

<sup>g</sup> The Democratic Republic of the Congo was represented by its Vice-Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration.

<sup>h</sup> France, Italy, Japan, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>i</sup> China, Egypt, Ethiopia, France, Italy, Japan, Russian Federation, Senegal, Sweden, Ukraine, United Kingdom (President of the Council), United States and Uruguay.

<sup>j</sup> The United Republic of Tanzania was represented by its Minister for Foreign Affairs, East Africa, Regional and International Cooperation.

<sup>k</sup> Egypt, France, Italy, Sweden, United Kingdom and United States.

<sup>l</sup> Bolivia (Plurinational State of), France, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Sweden, United Kingdom, United States and Uruguay.

<sup>m</sup> The Democratic Republic of the Congo was represented by its Vice-Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration.

## 7. The situation in the Central African Republic

During the period under review the Security Council held 16 meetings, adopted six resolutions, all under Chapter VII of the Charter, and issued three presidential statements in connection with the situation in the Central African Republic. Most of the meetings took the form of briefings. The Council also held three meetings, two in 2016 and one in 2017, with countries contributing troops and police to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001).<sup>61</sup> More information on meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below.

During the period under review, the Council heard briefings by the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations<sup>62</sup> and by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA.<sup>63</sup> The deliberations of the Council focused on the political developments in the country and on the security and humanitarian situation. The Council also heard briefings by the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, who reported on the challenges and opportunities with respect to peacebuilding in the country and highlighted several projects and initiatives aimed at supporting security sector reform, fighting against impunity and promoting political dialogue in the Central African Republic.<sup>64</sup> In addition, the Council heard briefings by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) concerning the Central African Republic, who reported on the implementation of the

sanctions measures in place,<sup>65</sup> and by representatives of the Community of Sant’Egidio, who discussed the efforts aimed at supporting the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation process.<sup>66</sup>

In March 2016, following two rounds of elections, the second of which was held in early 2016, a new President was inaugurated, leading to the formation of a new Government in the country. On 15 April 2016, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations noted in his briefing to the Council that the elections in the Central African Republic marked the conclusion of the transition and the start of a “new phase” for the country. However, he also reported an increase in allegations of sexual misconduct by MINUSCA forces and international forces.<sup>67</sup> In a presidential statement issued on 16 November 2016, prior to the Brussels Conference for the Central African Republic, the Council encouraged contributions to support efforts to meet humanitarian needs and stabilize the country, including through development projects.<sup>68</sup>

In February 2017, the Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations reported to the Council that while the security situation in Bangui had gradually stabilized, clashes continued outside the capital between rival ex-Séléka factions, and between anti-balaka and ex-Séléka. He also briefed the Council on the developments and challenges in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process and on the operationalization of the Special Criminal Court. In addition, he noted that the humanitarian situation in the country continued to deteriorate. He

<sup>61</sup> Held on 12 April and 8 July 2016 and 24 October 2017 under the item entitled “Meeting of the Security Council with the troop- and police-contributing countries pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B”; see S/PV.7668, S/PV.7733 and S/PV.8074.

<sup>62</sup> S/PV.7671, pp. 2–4; S/PV.7734, pp. 2–4; S/PV.7787, pp. 2–3; S/PV.7884, pp. 2–5; and S/PV.7901, pp. 4–6.

<sup>63</sup> S/PV.7965, pp. 2–5, and S/PV.8084, pp. 2–5.

<sup>64</sup> S/PV.7734, pp. 4–6, and S/PV.7884, pp. 5–6.

<sup>65</sup> S/PV.7734, pp. 6–8, and S/PV.7884, pp. 8–9. For more information on briefings by the Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013), see part I, sect. 35.

<sup>66</sup> S/PV.7965, paras. 6–7, and S/PV.8084, paras. 7–8.

<sup>67</sup> S/PV.7671, pp. 3 and 4.

