8. The situation in the Central African Republic

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held six meetings and adopted one resolution and one presidential statement in connection with the situation in the Central African Republic. It received four briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission on their respective activities. The Council focused on progress towards the presidential and legislative elections, as well as on the challenges of reintegrating ex-combatants, tackling security sector reform and ensuring security in the north-east of the country.

The Council twice extended the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA)\(^{104}\) for one period of one year and one of 13 months.\(^{105}\)

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\(^{104}\) For more information on the mandates of BINUCA, see part X, sect. II, “Political and peacebuilding missions”.


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28 June 2010 to 21 December 2011: briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, electoral process and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme

On 28 June 2010, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Head of BINUCA. Introducing the report of the Secretary-General,\(^{106}\) she underlined that the peace process had reached a critical stage, in which the successful holding of elections and the completion of the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of some 8,000 former combatants, which both had so far been delayed, would determine the fate of the peacebuilding process. She said that the Independent Electoral Commission had recommended 24 October and 19 December 2010 as the dates for the first and second rounds of the presidential and parliamentary elections, respectively. Turning to the security situation, the Special Representative reported that it was being aggravated by the continuing attacks of the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) on the civilian population in the south-eastern provinces. She stressed that BINUCA was working closely with four United

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\(^{106}\) S/2010/295.
Nations peacekeeping missions in the region to monitor the activities of LRA, but acknowledged the need for a more coordinated regional approach in combating the threat posed by LRA. The representative of the Central African Republic noted that, while both national and international actors had agreed that security was necessary for free, fair and credible elections in a country prone to internal rebellion, the presence of foreign rebels and bandits had not made the situation easier.

On 8 December 2010, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General and provided an update on the preparation of elections and on the security situation in the country. She reported that presidential and legislative elections were scheduled for 23 January 2011 and that the United Nations and international partners had provided considerable technical and financial support to the Independent Electoral Commission, which was entrusted with the implementation of the electoral process. On the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process, she stated that, while the verification of ex-combatants in the north-west of the country was complete, the parties to the inclusive political dialogue needed to uphold all their commitments for the overall process to move forward. Emphasizing that the Government needed adequate means and resources to address the lack of security, she noted that it had made important efforts to extend its authority and provide services throughout the country. The representative of the Central African Republic stated that his country was preparing the holding of free, equitable and transparent elections. However, there were a number of concerns in several regions, such as insecurity fuelled by rebel groups that had not signed the Comprehensive Peace Agreement and unidentified armed groups.

On 14 December 2010, the Council adopted a presidential statement, in which it called upon all national stakeholders to continue their efforts to move forward expeditiously with the preparation and conduct of free, fair and credible elections, taking note of the presidential decree that had set 23 January 2011 as the date for the first round of the presidential and legislative elections, and of the peaceful completion of the registration process. The Council acknowledged the progress made so far in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process, and called upon all politico-military groups to take the measures necessary for a transparent and accountable completion of disarmament and demobilization without delay. The Council renewed its call to the Government of the Central African Republic to revive the efforts to reform security sector institutions, which was a crucial element of the peacebuilding process, and for addressing widespread impunity, promoting the rule of law and increasing respect for human rights.

On 7 July 2011, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General. Noting that the reporting period had been dominated by the presidential and legislative elections, she stated that international and national observers had characterized the polls as inclusive and peaceful despite a number of irregularities. She emphasized that the two most immediate challenges were the political dispensation following the legislative and presidential elections and the implementation of peace agreements with rebel groups, and the sustainable disarmament and reintegration of former combatants as part of the overall security sector reform.

On 14 December 2011, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General and provided an update on political, security, socioeconomic, humanitarian and human rights developments in the Central African Republic. Highlighting positive developments, she said that, despite divisions on the political front, the engagement of the Government with the opposition was an unexpected and major breakthrough. She warned that, while the dynamic of peace initiated between the Government and politico-military groups offered a real chance for peace in the country, the lack of funding to complete the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process and to initiate the second phase of security sector

107 S/PV.6345, pp. 2-4.
108 Ibid., pp. 6-7.
110 S/PV.6438, pp. 2-4.
111 Ibid., p. 6.
113 S/2011/311.
114 S/PV.6575, p. 2.
115 S/2011/739.
reform could put the country on the brink of disaster.\footnote{S/PV.6687, pp. 2-6.}

On 21 December 2011, the Council adopted resolution 2031 (2011), in which it expressed concern at the lack of State authority outside the capital, which had led to a serious security vacuum in many parts of the country, and called upon the Government of the Central African Republic and all armed groups to remain committed to the national reconciliation process by fully observing the recommendations of the inclusive political dialogue that had ended in 2008. It also demanded that all armed groups cooperate with the Government in the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process. The Council underscored the importance of security sector reform in the Central African Republic, noted with concern the absence of a credible and viable national strategy and in that regard called upon the Government to re-engage in a meaningful dialogue with BINUCA, in particular by taking into consideration the security sector reform road map drafted by BINUCA in response to the request by the Government for help to revive the security sector reform process.

\textbf{28 June 2010 to 14 December 2011: briefings by the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission}

From 28 June 2010 to 14 December 2011, the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission regularly updated the Council on issues related to the implementation of the Strategic Framework for Peacebuilding in the Central African Republic, which included the electoral process, security sector reform and the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme.\footnote{See S/PV.6345, S/PV.6438, S/PV.6575 and S/PV.6687.}

\textbf{Meetings: the situation in the Central African Republic}

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### Part I. Consideration of questions under the responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security

#### Meeting and date
- **6444**
  - **14 December 2010**
  - **Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and on the activities of BINUCA (S/2010/584)**

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<td>6696</td>
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<td>Draft resolution submitted by France, Gabon, Germany, United Kingdom, United States (S/2011/785)</td>
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### 9. The situation in Guinea-Bissau

**Overview**

During the period under review, the Security Council held nine meetings in connection with the situation in Guinea-Bissau and adopted two resolutions and one presidential statement. The Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission on the political and security situation surrounding the military insurrection of 1 April 2010, as well as on developments regarding efforts undertaken in the areas of security sector reform and the fight against drug trafficking and organized crime.

The Council also twice renewed the mandate of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in