

8. The situation in the Central African Republic

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held eight meetings and adopted three resolutions in connection with the situation in the Central African Republic. It received several briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA) as well as other officials of the United Nations and regional organizations, including the African Union and the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS).

The Council gave sustained consideration to this item, particularly in 2013, after armed conflict resumed in the Central African Republic. The Libreville Agreements, signed on 11 January 2013, included a ceasefire agreement and defined modalities of a political transition. The Council extended the mandate of BINUCA once for a period of 12 months and subsequently reinforced it to allow the mission to support the implementation of the transition process. The Council authorized the deployment of the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic, imposed an arms embargo and expressed its intention to consider additional targeted measures against individuals who acted to undermine security and peace.

Briefing on the progress of the political dialogue and the demobilization, disarmament and reintegration process

On 6 June 2012, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of BINUCA, who introduced the seventh report of the Secretary-General¹⁶⁴ and informed the Council on political, security, socioeconomic, humanitarian and human rights developments in the Central African Republic. Despite continued instability at the political and security levels, she highlighted the commitment of the Government in regard to political dialogue, disarmament, the demobilization and reintegration process, and stabilization efforts in the north-eastern region through the deployment of a force under a

tripartite agreement with Chad and the Sudan. She provided information on the role of BINUCA in supporting security sector reform, local mediation initiatives, and the Regional Cooperation Initiative for the Elimination of the Lord's Resistance Army; and stressed the need to continue building on the momentum created by the Government on the political and security fronts.¹⁶⁵ The representative of the Central African Republic said that the elections held in 2011 had triggered a new political and institutional order. Although security remained the fundamental concern of the Government, the State was progressively regaining control over a large part of the national territory, allowing for a gradual return of internally displaced persons and refugees. He stressed the importance of the reform of the security sector and reaffirmed the commitment of the Government to establishing a State that genuinely protected human rights.¹⁶⁶

Briefings on the rebel offensive and the Libreville Agreements, and extension of the mandate of BINUCA

On 11 January 2013, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BINUCA (by videoconference from Libreville) and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict. The former informed the Council of a rebel offensive against the Government of the Central African Republic, launched on 10 December 2012 in the northern regions by the newly formed Séléka coalition, which had occupied several towns. The resumption of conflict undermined the positive achievements detailed in the latest report of the Secretary-General.¹⁶⁷ She noted that the failure of the army to repel the attacks was "indicative of the depth of decay within the national armed forces" and highlighted the prompt response by regional actors to the crisis, including the deployment by Chad of an interposition force, a decision by the Heads of State of ECCAS to facilitate peace talks in Libreville, and the reinforcement of the ECCAS Mission for the Consolidation of Peace in the

¹⁶⁴ S/2012/374.

¹⁶⁵ S/PV.6780, pp. 2-5.

¹⁶⁶ Ibid., pp. 5-7.

¹⁶⁷ S/2012/956.

Central African Republic (MICOPAX) with troops deployed from Cameroon, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Gabon and Chad to help to defend Bangui. However, rebel progression towards Bangui had triggered the evacuation of United Nations system, African Union and international non-governmental organization personnel. On the political front, the Special Representative reported that peace negotiations concluded that day in Libreville had resulted in the signing of three documents (the Libreville Agreements): a declaration of principles to resolve the political and security crisis (signed by the Government, the politico-military movements that had adhered to the Libreville Peace Agreement of 2008, the Séléka coalition and the democratic opposition, as well as ECCAS and the follow-up committee of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement); a ceasefire agreement (signed by the Government and Séléka and witnessed by ECCAS and the follow-up committee); and a political agreement defining the modalities of a power-sharing arrangement (signed by representatives of the presidential majority, the politico-military movements that had adhered to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement, the democratic opposition and Séléka), pursuant to which the President would remain in power until the end of his mandate in 2016, a Prime Minister would be appointed from the opposition, and an inclusive Government of national unity would be established for 12 months, to restore peace and stability and to organize legislative elections. Stressing that BINUCA had not anticipated such a quick overrun of half the country, she spoke of the need to address the reasons for lack of implementation of previous peace agreements. In regard to the consequences of the crisis, the Special Representative provided an update on the humanitarian conditions of 800,000 people living in the affected areas, citing the continued displacement of people fleeing from their homes into the bush, constant looting of the premises of humanitarian organizations and constrained humanitarian access due to insecurity. She concluded by saying that advantage should be taken of the opportunity to put in place an efficient and effective Government. She recommended that BINUCA lead a strategic assessment to review its priorities and redefine its needs.¹⁶⁸