<sup>68</sup> S/PRST/2016/17, fifteenth paragraph.

reported that more than two million Central Africans, comprising more than half the total population of the country, were affected by food insecurity, the highest percentage in the world at the time.<sup>69</sup>

On 16 March 2017, at the end of his first year in office, the President of the Central African Republic briefed the Council on the political and security situation in the country, on the reform process undertaken and on disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation efforts, illustrating the challenges and emphasizing the need for the international community to continue its support.<sup>70</sup>

In a presidential statement adopted on 4 April 2017, the Council expressed concern over the ongoing violence between armed groups, deplored all attacks against civilians, and strongly condemned violence perpetrated by armed groups and their attempts to forcefully gain control of territory and resources. The Council also renewed its support for the President, and acknowledged his mediation and reconciliation efforts.<sup>71</sup>

On 12 June 2017, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA. He reported on the ongoing violence in several prefectures of the country, noted that MINUSCA had been under harsh public criticism in the country and elaborated on the difficulties still facing the political process.<sup>72</sup> At the meeting, the Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights provided an update to the Council on the recently launched human rights mapping report, which was mandated by resolution 2301 (2016) and covered the major violations and crimes committed in the Central African Republic from 2003 to 2015.<sup>73</sup>

In a presidential statement issued on 13 July 2017, the Council expressed concern at ongoing clashes between armed groups in the Central African Republic and the targeting of civilians from specific communities, United Nations peacekeepers and humanitarian workers. The Council also welcomed the agreement under the auspices of the Sant'Egidio community as a step forward for peace and stability in the country.<sup>74</sup>

On 6 November 2017, following the visit of the Secretary-General to the Central African Republic from 24 to 27 October 2017, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA. The briefing focused on the humanitarian and security situation in the country. He stated that wherever the presence of the State was lacking, attacks on civilians had persisted, particularly in the south-east and north-west of the country.<sup>75</sup> At the meeting, the Council was also briefed on the implementation of the African Initiative for Peace and Reconciliation by the Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic.<sup>76</sup>

During the period under review, the Council extended the mandate of MINUSCA three times. By resolution 2281 (2016), the Council extended the mandate of MINUSCA for three months and requested the Secretary-General to conduct a strategic review of the Mission.<sup>77</sup> Following the strategic review, by resolution 2301 (2016) of 26 July 2016, the Council extended the mandate of MINUSCA until 15 November 2017, and decided that the Mission's immediate tasks included protection of civilians, promotion and protection of human rights, facilitating a secure environment for the immediate, full, safe and unhindered delivery of humanitarian assistance and protection of United Nations personnel, installations, equipment and goods. In connection with the protection of civilians, MINUSCA was mandated to maintain a proactive deployment and a mobile and flexible posture. By the same resolution the Council mandated MINUSCA to provide technical assistance to the Central African Republic authorities in the operationalization of the Special Criminal Court.<sup>78</sup>

By resolution 2387 (2017) the Council extended the mandate of MINUSCA for an additional year, until 15 November 2018, calling on the Mission to take active steps to anticipate, deter and effectively respond to serious and credible threats to the civilian population and to enhance early warning. In the same resolution, the Council further modified the Mission's tasks and added the provision of good offices and support to the peace process by the Mission to the list of priority tasks defined by resolution 2301 (2016). During the period under review, the Council also

<sup>69</sup> S/PV.7884, pp. 2–4.

<sup>70</sup> S/PV.7901, pp. 2–4.

<sup>71</sup> S/PRST/2017/5, first, second, third, fourth and ninth paragraphs.

<sup>72</sup> S/PV.7965, pp. 2–5.

<sup>73</sup> Ibid., p. 5.

<sup>74</sup> S/PRST/2017/9, first and seventh paragraphs.

<sup>75</sup> S/PV.8084, p. 2.

<sup>76</sup> Ibid., pp. 5–7.

<sup>77</sup> Resolution 2281 (2016), paras. 1 and 4. For more information on the mandate of MINUSCA, see part X, sect. I, "Peacekeeping operations".

<sup>78</sup> Resolution 2301 (2016), paras. 23, 33, 33 (a) (i) and 34 (d) (vi).

increased the Mission’s troop ceiling, authorizing an increase of 900 military personnel for a revised total of 11,650 military personnel<sup>79</sup> and 2,080 police personnel.<sup>80</sup>

In addition, by resolutions [2262 \(2016\)](#) and [2339 \(2017\)](#) the Council twice extended, for periods of one year each, the arms embargo, asset freeze and travel ban imposed against individuals and entities designated by the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#), the last until 31 January 2018.<sup>81</sup> By the same resolutions the Council twice extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts established pursuant to

resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#), once until 28 February 2017 and again until 28 February 2018.<sup>82</sup> For the first time, by resolution [2339 \(2017\)](#), the Council introduced sexual violence as a separate criterion for listing, thereby deciding that the sanctions measures in question would also apply to individuals and entities involved in planning, directing or committing acts of sexual and gender-based violence in the Central African Republic.<sup>83</sup>

<sup>79</sup> Resolution [2387 \(2017\)](#), paras. 31, 32, 42 (a) (ii) and 42 (b).

