies of a similar type, can provide Member States.

24. On 3 December 2013, the Chair invited the permanent representatives of countries in the Sahel, the Maghreb and adjoining regions to a special meeting of the Committee to discuss the threat posed by Al-Qaida and associates in the Sahel and the Maghreb regions. The purpose of the special meeting was to take the first step in improving regional awareness of the Al-Qaida sanctions regime and encouraging greater engagement between the Committee and countries in the Sahel and the Maghreb.

Cooperation with international and regional organizations and agencies

25. During the reporting period, the Committee continued to develop its cooperation with international and regional organizations and agencies, often with the support of the Monitoring Team (see paras. 32, 33 and 35 below).

26. The Committee has continued its cooperation with the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), including through the issuance of INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices designed to alert relevant national law enforcement authorities responsible for sanctions implementation of individuals or entities subject to Council sanctions measures (see paras. 32 and 34 below).

Coordination with the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) and their expert groups

27. On numerous occasions, the members of the Committee have highlighted the complementary functions of the Committee, the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004) in countering international terrorism, and the need for coordination of activities and exchange of information among them. During the joint briefings to the Security Council, on 10 May and 27 November, a common message on cooperation and coordination among the committees and their expert groups was read out on behalf of the three Chairs.

28. Cooperation among the three committees is also greatly facilitated by certain coordinated activities carried out by the Monitoring Team, the Executive Directorate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism and the experts who support the Committee established pursuant to resolution 1540 (2004). These activities are described in detail in paragraphs 35 and 36 below.

IV. Office of the Ombudsperson

29. In resolution 2083 (2012), the Security Council continued to enhance the mandate of the Ombudsperson and provided for the Ombudsperson to present a recommendation to retain a listing or a recommendation that the Committee consider delisting. In cases where the Ombudsperson recommends delisting, the petitioner is removed from the Al-Qaida Sanctions List after 60 days, unless there is consensus in the Committee to retain the listing, or a member of the Committee requests a referral to the Council. The Committee, through resolution 2083 (2012), has also strongly urged Member States to provide all relevant information to the Ombudsperson, including any relevant confidential information, in a timely manner.

30. The Office of the Ombudsperson has submitted 18 comprehensive reports to the Committee during the reporting period. The Committee has taken a decision in 16 cases, resulting in the delisting of 13 individuals and 1 entity. In two cases, the petition for delisting was denied. Six cases are in the decision phase before the Committee.

V. Monitoring Team

31. The Monitoring Team continued to provide support to the Committee in undertaking its work by analysing the threat posed by Al-Qaida and its affiliates, providing advice on listings, narrative summaries, periodic reviews of listed entries and focusing on strengthening the impact of the sanctions regime.

32. Throughout the year, the Monitoring Team has continued its outreach activities, visiting 19 Member States in Africa, Europe, South-East Asia and North America, which helped the Team to understand the challenges that Member States face when implementing the sanctions regime and, through direct contact with local authorities

directly responsible for security and counter-terrorism, to better understand how those States perceive the threat posed by Al-Qaida and its affiliates.

33. The Monitoring Team participated in 39 international and regional conferences, meetings, workshops or trainings. It continued to engage actively with organizations such as the Financial Action Task Force and regional bodies of a similar type, as well as with the European Union, INTERPOL, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and the International Air Transport Association.

34. The Monitoring Team participated in the thirty-eighth session of the ICAO Assembly, held in Montreal, Canada, from 24 September to 4 October 2013, in order to promote understanding of the travel ban measure. The Team also attended the OSCE 2013 Counter-Terrorism Conference, held in Kyiv on 10 and 11 October 2013 on the theme “Priority issues for international cooperation in the fight against terrorism”, and participated as a discussant in an intervention at the session on public-private partnerships in countering terrorism.

35. The Monitoring Team has continued to strengthen its active cooperation with INTERPOL. It attended the INTERPOL General Assembly in Cartagena, Colombia, in October 2013, and participated as a trainer in the workshop on sanctions implementation hosted by INTERPOL in Lyon, France, in March 2013 for a group of national officials from African countries, in particular officials from the National Central Bureaux and police forces. The Team continues to cooperate actively with INTERPOL on the joint INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices.

36. The Monitoring Team continued to coordinate its work with the Executive Directorate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1373 \(2001\)](#) concerning counter-terrorism and the expert group of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1540 \(2004\)](#), especially in areas of coordination with key international, regional and subregional organizations. For example, in 2013 the Team participated in events organized by the Executive Directorate, such as a conference on border control held in Rabat in March and in assets freeze workshops in Ashgabat in November and in Bangkok in December. The Team also attended the Executive Directorate special event on countering terrorism through the use of new communications and information technologies, held in New York in May.