Reporting on her visit to the Central African Republic from 5 to 13 December 2012, the Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict

¹⁶⁸ S/PV.6899, pp. 2-7.

indicated that widespread sexual violence was committed in the country, including rape in areas controlled by armed groups, forced abductions of women, girls and boys into armed groups, forced marriage, incidents of sexual violence committed by elements of the national security forces as well as widespread violations by the Lord's Resistance Army. She stated that ensuring better monitoring, analysis and information as a basis for evidence-based action was a critical priority, and stressed the need for armed forces and groups to immediately issue clear orders prohibiting sexual violence through their respective chains of command, to hold perpetrators accountable, and to release women and children from their ranks. She emphasized the extremely limited capacities of national institutions to implement measures to address sexual violence and the absence of State authority and structures in most areas outside Bangui. During her visit she had sought to deepen cooperation with the Government and engage with the leadership of the main politico-military groups in order to secure concrete protection commitments from them. She informed the Council that a follow-up technical visit by the Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence would follow, and stressed the critical importance of deploying a women's protection adviser to BINUCA.¹⁶⁹

Underlining the threat of war in his country, the representative of the Central African Republic stated that the peace talks in Libreville were "the last lifeline for the Central African Republic" and reaffirmed the commitment of the Government to dialogue and to implementation of the outcomes of the talks.¹⁷⁰

On 24 January 2012, the Council unanimously adopted resolution 2088 (2013), by which it extended the mandate of BINUCA for a year. The Council requested the Secretary-General to provide a report on the situation on the ground as well as an assessment on the ability of the mission to further implement its priorities in the light of recent events. In addition, it called upon the Government, Séléka, armed groups and the democratic opposition to abide in good faith by their commitments made in the declaration of principles signed on 11 January 2013, and requested BINUCA to use its good offices to work with all parties to facilitate the full implementation of the Libreville Agreements. The Council also welcomed the

¹⁶⁹ Ibid., pp. 7-8.

¹⁷⁰ Ibid., pp. 9-10.

continued efforts of MICOPAX in support of peace and security in the Central African Republic and called on countries in the subregion and regional and subregional organizations to consider, upon request of the Central African Republic, appropriate measures to improve the security situation.

Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of the Central African Republic welcomed the extension of BINUCA and stated that a post-crisis assessment would be conducted in order to identify the necessary measures for reconstruction.¹⁷¹

Briefings on political and security developments following the coup d'état of 24 March 2013

On 15 May 2013, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BINUCA presented to the Council the report of the Secretary-General pursuant to resolution 2088 (2013), which described the situation in the Central African Republic since the rebel offensive of 10 December 2012, in particular the coup d'état of 24 March that had led to the ousting of the President and the degradation of the security situation in the entire country which, she noted, had collapsed "into a state of anarchy and total disregard for international law", citing indiscriminate and targeted killings, rape, assault on the population, recruitment of children as soldiers, and looting of homes. The crisis also constituted a direct threat to regional peace and security, particularly for the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Chad and Cameroon. At the political level, she reported that the road map of tasks established in the Libreville Agreements for the restoration of constitutional order was not implemented accordingly, noting that the self-proclaimed President continued to run the country by presidential decrees. The Special Representative noted that, following the Séléka offensive, the justice and police institutions had collapsed and gross human rights violations were the cause of great concern in terms of the protection of civilians. She believed that the time was ripe for the Council to consider the imposition of individual sanctions against the architects and perpetrators of such violations, warning against the risk of the population taking the law into its own hands. Additional funding was required to support the humanitarian response and urgent action was needed to help to restore security and stability in the

¹⁷¹ S/PV.6907, p. 3.

country. She welcomed the intention of ECCAS to increase its force to 2,000 personnel, but emphasized that such a short-term initiative should be followed by an expanded regional force, possibly under the African Union and supported by the international community. Finally, the Special Representative insisted on the critical role of the Prime Minister in the transition process, adding that a system of impunity in a situation where a democratic order was overturned by force of arms, even when confronted with serious governance challenges, should not be encouraged. United Nations support to ECCAS and the African Union in re-establishing the basic principles of Libreville was essential.¹⁷²

