

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 9 December 2015 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea 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 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2015. The report, which was approved by the Committee, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 ([S/1995/234](#)).

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

(Signed) Rafael Darío **Ramírez Carreño**  
Chair  
Security Council Committee pursuant to  
resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009)  
concerning Somalia and Eritrea



## **Report of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea**

### **I. Introduction**

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee pursuant to resolutions 751 (1992) and 1907 (2009) concerning Somalia and Eritrea covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Rafael Darío Ramírez Carreño (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) as Chair and the representatives of Chad and Jordan as Vice-Chairs.

### **II. Background**

3. By its resolution 733 (1992), the Security Council imposed a general and complete arms embargo on Somalia and, by its resolution 751 (1992), established a committee to oversee the implementation of the embargo. Subsequently, in its resolutions 1356 (2001), 1425 (2002), 1744 (2007), 1772 (2007), 1846 (2008), 1851 (2008), 1916 (2010), 2060 (2012), 2093 (2013), 2111 (2013), 2142 (2014), 2182 (2014) and 2244 (2015), the Council introduced exemptions to and further defined the scope of the arms embargo. By its resolution 1425 (2002), the Council established the Panel of Experts on Somalia, which was succeeded by the Monitoring Group established by resolution 1519 (2003). By paragraphs 1, 2 and 7 of its resolution 1844 (2008), the Council imposed targeted measures (a travel ban, an asset freeze and a targeted arms embargo) on individuals and entities designated by the Committee. In the same resolution, the Council also introduced certain exemptions to those measures. In its resolution 2036 (2012), the Council imposed a ban on the direct or indirect import of charcoal from Somalia, whether or not the charcoal originated in Somalia. In its resolution 2093 (2013), the Council partially lifted the arms embargo for the development of the security forces of the Federal Government of Somalia.
4. In its resolution 1907 (2009), the Council imposed a two-way arms embargo on Eritrea, as well as targeted measures (a travel ban, an asset freeze and a targeted arms embargo) on individuals and entities designated by the Committee. The Council expanded the mandate of the Committee to enable it to oversee the implementation of those measures. The Monitoring Group, the name of which was changed to the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group, was mandated to monitor, investigate and report on the implementation of the measures imposed in resolution 1907 (2009). In the same resolution, the Council also introduced certain exemptions to the targeted measures. On 5 December 2011, the Security Council adopted resolution 2023 (2011), by which it expanded the restrictive measures concerning Eritrea in the areas of the “diaspora tax”, the Eritrean mining sector and financial services.
5. In 2014, the Security Council extended the partial lifting of the arms embargo for the development of the security forces of the Federal Government of Somalia on two occasions: in resolution 2142 (2014), for a period of six months, and in resolution 2182 (2014), until 30 October 2015. In its resolution 2182 (2014), the Council authorized, for a period of 12 months, Member States acting nationally or through

voluntary multinational naval partnerships, such as “combined maritime forces”, to interdict charcoal and arms being transported in violation of the sanctions measures in Somali territorial waters and on the high seas off the coast of Somalia extending to and including the Arabian Sea and the Persian Gulf. With the adoption of resolution 2244 (2015) on 23 October 2015, the Council extended the partial lifting of the arms embargo for the development of the security forces of the Federal Government of Somalia and the authorization for the maritime interdiction of arms and Somali charcoal until 15 November 2016. It also introduced a standing exemption from the arms embargo on Somalia for arms and related materiel on board vessels entering Somali ports on temporary visits.

6. Further background information on the Somalia and Eritrea sanctions regimes can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

### **III. Summary of the activities of the Committee**

7. The Committee met five times in informal consultations, on 13 February, 8 April, 1 May, 18 September and 9 October, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.

8. On 13 February, the Committee met the members of the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group to discuss exemptions to the arms embargo for weapons on board vessels engaged in commercial activity in Somali ports, in accordance with paragraph 10 of resolution 2182 (2014). On 8 April, the Committee received the midterm briefing from the Coordinator of the Monitoring Group, in accordance with paragraph 46 of resolution 2182 (2014) and paragraph 13 (l) of resolution 2060 (2012).

9. On 1 May, the Committee was briefed on the implementation of the charcoal ban by the Somalia and Eritrea Monitoring Group, the combined maritime forces and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. The Committee also discussed the maritime interdiction of charcoal and arms pursuant to paragraph 22 of resolution 2182 (2014). On 18 September, the Committee was briefed by the Assistant Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator on the report submitted pursuant to paragraph 42 of Security Council resolution 2182 (2014) (see [S/2015/731](#)).

10. During the informal consultations held on 9 October, the Monitoring Group presented the main findings contained in its final reports on Somalia ([S/2015/801](#)) and Eritrea ([S/2015/802](#)), submitted pursuant to paragraph 47 of resolution 2182 (2014). The Committee considered the Monitoring Group’s recommendations and held discussions with the Legal Adviser to the President of the Federal Government of Somalia and the Permanent Representative of Eritrea to the United Nations in connection with the final reports of the Monitoring Group.