37. The Monitoring Team also worked closely with other United Nations expert groups and special political missions, in particular those with the most direct links to its work, such as the Panel of Experts on Libya and the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group.

38. The Monitoring Team continues to engage with the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force and in its working groups. Its participation in the Task Force includes regular participation in all of its coordination meetings and annual retreats. The Coordinator participated in the Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force International Counter-Terrorism Focal Points Conference on Addressing Conditions Conducive to the Spread of Terrorism and Promoting Regional Cooperation, held in Geneva in June 2013. The Team also continues to work closely with the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Centre.

39. In the framework of the Global Counterterrorism Forum, the Monitoring Team participated in the Workshop on Proactive Counter-Terrorism Good Practices for the

Criminal Justice Sector, held in Abuja, and in the meeting of the Sahel Working Group held in Oran, Algeria, in June 2013, with the aim of promoting the sanctions regime and assessing the threat in the region.

40. In Vienna in July 2013, the Monitoring Team held its eleventh meeting for heads and deputy heads of intelligence and security services from Algeria, Egypt, Libya, Morocco, Saudi Arabia, Tunisia, the United Arab Emirates and Yemen. In addition, the Team organized in Abidjan, the first regional meeting for heads and deputy heads of intelligence and security services for countries of the Sahel and West Africa. These meetings provide the Committee with invaluable information both on implementation of the sanctions regime, as well as the threat posed by Al-Qaida and its affiliates, and provide a forum for intelligence and security officials from different countries to engage with each other and with the Team and exchange information.

41. On the Sahel region, the Monitoring Team attended meetings and participated in discussions on the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel and co-drafted the working group papers. In August, the Team circulated to the Chair and the members of the Committee a Sahel non-paper in preparation for a special meeting of the Committee to discuss the threat posed by Al-Qaida and affiliates with permanent representatives of Member States in the Sahel and in West and North Africa.

42. As mandated under resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#) the Monitoring Team submitted reports to the Committee in July and December 2013, in which it provided recommendations on how to improve the sanctions regime and strengthen the impact of the sanctions, with an evaluation of the threat from Al-Qaida and its affiliates and updates on the activities of the Team.

43. The Monitoring Team has also continued to provide the Committee with updated lists of individuals and entities relevant for the mandated periodic reviews under resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#): the triennial review; the review of entries lacking sufficient identifiers; and the review of individuals who are confirmed or reported to be deceased and review of entities that are confirmed or reported to be defunct. It has also assisted the Committee in the follow-up of issues arising from the reviews.

44. As mandated in paragraph 16 of resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#), the Monitoring Team has continued to support the Committee on listing requests, by providing additional information when relevant, in order to inform the Committee's decision on designations and, as mandated in paragraph 14, provided the Committee with draft narrative summaries of reasons for listing.

45. The Monitoring Team has also proposed new explanation of terms papers on the three sanction measures, so as to ensure that they take into account the evolution of the threat as much as possible.

46. As mandated under resolution [2083 \(2012\)](#), the Monitoring Team has continued to support the Ombudsperson by providing her background information for cases under her review.

47. The Monitoring Team has increased its work aimed at building links with academic and civil society experts so as to increase its understanding of the changing nature of the threat posed by Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities, through dialogue with relevant scholars and academic bodies.

VI. Observations and conclusions

48. The sanctions measures imposed by the Security Council are an active response by the international community to the continued threat posed by Al-Qaida and its associates. While the operational impact of Al-Qaida's core leadership has declined with the death of Usama bin Laden and several other key leaders, Al-Qaida networks continue to evolve into more complex phenomena, with an internationally diverse range of supporters and active fighters. The Committee continues to monitor and assess the changing nature of the threat posed by Al-Qaida and its associates to international peace and security and to adapt its operational approach accordingly in order to provide effective and efficient responses to these threats.

49. Ensuring fair and clear procedures for placing individuals and entities on the Al-Qaida Sanctions List and for removing them, as well as for granting humanitarian exemptions, can help States to avoid and overcome challenges to their implementation of the sanctions measures. The enhanced mandate of the Ombudsperson further strengthens the due process afforded to listed individuals.

50. Continued commitment to reviewing and updating the List is of great importance with respect to ensuring the effectiveness and credibility of the sanctions measures and enhancing the capability of Member States to effectively implement the measures. The reviews thus help to make the Al-Qaida Sanctions List a dynamic, living document, which ensures a better response to the evolving and continued threat posed by Al-Qaida and associated individuals and entities.

51. The Committee continues to stand ready, with the support of the Monitoring Team, to assist States in their implementation of the sanctions measures.