The representative of the Central African Republic informed the Council of upcoming political steps, including the establishment of a Government of national unity and the abolishment of the illegally elected Office of the National Transitional Council. On the security situation, he noted that acts of vandalism by Séléka elements primarily targeted non-Muslims and that sparing Muslims created resentment in the Christian communities and inflamed religious tensions. Despite seizing control of all political and military levers, Séléka was not able to restore order. The Prime Minister asked the Council to include the situation of the Central African Republic in its agenda in order to ensure that it would no longer be a forgotten crisis, asking France, in particular, to intervene by force to disarm Séléka with the support of the European Union and the African Union. He also called for the appointment of a special rapporteur to investigate human rights violations and suggested that a Chair be appointed to the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, that position being currently vacant.¹⁷³

The representative of Chad, speaking on behalf of the presidency of ECCAS, said that, following the coup, ECCAS had held an extraordinary summit in N'Djamena with the participation of the Presidents of South Africa and Benin, the United Nations, the European Union and the International Organization of la Francophonie. The participants had condemned the seizure of power, called upon the leader of the Séléka coalition and self-proclaimed President to comply with the Libreville Agreements, and agreed to support the

¹⁷² S/PV.6967, pp. 2-5.

¹⁷³ Ibid., pp. 5-8.

transition through a monitoring committee and an international contact group.¹⁷⁴

On 14 August 2013, the newly appointed Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BINUCA¹⁷⁵ informed the Council that some progress had been achieved on the political front, including the promulgation of a Transitional Charter and the reshuffling of the Government of National Unity. However, taking into account persisting tensions between the Prime Minister and the President of the National Transitional Council over the management of the transition process, he noted that political gains were fragile and that the road map for elections remained to be established. Despite slight improvement on the security front, particularly in Bangui, with the establishment of sites for the cantonment of Séléka and elements of the former national army, and the resumption of joint patrols by Séléka and MICOPAX troops, the breakdown of law and order continued to allow for widespread human rights violations. Police officers who reported to work were inadequately equipped and there was no screening of the Séléka elements to be absorbed into the national army. He further indicated that, on 19 July 2013, the African Union Peace and Security Council had authorized the deployment of the International Support Mission in the Central African Republic for an initial period of six months. Composed of 3,652 police and military personnel, mainly contingents serving in MICOPAX, the mission was mandated to protect civilians, restore security, public order and State authority, reform the defence and security sectors, and create conditions conducive to humanitarian assistance. He encouraged the Council to lend its full support to the force. The United Nations, he added, would participate in a technical assessment mission to refine the concept of operations for the mission, in an advisory capacity.¹⁷⁶

The Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator stated that the situation in the Central African Republic had deteriorated dramatically and had shifted from a long-term crisis of poverty to a complex emergency characterized by violence, acute needs and grave

protection issues. The 4.6 million people affected by the crisis included 206,000 internally displaced and nearly 60,000 refugees in neighbouring countries. During her visit to the Central African Republic, she had been encouraged by the commitment of the national authorities to make the restoration of security and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration a priority. However, she underlined the considerable challenge such a task represented, given the lack of command and control over the Séléka forces, and the presence of foreign fighters. Stressing the urgent need for a comprehensive response to the crisis prioritizing the restoration of security and addressing humanitarian, recovery and development needs, the Under-Secretary-General formulated various requests to the Council, including that it support the newly established mission of the African Union and help the authorities in expediting the swift return of public service officials to areas outside Bangui. She warned that a failure to act would not only exacerbate the appalling conditions endured by the population, but could also lead to the regionalization of the conflict.¹⁷⁷

The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights stated that the systematic destruction of public registries had fuelled suspicions of an attempt by the Séléka coalition to modify the ethnic and religious balance in the country. The absence of public records to establish voter lists would create an additional challenge to organizing free and fair elections in the coming 18 to 24 months. Given the general climate of fear, and the difficulty in collecting accurate data on violations owing to a lack of access to areas outside Bangui and the “much-too-limited” human rights monitoring capacity of BINUCA, he stressed the need to urgently establish a national commission for human rights and fundamental freedoms. He presented a number of recommendations to the Council including the need to establish a credible and legitimate national security force composed of a limited number of former regime security elements and Séléka forces, screened and vetted under international guidance to exclude perpetrators of human rights violations. He underlined the importance of deploying a large international force with a strong protection mandate, and reinforcing the human rights component of BINUCA. With regard to accountability, he encouraged the Council to send a clear message to the military commanders and the transition authorities that they were criminally

¹⁷⁴ Ibid., pp. 8-9.

¹⁷⁵ In a letter dated 11 June 2013 (S/2013/344), the Security Council took note of the intention of the Secretary-General to appoint a new Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head of BINUCA.

¹⁷⁶ S/PV.7017, pp. 2-4.