<sup>80</sup> Resolution [2264 \(2016\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>81</sup> Resolution [2262 \(2016\)](#), paras. 1, 5 and 8, and resolution [2339 \(2017\)](#), paras. 1, 5 and 12.

<sup>82</sup> Resolution [2262 \(2016\)](#), para. 22 and resolution [2339 \(2017\)](#), para. 27. For more information on the sanctions measures concerning the Central African Republic, see part VII, sect. III, “Measures not involving the use of armed force in accordance with Article 41 of the Charter”. For more information on the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) and the Panel of Experts, see part IX, sect. I, “Committees”.

<sup>83</sup> Resolution [2339 \(2017\)](#), para. 17 (c).

### 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>
<a href="#">S/PV.7611</a> 27 January 2016	Letter dated 21 December 2015 from the Panel of Experts on the Central African Republic extended pursuant to Security Council resolution <a href="#">2196 (2015)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2015/936</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2016/81</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2262 (2016)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.7617</a> 9 February 2016		Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2016/52</a> )				Resolution <a href="#">2264 (2016)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.7671</a> 15 April 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2016/305</a> )  Letter dated 13 April 2016 from the Secretary-General		Central African Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (Morocco)	All invitees under rule 39	

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international peace and security**

<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>
	addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2016/342)					
S/PV.7677 26 April 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic (S/2016/305)	Draft resolution submitted by France (S/2016/378)				Resolution 2281 (2016) 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
	Letter dated 13 April 2016 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2016/342)					
S/PV.7734 8 July 2016	Special report of the Secretary-General on the strategic review of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) (S/2016/565)		Central African Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (Morocco)	One Council member (Ukraine), <sup>a</sup> all invitees	
S/PV.7747 26 July 2016	Special Report of the Secretary-General on the strategic review of MINUSCA (S/2016/565)	Draft resolution submitted by France (S/2016/638)	Central African Republic		One Council member (France), Central African Republic	Resolution 2301 (2016) 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
S/PV.7787 10 October 2016	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic (S/2016/824)		Central African Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Chair of the Central African Republic configuration	One Council member (Uruguay), all invitees	

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<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>
				of the Peacebuilding Commission (Morocco)		
<a href="#">S/PV.7812</a> 16 November 2016						<a href="#">S/PRST/2016/17</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.7872</a> 27 January 2017	Letter dated 5 December 2016 from the Panel of Experts on the Central African Republic extended pursuant to Security Council resolution <a href="#">2262 (2016)</a> addressed to the President of the Security Council ( <a href="#">S/2016/1032</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2017/77</a> )	Central African Republic		One Council member (France), Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2339 (2017)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)
<a href="#">S/PV.7884</a> 15 February 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2017/94</a> )		Central African Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (Morocco)	Two Council members (Ukraine, <sup>b</sup> Uruguay), all invitees	
<a href="#">S/PV.7901</a> 16 March 2017			Central African Republic	Under-Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (Morocco)	All Council members, all invitees <sup>c</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.7913</a> 4 April 2017						<a href="#">S/PRST/2017/5</a>

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<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>
<a href="#">S/PV.7965</a> 12 June 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2017/473</a> )		Central African Republic	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA, Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights, President of the Community of Sant'Egidio	Four Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Italy, <sup>d</sup> Russian Federation, Uruguay), all invitees <sup>e</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8001</a> 13 July 2017						<a href="#">S/PRST/2017/9</a>
<a href="#">S/PV.8084</a> 6 November 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2017/865</a> )		Central African Republic	Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic, Head of International Relations, Community of Sant'Egidio	Four Council members (Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Kazakhstan, Russian Federation, Uruguay), all invitees <sup>f</sup>	
<a href="#">S/PV.8102</a> 15 November 2017	Report of the Secretary-General on the Central African Republic ( <a href="#">S/2017/865</a> )	Draft resolution submitted by France ( <a href="#">S/2017/957</a> )	Central African Republic		Four Council members (Egypt, France, Russian Federation, United States), Central African Republic	Resolution <a href="#">2387 (2017)</a> 15-0-0 (adopted under Chapter VII)

<sup>a</sup> The representative of Ukraine spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#).