11. On 26 February and 16 July, the Chair presented to the Security Council the 120-day briefings on the work of the Committee, pursuant to paragraph 11 (g) of resolution 1844 (2008).

12. During the reporting period, the Chair convened two meetings between the Government of Eritrea and the Monitoring Group so as to enable the Group to discuss its findings with the Government before the Group’s midterm briefing to the Committee and the submission of its final reports to the Committee, and in order to provide the Government with an opportunity to respond to those findings. Both

meetings were held in New York, on 31 March and 21 August. On both occasions, the members of the Group joined the meeting via videoconference from Nairobi.

13. The reports of the Federal Government of Somalia to the Security Council pursuant to paragraph 9 of resolution 2182 (2014) were circulated to the Committee on 31 March and 2 October. The Committee also received two reports regarding the implementation of the measures on charcoal imposed by resolution 2036 (2012).

14. The Committee sent 28 communications to seven Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

## **IV. Exemptions**

15. Exemptions to the arms embargoes on Somalia and Eritrea are set out in paragraphs 7, 10 (g), 11 (a) and 12 of resolution 2111 (2013), paragraphs 3 and 4 of resolution 2142 (2014), paragraph 3 of resolution 2182 (2014) and paragraph 2 of resolution 2244 (2015).

16. Exemptions to the asset freeze on Somalia are set out in paragraph 4 of resolution 1844 (2008) and those on Eritrea in paragraph 14 of resolution 1907 (2009).

17. Exemptions to the travel ban on Somalia are provided in paragraph 2 of resolution 1844 (2008) and those on Eritrea in paragraph 11 of resolution 1907 (2009).

18. The Committee received 10 notifications pursuant to paragraph 10 (g) of resolution 2111 (2013). The Committee also received 15 notifications pursuant to paragraph 3 of resolution 2142 (2014), nine notifications pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 2142 (2014) and two communications pursuant to paragraphs 6 and 7 of resolution 2142 (2014). Furthermore, the Committee approved two requests pursuant to paragraph 7 and three requests pursuant to paragraph 11 (a) of resolution 2111 (2013).

## **V. Sanctions list**

19. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban, asset freeze and targeted arms embargo for the Somalia sanctions regime are set out in paragraph 8 of resolution 1844 (2008), paragraph 1 of resolution 2002 (2011), paragraph 23 of resolution 2036 (2012), paragraphs 1 to 3 of resolution 2060 (2012) and paragraph 43 of resolution 2093 (2013). The criteria for the Eritrea sanctions regime are set out in paragraph 15 of resolution 1907 (2009). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

20. As at the end of the reporting period, there were 13 individuals and one entity on the Committee's sanctions list pertaining to Somalia and no names on the Committee's sanctions list pertaining to Eritrea.

## VI. Monitoring Group

21. On 22 September, in accordance with paragraph 47 of Security Council resolution 2182 (2014), the Monitoring Group provided its final reports on Somalia and Eritrea to the Committee, which were transmitted to the Council on 9 October and issued as documents of the Council ([S/2015/801](#) and [S/2015/802](#)) on 19 October.

22. On 20 November, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2244 (2015) on 23 October, the Secretary-General appointed eight individuals to serve on the Monitoring Group, with expertise in arms, armed groups, finance, humanitarian affairs, maritime/transport, natural resources and regional issues (see [S/2015/898](#)). The mandate of the Group expires on 15 December 2016.

23. The members of the Monitoring Group travelled to Bahrain, Belgium, Canada, Djibouti, Ethiopia, France, Lebanon, Malaysia, Norway, Oman, Qatar, Seychelles, Singapore, Somalia, South Africa, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America. In Somalia, members of the Group were able to undertake regular visits to Mogadishu, Hargeysa and Garoowe, and once to Kismaayo. The Government of Eritrea did not permit the Group to travel to Asmara or conduct investigations inside Eritrea.

24. In pursuance of its mandate, the Monitoring Group, through the Secretariat, sent 99 letters to Member States, the Committee and international and national entities.

## VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

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

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

27. On 28 December, the Division made available all the Security Council sanctions lists in the six official languages. This builds upon last year's standardization of the format of all Council sanctions lists and the establishment of the Consolidated United

<sup>1</sup> The website is accessible at [www.un.org/sc/suborg/](http://www.un.org/sc/suborg/) or from the Security Council's website at [www.un.org/en/sc/](http://www.un.org/en/sc/).

Nations Security Council Sanctions List, in response to resolutions 2083 (2012) and 2161 (2014). In addition, the Division created and maintained the relevant International Criminal Police Organization-United Nations Security Council Special Notices to promote the effective implementation of the sanctions measures.

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

29. The Division continued to provide substantive advice and support to the Monitoring Group, conducting an induction for newly appointed members, in New York, and assisting in the preparation of the Group's midterm briefing in March and during the preparation of its final report in August.

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

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

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

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