¹⁷⁷ Ibid., pp. 4-5.

responsible for preventing crimes and punishing perpetrators.¹⁷⁸

The representative of the Central African Republic called on the Council to adopt sanctions targeting the perpetrators of violations of human rights, to strengthen the resources of BINUCA and to appoint a penholder for the Central African Republic.¹⁷⁹

Briefing by the Deputy Secretary-General and adoption of resolutions

On 10 October 2013, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2121 \(2013\)](#), by which it demanded the swift implementation of the transitional arrangements agreed at Libreville and N'Djamena for the holding of free, fair and transparent elections 18 months after the beginning of the transition period. The Council expressed its readiness to consider appropriate measures against those who took action that undermined peace and stability, including those who violated transitional agreements, impeded the transitional process and fuelled violence. The Council reinforced and updated the mandate of BINUCA to allow the mission to support the implementation of the transition process, support conflict prevention and humanitarian assistance, support the stabilization of the security situation, promote and protect human rights, and coordinate the international actors involved. The Council looked forward to the prompt establishment of the African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA), encouraged the African Union and ECCAS to expedite their efforts toward the transition from MICOPAX to MISCA, and expressed its intention to consider options for support to MISCA. The Council requested the Secretary-General to submit a written report on the planning of MISCA with detailed options for international support to the mission, including the possible option of a transformation of MISCA into a United Nations peacekeeping operation, subject to appropriate conditions on the ground.

On 25 November 2013, the Council heard briefings by the Deputy Secretary-General, the Secretary-General of ECCAS, and the Senior Adviser for Peacebuilding and Development of the Office of the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations. The Deputy Secretary-General

presented the report of the Secretary-General on the findings of the technical assistance team deployed pursuant to resolution [2121 \(2013\)](#), stressing that the rapidly deteriorating situation in the Central African Republic presented a test of international solidarity and of the responsibility to prevent atrocities. He expressed grave concern at the breakdown of law and order and its consequences, including the use of children, sexual violence, and an increase in intercommunal violence. He noted that the manipulation of religious affiliations for political purposes had fuelled unprecedented sectarian violence between Muslims and Christians, citing violations by former Séléka elements on the one hand and by “anti-balaka” self-defence groups on the other hand. Stating that urgent measures to end impunity and hold perpetrators accountable were needed, he appealed to the Council to consider accountability mechanisms, such as a commission of inquiry and/or targeted sanctions. He warned that, if left to fester, the situation could develop into a religious and ethnic conflict, or even a civil war that could spread into neighbouring countries. With regard to peacekeeping, he noted that the capacity of MICOPAX to protect civilians was very limited and that some of its contingents were perceived as siding with particular communities on the basis of religion. The report, he said, presented five options for international support to MISCA, from bilateral and multilateral support arrangements to the transformation of MISCA into a United Nations peacekeeping operation; he added that the latter option was favoured by a majority of actors in the Central African Republic, including a number of civil society organizations.¹⁸⁰

The representative of the Central African Republic warned against the risk of genocide in his country if no action was taken and announced that the transitional authorities had written to the Secretary-General and the Security Council to seek their agreement to their request that France provide military assistance in support to MISCA. He emphasized the need to provide MISCA a strong mandate under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations.¹⁸¹ Similarly, the Secretary-General of ECCAS stressed that such a mandate was required to enable MICOPAX, which was the core of MISCA, to fully carry out its stabilization mission in the country and create the best conditions possible for the civilian component of

¹⁷⁸ Ibid., pp. 6-8.

¹⁷⁹ Ibid., p. 9.

¹⁸⁰ [S/PV.7069](#), pp. 2-4.

¹⁸¹ Ibid., pp. 4-5.

MISCA, with the support of a reinforced BINUCA. The Central African Republic needed to establish a representative democracy that served the general interests of its people, rather than those of a clan or ethnic or religious group.¹⁸² The Senior Adviser for Peacebuilding and Development of the Office of the Permanent Observer of the African Union highlighted the contribution of the African Union from the onset of the crisis, including through the suspension of the participation of the Central African Republic in its activities and the imposition of targeted sanctions against some individuals, for which it had sought the support of the Security Council. He emphasized the role of ECCAS in convening peace talks, deploying peacekeepers and providing financial assistance in support of the Central African Republic. The transfer of authority between MICOPAX and MISCA was scheduled for 19 December 2013, and the African Union and ECCAS were united in addressing the challenges at hand. He further stated that the role of the international community, particularly the United Nations, should be to enhance such efforts, through the provision of adequate support, which, he stressed, was consistent with the provisions of Chapter VIII of the Charter on the role of regional arrangements in the promotion and maintenance of international peace and security. To conclude, he looked forward to a Security Council resolution that would enhance the joint efforts of ECCAS and the African Union.¹⁸³