<sup>b</sup> The representative of Ukraine (President of the Security Council) spoke in his capacity as Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#).

<sup>c</sup> The Central African Republic was represented by its President.

<sup>d</sup> Italy was represented by its Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation.

<sup>e</sup> The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Rights participated in the meeting via videoconference from Washington, D.C.

<sup>f</sup> The Special Representative of the African Union to the Central African Republic participated in the meeting via videoconference from Bangui.

## 8. The situation in Guinea-Bissau

During the period under review, the Security Council held eight meetings in connection with the situation in Guinea-Bissau, adopted two resolutions and issued one presidential statement. Most of the meetings took the form of briefings. More information on the meetings, including on participants, speakers and outcomes, is given in the table below. The Council also renewed the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) two times, for periods of 12 months each, by resolutions 2267 (2016) and 2343 (2017), respectively.<sup>84</sup>

In 2016 and 2017, the Council was regularly briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of UNIOGBIS, the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission and the Special Representative and Head of the African Union Liaison Office in Guinea-Bissau. The briefings focused on the political crisis in Guinea-Bissau, set in motion in August 2015, that was compromising the normal functioning of State institutions owing to differences among the main stakeholders.

On 26 February 2016, by resolution 2267 (2016), the Council expressed concern over the ongoing political and institutional tensions among the President, the Prime Minister, the Speaker of Parliament and heads of political parties, which had prevented the country from moving forward with its national reform agenda for over six months. In that regard, it called upon Bissau-Guinean leaders to abide by their commitment to bring political stability to the country in the interests of the people of Guinea-Bissau. In addition, the Council called upon the authorities of Guinea-Bissau to expedite the review of the Constitution, and to continue to reform and strengthen the judicial system, while ensuring the separation of powers.<sup>85</sup>

In March 2016, the Council visited Guinea-Bissau to assess the political situation in the country

and to stress the need for an inclusive and constructive dialogue.<sup>86</sup>

On 23 February 2017, by resolution 2343 (2017), the Council welcomed the adoption by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) of the road map entitled “Agreement on the resolution of the political crisis in Guinea-Bissau” brokered by ECOWAS and the Conakry Agreement of 14 October 2016 on the implementation of the road map. The Council endorsed the Agreement as the primary framework for a peaceful resolution of the political crisis. It called upon the Bissau-Guinean stakeholders to strictly respect and comply with the Agreement and the roadmap.<sup>87</sup> In a presidential statement issued on 13 September 2017, the Council expressed its deep concern about the unresolved political impasse in Guinea-Bissau resulting from the inability of its political leaders to reach a lasting and consensual solution, and, *inter alia*, called upon the Guinea-Bissau leadership to implement the Conakry Agreement, including by appointing a consensus Prime Minister as required by the Agreement.<sup>88</sup>

The Chair of the Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau briefed the Council twice in connection with the item.<sup>89</sup> In line with the briefings and in response to requests by members of the Council to review the sanctions list and designation criteria,<sup>90</sup> the Council adopted resolutions 2267 (2016) and 2343 (2017), in which it decided to review the sanctions measures imposed by resolution 2048 (2012).<sup>91</sup>

<sup>86</sup> For more information on the Security Council mission to Guinea-Bissau, see part I, sect. 36, and part VI, sect. II, “Investigation of disputes and fact-finding”.

<sup>87</sup> Resolution 2343 (2017), sixth preambular paragraph and paras. 4 and 6.

<sup>88</sup> S/PRST/2017/17, second and fifth paragraphs.

<sup>89</sup> See S/PV.7764, pp. 5–6, and S/PV.8031, pp. 4–6.

<sup>90</sup> S/PV.8031, p. 8 (Uruguay); and p. 9 (Bolivia (Plurinational State of)).

<sup>91</sup> For more information on the sanctions 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”; for more information on the subsidiary organs associated with sanctions measures, see part IX, sect. I, “Committees”.

<sup>84</sup> For more information on the mandate of UNIOGBIS, see part X, sect. II, “Special political missions”.

<sup>85</sup> Resolution 2267 (2016), fourth preambular paragraph and paras. 4, 6 and 14.