

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 9 December 2015 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan 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 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan, which contains 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 could be 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 established pursuant  
to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan



## **Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan**

### **I. Introduction**

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Samuel Moncada (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) as Chair from January to February and Rafael Darío Ramírez Carreño (Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela) thereafter. The representatives of Nigeria and Spain served as Vice-Chairs.

### **II. Background**

3. By its resolution 1556 (2004), the Security Council imposed an arms embargo on all non-governmental entities and individuals, including the Janjaweed, operating in the States of North Darfur, South Darfur and West Darfur in the Sudan. By its resolution 1591 (2005), the Council broadened the scope of the arms embargo to include all parties to the N'Djamena Ceasefire Agreement and any other belligerents in those States (subsequently confirmed, by resolution 2035 (2012), to also include the new States of East and Central Darfur). Exemptions to the measures were also included.
4. By its resolution 1591 (2005), the Security Council also established a committee to monitor the implementation of the arms embargo and the two additional measures, a travel ban and an asset freeze, imposed by the same resolution on individuals, to be designated by the Committee, on the basis of the criteria contained in the resolution. A panel of experts, operating under the direction of the Committee, was also established to assist the Committee in monitoring the implementation of the measures and to act as a source of information for potential designations. The Council, by its resolution 2035 (2012), subsequently extended the applicability of the designation criteria to entities. By its resolution 1672 (2006), the Council designated four individuals as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze.
5. The enforcement of the arms embargo was strengthened in resolution 1945 (2010), when the Security Council clarified the exemptions to that measure and made the sale or supply of arms and related materiel to the Sudan not prohibited by the embargo contingent upon the necessary end user documentation. The exemptions to the arms embargo were further updated in resolution 2035 (2012).
6. By its resolution 1769 (2007), the Security Council provided for an arms embargo monitoring aspect to the mandate of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). In its resolution 2228 (2015), the Council requested UNAMID to discontinue all other tasks not aligned to its revised strategic priorities, which did not include any reference to the above-mentioned monitoring role. The Council expressed deep concern over the proliferation of arms, in particular small arms and light weapons, and requested UNAMID to continue to cooperate in that context with the Panel of Experts in order to facilitate its work.

7. Further background information on the Sudan sanctions regime can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

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

8. The Committee met four times in informal consultations, on 14 January, 6 May, 20 August and 18 December. It also convened two formal meetings, on 29 May and 23 November, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.

9. During the informal consultations held on 14 January, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its final report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2138 (2014), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

10. During the informal consultations held on 6 May, the Committee heard a presentation by the regional expert of the Panel on the Panel's programme of work under its extended mandate.

11. At its sixth formal meeting, on 29 May, the Committee met representatives of the Sudan and countries in the region (Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Libya), pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) (vii) of resolution 1591 (2005), with the aim of strengthening dialogue between the Committee and the invited delegations, in particular on challenges faced by the region in achieving the full implementation of the sanctions measures.

12. During the informal consultations held on 20 August, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel on the Panel's midterm update, submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2200 (2015), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

13. At its seventh formal meeting, on 23 November, the Committee met representatives of the Sudan and countries in the region (Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya and South Sudan), pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) (vii) of resolution 1591 (2005), with the aim of further strengthening dialogue between the Committee and the invited delegations. The Panel also participated in the meeting via videoconference.

14. During the informal consultations held on 18 December, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel on its final report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2200 (2015), and agreed to consider the recommendations contained therein, addressed to the Committee, through the silence procedure.

15. On 6 February, 28 May, 26 August and 4 November, the Chair of the Committee briefed the Security Council during consultations on the activities of the Committee since the previous briefing of the Chair, pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) (iv) of resolution 1591 (2005).

16. The Committee sent 25 letters to 13 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures. On 20 March, the Committee sent a note verbale to all Member States in connection with the implementation of the travel ban and asset freeze. The Committee received one implementation report from a Member State.

## IV. Exemptions

17. Exemptions to the arms embargo are outlined in paragraph 9 of resolution 1556 (2004) and paragraph 7 of resolution 1591 (2005), subsequently updated in paragraph 8 (b) of resolution 1945 (2010) and paragraph 4 of resolution 2035 (2012).

18. Exemptions to the travel ban are outlined in paragraph 3 (f) of resolution 1591 (2005), and exemptions to the asset freeze are outlined in paragraph 3 (g) of resolution 1591 (2005).

19. No exemption requests or notifications were received by the Committee during the period under review.

## V. Sanctions list

20. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze are set out in paragraph 3 (c) of resolution 1591 (2005). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

21. As at the end of the reporting period, there were four individuals on the sanctions list of the Committee.

## VI. Panel of Experts

22. On 12 December 2014, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2138 (2014), the Panel of Experts provided its final report to the Committee, which was transmitted to the Security Council on 16 January 2015 and issued as a document of the Council ([S/2015/31](#)).

23. On 12 March, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2200 (2015) on 12 February, the Secretary-General appointed five individuals to serve on the Panel, with expertise in arms, aviation, finance, international humanitarian law, and regional issues (see [S/2015/180](#)). The mandate of the Panel expires on 12 March 2016.

24. On 12 August, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2200 (2015), the Panel provided its midterm update to the Committee.

25. On 4 December, also in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2200 (2015), the Panel provided its final report to the Committee, which is expected to be transmitted to the Security Council in January 2016 and issued as a document of the Council.

26. On 5 March, 5 June and 1 October, in accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution 2138 (2014) and paragraph 3 of resolution 2200 (2015), the Panel submitted quarterly updates to the Committee.

27. The Panel conducted visits to Belgium, Chad, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, the Sudan, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

28. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel, through the Secretariat, sent 136 letters to Member States, the Committee and international and national entities.

## **VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support**

29. 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 regime 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.

30. 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>

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

32. 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.

33. The Division continued to provide substantive advice and support to the Panel of Experts, conducting an induction for newly appointed members, in New York, and assisting in the preparation of the Panel's midterm update in July and during the preparation of its final report in November.

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

34. 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.

35. Moreover, to promote greater cooperation among the different expert panels, the Division organized a 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.

36. 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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