On 5 December 2013, the Council unanimously adopted resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#), by which it, inter alia, requested the Secretary-General to rapidly establish an international commission of inquiry in order to investigate reports of violations of international humanitarian law, international human rights law and abuses of human rights in the Central African Republic by all parties since 1 January 2013 and to help to identify the perpetrators of such violations. The Council authorized the deployment of MISCA for a period of 12 months, to take all necessary measures to contribute to the protection of civilians, the restoration of security and public order, the stabilization of the country and the restoration of State authority over the national territory, the creation of conditions conducive to the provision of humanitarian assistance, and the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process and security sector reform led by the transitional

authorities and coordinated by BINUCA. The Council authorized the French forces in the Central African Republic to take all necessary measures to support MISCA in the discharge of its mandate. It also requested the Secretary-General to undertake contingency preparations and planning for the possible transformation of MISCA into a United Nations peacekeeping operation, stressing that a future decision of the Council would be required to establish such a mission. The Council decided that Member States should take measures to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer of arms and related material of all types to the Central African Republic, and expressed its strong intent to swiftly consider imposing targeted measures, including travel bans and asset freezes, against individuals who acted to undermine the peace, stability and security. The Council established a sanctions committee to monitor the implementation of the arms embargo and requested the Secretary-General to create, for an initial period of 13 months, a group of experts to support the work of the Committee.

After the adoption of the resolution, three Council members, the representative of the Central African Republic and the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations made statements. Invoking the risk of creating a terrorist sanctuary in the Central African Republic, the representative of Togo welcomed the deployment of MISCA, supported by the French forces, and called upon the international community to contribute to the trust fund that the Council, in resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#),¹⁸⁴ requested the Secretary-General to establish. The representative of Morocco commended the mobilization of the international community and the Council on the urgent need to intervene to restore security and end the crisis, and stated that his country was actively working to deploy soldiers to serve as a guard unit for BINUCA.¹⁸⁵ The representative of France said that, given the crisis in the Central African Republic, which had long been a forgotten one, indifference and inaction were not an option, and said that there was a collective duty to support action by the African Union and ECCAS to prevent mass atrocities. He added that

¹⁸⁴ [S/PV.7072](#), pp. 2-3.

¹⁸⁵ *Ibid.*, p.3. See also exchange of letters dated 22 and 29 October 2013 ([S/2013/636](#) and [S/2013/637](#)) and letter dated 26 November 2013 from the Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council ([S/2013/696](#)) on the establishment of a guard unit to enable the implementation of the mandated tasks of BINUCA.

¹⁸² *Ibid.*, p. 6.

¹⁸³ *Ibid.*, pp. 7-8.

resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) provided MISCA with a strong Chapter VII mandate which would allow the mission to take all necessary measures to protect civilians and to neutralize armed groups that refused to comply with instructions for cantonment and disarmament; and, for the French forces, a mandate to support MISCA, in accordance with the request made by the African Union and the transition authorities.¹⁸⁶ The observer of the African Union welcomed the collaboration between his organization and the Security Council which had led to the adoption of the resolution, and expressed appreciation for the ability, without prejudice to the responsibilities of the Council, to share views with

¹⁸⁶ [S/PV.7072](#), pp. 3-4.

Council members, offer suggestions in the formulation of the text and indicate modalities of support favoured by his organization. He added that work was under way to ensure the successful transfer of authority between MICOPAX and MISCA on 19 December 2013, and that the African Union Commission had appointed key officials of MISCA. He announced the intention of the African Union to implement the mandate of MISCA “in an aggressive manner, in the spirit of the expectations expressed by the leadership of ECCAS”, and to give immediate attention to the humanitarian situation.¹⁸⁷

¹⁸⁷ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-7.

