



United Nations and

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# CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

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## UN Peace-building Office in CAR

On 10 February 2000, the Security Council, in its [statement](#), welcomed a decision by the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations Peace-building Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA), for an initial period of one year, beginning 15 February. In September 2000, following consultations with the Government of the Central African Republic, the Secretary-General [proposed](#) that the Security Council extend the mandate of the Office until 31 December 2001. The Council [took note](#) of that proposal.

The principal mission of BONUCA, headed by the Representative of the Secretary-General, is to support the Government's efforts to consolidate peace and national reconciliation, strengthen democratic institutions and facilitate the mobilization at the international level of political support and resources for national reconstruction and economic recovery in the country. In addition, the Office is tasked with promoting public awareness of human rights issues in the country and monitoring developments in this field.

BONUCA also includes a small number of military and civilian police advisers to follow up on security-related reforms and to assist in the implementation of the training programmes for the national police, which were initiated by the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA).

In May 2000, the Secretary-General appointed [Cheikh Tidiane Sy](#) (Senegal) as his Representative and Head of BONUCA. He took up his duties on 1 June 2000. Mr. Sy had previously served as the Secretary-General's Representative and Head of the [United Nations Office in Burundi](#) (UNOB).

## Background

The mandate of [MINURCA](#), which was established with effect from 15 April 1998 by Security Council resolution [1159 \(1998\)](#) of 27 March 1998, expired on 15 February 2000. MINURCA replaced an inter-African force (MISAB), which was set up on 31 January 1997 by the heads of State of Gabon, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali to monitor the

implementation of the [Bangui Agreements](#).

In its 10 February [statement](#), the Council commended MINURCA and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Mr. Oluyemi Adeniji (Nigeria), for the contribution they had made to restoration of peace and security in the country and for their important and tangible support for the holding of free and fair legislative and presidential elections. They were also praised for their contribution towards the restructuring of the security forces, the training of the police force and the launching of vital reforms in the political, social and economic fields.

The Council recognized the significant progress made by the Government of the Central African Republic in implementing the Bangui Agreements and the [National Reconciliation Pact](#), which were the foundations of peace and stability in the country. It strongly encouraged the Government to build on the progress made and to strengthen democratic institutions, broaden the scope of reconciliation and national unity and promote economic recovery.

The Secretary-General visited the Central African Republic from 30 April to 1 May, and had a series of discussions with President PatassJ, Prime Minister DologuJJ and members of his Government as well as with members of the Bureau of the National Assembly. Discussions related to issues of national reconciliation and the consolidation of peace in the country; good governance; the preservation and promotion of democratic institutions; the need to press on with reforms to render them sustainable and irreversible; and the organization of the Special Donors Meeting in New York, convened on 15-16 May specifically to help raise funds for the restructuring of the armed forces within the framework of an integrated approach to security and development.

[Reporting](#) to the Security Council on 29 June 2000, the Secretary-General noted that he was confident that President PatassJ and his Government remained fully committed to proceeding with the reforms necessary to consolidate the progress made towards the restoration of stability and the promotion of sustainable peace and development. At the same time, he said that because of the conflicts and tensions in the subregion, security would remain a matter of concern in the Central African Republic, and that the international community should remain engaged in this country and take the extra steps needed to complete the task of consolidating peace and stability.

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