

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 18 December 2020 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 2020. 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) Abdou **Abarry**  
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 2020.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Abdou Abarry (Niger) as Chair and a representative of Viet Nam 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, namely 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 [2507 \(2020\)](#), the Council decided that the arms embargo shall no longer apply to supplies of unarmed ground military vehicles and ground military vehicles mounted with weapons with a calibre of 14.5 mm or less, as notified in advance to the Committee. By its resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#), the Council decided that the arms embargo would no longer apply to supplies of unarmed ground military vehicles and ground military vehicles mounted with weapons with a calibre of 14.5 mm or less and their spare parts, and of rocket-propelled grenades and ammunition specially designed for such weapons, and provision of related assistance, to the Central African Republic security forces including State civilian law enforcement institutions, 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 [2536 \(2020\)](#).
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 one briefing for Member States, on 31 January, and met once in informal consultations on 9 March, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.
8. In the light of the challenges posed to the Committee's usual procedures by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including the limitations on holding in-person meetings, and in order to ensure the continuity of its work, the members of the Committee agreed, on an exceptional basis, to hold virtual meetings in the form of closed videoconferences on 12 June, 2 July, 17 August, 31 August, 11 September and 12 November.

9. During the briefing of Member States held on 31 January, the Committee invited the Permanent Representatives of Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Republic of 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/2019/930), submitted pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 2454 (2019), and the challenges faced by Member States in monitoring and implementing the sanctions measures.
10. During the informal consultations held on 9 March, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts presented the Panel's progress update to the Committee, submitted in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution 2454 (2019).
11. During the closed videoconference held on 12 June, the Committee held a joint meeting with the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, during which members heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict.
12. During the closed videoconference held on 2 July, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts presented the final report of the Panel (S/2020/662), submitted pursuant to paragraph 7 of resolution 2507 (2020), and the Committee discussed the findings and recommendations contained therein.
13. During the closed videoconference held on 17 August, the Committee invited the Permanent Representatives of Cameroon, the Central African Republic, Chad, the Republic of 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/2020/662) and the challenges faced by regional Member States in monitoring and implementing the sanctions measures.
14. During the closed videoconference held on 31 August, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts presented the Panel's progress update to the Committee, submitted in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 2507 (2020).
15. During the closed videoconference held on 11 September, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts presented the Panel's programme of work to the Committee in pursuance of resolution 2536 (2020).
16. During the closed videoconference held on 12 November, the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts presented the Panel's progress update to the Committee, submitted in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution 2536 (2020).
17. In accordance with paragraph 104 of the annex to the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2017/507), the Committee issued a press release containing a brief summary of the briefing to Member States held on 31 January.
18. On 21 April, 5 May, 28 July and 5 August, 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).
19. In 2020, the Committee received implementation reports from two Member States.
20. The Committee sent 66 communications to 17 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

## IV. Exemptions

21. 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 \(2019\)](#).
22. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraph 31 (a) to (c) of resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), as reaffirmed in paragraph 4 of resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#).
23. Exemptions to the asset freeze are contained in paragraph 33 (a) to (c) of resolution [2134 \(2014\)](#), as reaffirmed in paragraph 4 of resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#).
24. The Committee received one arms embargo notification in pursuance of paragraph 2 (b) of resolution [2488 \(2019\)](#), six arms embargo notifications and two post facto arms embargo notifications in pursuance of paragraph 1 (b) of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), four arms embargo notifications in pursuance of paragraph 1 (g) of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), one arms embargo notification in pursuance of paragraph 1 (h) of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), six arms embargo notifications and three post facto arms embargo notifications in pursuance of paragraph 1 (b) of resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#), three arms embargo notifications in pursuance of paragraph 1 (d) of resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#), as well as three arms embargo notifications and one post facto arms embargo notification in pursuance of paragraph 1 (g) of resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#). The Committee also approved one arms embargo exemption request pursuant to paragraph 1 (c) and (h) of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), as renewed by para 1 of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), and two arms embargo exemption requests pursuant to paragraph 1 (h) and (i) of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#).

## V. Sanctions list

25. 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.
26. On 20 April and 5 August, respectively, the Committee added Martin Koumtamadji (alias Abdoulaye Miskine) (CFi.013) and Bi Sidi Souleman (alias Sidiki) (CFi.014) to the sanctions list. As at the end of the reporting period, there were 13 individuals and two entities on the sanctions list of the Committee.

## VI. Panel of Experts

27. On 7 February, in accordance with paragraph 4 of resolution [2454 \(2019\)](#), 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 2019 ([S/2019/930](#)) to the Committee on 2 December 2019.
28. On 27 February, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#) 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/2020/165](#)). The mandate of the Panel expired on 31 August 2020.
29. On 15 June, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), the Panel provided its final report ([S/2020/662](#)) to the Committee.

30. On 2 July, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), the Panel presented its final report to the Committee ([S/2020/662](#)), which was transmitted to the Security Council on 8 July and issued as a document of the Council.
31. On 19 August, in accordance with paragraph 7 of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), the Panel provided a progress update to the Committee.
32. On 21 July, in accordance with paragraph 32 (f) of resolution [2399 \(2018\)](#), as subsequently renewed in resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), 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.
33. On 25 August, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution [2536 \(2020\)](#) on 28 July, 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/2020/831](#)). The mandate of the Panel expires on 31 August 2021.
34. The Panel conducted visits to Belgium, Cameroon, Central African Republic, France, the Netherlands and the United States of America.
35. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel has, through the Secretariat, sent 56 letters to 19 Member States, the Committee and international and national entities.

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

36. 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 regime 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.
37. The Division worked with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and the Office of Information and Communication Technology of the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance to facilitate the conduct of virtual meetings held by the Committee, through a variety of platforms.
38. 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 14 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for membership of the roster of experts.
39. The Division continued to provide support to the Panel of Experts, conducting a virtual induction for newly appointed members and assisting in the preparation of the Panel's final report, submitted to the Committee in June. While COVID-19 restrictions impeded the travel of Panel members for much of the year, the Secretariat facilitated the travel of Panel members to Member States, taking into account World Health Organization guidelines, national travel advisories and other COVID-19 related requirements. The Secretariat also organized a remote workshop on investigative techniques, held from 14 to 16 December, which was focused on investigative methods and tools for experts. In addition, the Secretariat organized training sessions for experts on the use of subscription-based analytical products and programmes, as well as databases and other research tools, to facilitate their monitoring and reporting work.

40. The Secretariat continued to update and maintain the United Nations Security Council Consolidated 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 the 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 Council in paragraph 54 of resolution [2368 \(2017\)](#). Since November 2020, the notes verbales notifying Member States about listings on, de-listings from and updates to the Consolidated List and the committee-specific sanctions lists have also been made available in Arabic, Chinese and Russian, in addition to English French and Spanish, in order to facilitate the timely implementation of changes to the relevant sanctions lists.

41. Pursuant to paragraph 13 of resolution [2507 \(2020\)](#), the Secretary-General submitted his update report on progress achieved by the authorities of the Central African Republic on the key benchmarks for the assessment of the arms embargo, on 30 June 2020 ([S/2020/622](#)).

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