Meetings: the situation in the Central African Republic

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.6780 6 June 2012	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and on the activities of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in that country (BINUCA) (S/2012/374)		Central African Republic	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of BINUCA	All invitees	
S/PV.6899 11 January 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and on the activities of BINUCA (S/2012/956)		Central African Republic	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BINUCA, Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict	All invitees	
S/PV.6907 24 January 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and on the activities of BINUCA (S/2012/956)	Draft resolution submitted by Argentina, Australia, France, Luxembourg, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom, United States (S/2013/45)	Central African Republic		Central African Republic	Resolution 2088 (2013) 15-0-0
S/PV.6967 15 May 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic (S/2013/261)		Central African Republic (Prime Minister), Chad	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BINUCA	All invitees	

<i>Meeting record and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
S/PV.7017 14 August 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic (S/2013/470)		Central African Republic	Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BINUCA, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights	All invitees	
S/PV.7042 10 October 2013		Draft resolution submitted by Australia, France, Luxembourg, Morocco, Togo, United Kingdom, United States (S/2013/598)	Central African Republic		Central African Republic	Resolution 2121 (2013) 15-0-0
S/PV.7069 25 November 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic pursuant to paragraph 22 of Security Council resolution 2121 (2013) (S/2013/677)		Central African Republic	Secretary-General of the Economic Community of Central African States, Senior Adviser for Peacebuilding and Development of the Office of the Permanent Observer of the African Union to the United Nations	Deputy Secretary-General, all invitees	
S/PV.7072 5 December 2013	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic pursuant to paragraph 22 of Security Council resolution 2121 (2013) (S/2013/677)	Draft resolution submitted by Congo, France, Gabon, Luxembourg, Morocco, Republic of Korea, Rwanda, Togo, United Kingdom, United States (S/2013/717)	Central African Republic, Congo, Gabon	Permanent Observer of the African Union	Togo, Morocco, France, Central African Republic, Permanent Observer of the African Union	Resolution 2127 (2013) 15-0-0

9. The situation in Guinea-Bissau

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held 12 meetings in connection with the situation in Guinea-Bissau and adopted three resolutions and two presidential statements. It received several briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) and the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission as well as other officials, particularly addressing the situation after the coup d'état of 12 April 2012. By resolution 2048 (2012), adopted under Article 41 of Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council imposed sanctions¹⁸⁸ against the perpetrators of the coup d'état and their supporters and established a sanctions committee to monitor their implementation.¹⁸⁹

During the period under review, the Council also renewed the mandate of UNIOGBIS twice, for periods of three months and one year, respectively.¹⁹⁰

Briefing on presidential elections

On 28 March 2012, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of UNIOGBIS on the political transition in the country that had resulted from the death, on 9 January 2012, of the President of Guinea-Bissau and the subsequent decision to hold early presidential elections. He noted that the first round of the presidential elections had been held in a peaceful and orderly manner on 18 March 2012 and that UNIOGBIS had provided security and multifaceted technical support during the electoral process. He stressed that the international observers from the African Union, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) and the Economic

Community of West African States (ECOWAS), among others, had confirmed that the polls had been free, fair and transparent. Concerning the mandate of UNIOGBIS, he said that while the progress on the ECOWAS-CPLP security sector reform joint road map had been interrupted by the political transition, the Office continued to support the Government in resource mobilization for the special pension fund, and provided technical support for enhanced community policing with the assistance of the Peacebuilding Fund.¹⁹¹

The Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission reported that the State institutions had been able to maintain political stability and economic growth despite the destabilizing events, including the death of the President. She said the Commission supported Guinea-Bissau in its efforts to hold the elections by mobilizing resources for the elections.¹⁹²

The representative of Guinea-Bissau noted that the organization of the first round of elections had been very difficult, owing to the short time frame and the serious issue of financing. Nevertheless, the authorities had been able to get the necessary financial and logistical assistance and had maintained the deadline of 18 March 2012 for holding the elections, which were then declared free, fair and transparent.¹⁹³

Political developments following the military coup of 12 April 2012

On 19 April 2012, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General briefed the Council on political developments in the country subsequent to the coup d'état of 12 April 2012. He stressed that a political-military coup had taken place under the eyes of the United Nations, an act of military insubordination to the democratically elected civilian authorities, and that the international community had unanimously condemned the action and called for the restoration of the constitutional order. The Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and the African Union had suggested that targeted sanctions be applied to the military and political leaders associated with the coup.

¹⁸⁸ For more information on the measures concerning Guinea-Bissau, see part VII, sect. III, "Measures not involving the use of armed force in accordance with Article 41 of the Charter".

¹⁸⁹ For more information on the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau, see part IX, sect. I.B.

¹⁹⁰ Resolutions 2092 (2013) and 2103 (2013). For more information on UNIOGBIS, see part X, sect. II, "Political and peacebuilding missions".

¹⁹¹ S/PV.6743, pp. 2-5.

¹⁹² Ibid., pp. 5-6.

¹⁹³ Ibid., pp. 6-7.