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

13. Peace consolidation in West Africa

Overview

During the period under review, the Security Council held five meetings on peace consolidation in West Africa and adopted one presidential statement concerning Guinea. The Council heard four briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA), who presented the reports of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office.225 The discussions were focused on the challenges facing the subregion, including security sector reform, economic issues, electoral assistance, human rights violations, drug trafficking and governance, and the role of UNOWA in addressing these issues.

12 January 2010 to 8 July 2011: briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General

On 12 January 2010, the Council received a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the activities of UNOWA. He noted that, while there had been improvements in West Africa in the areas of conflict prevention, recovery and peacebuilding, a number of challenges still remained, such as election-related instability, economic issues, natural disasters, security sector reform, drug trafficking and organized crime. He noted that UNOWA had established close cooperation with the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the African Union to address the challenge of establishing peace and security in the subregion. Referring to events in Guinea, he cautioned that the crisis there, if left unaddressed, could spill over to the subregion.226

On 17 December 2010, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, reporting to the Council, noted that the acute food crisis in the Niger had been efficiently curbed due to efforts by the Government of the Niger and the international community. He added that in Mauritania the Government had initiated a process of political dialogue with the opposition, and he commended the Guinean people and leaders on the election of a new legitimate President. He said that UNOWA would remain engaged in supporting democratic transition in the subregion with a view to enhancing the contribution of the United Nations to peace and development.228

On 8 July 2011, the Council was briefed by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, who welcomed the peaceful end of the post-election crisis in Côte d’Ivoire, the outcome of the Guinean crisis, and the restoration of constitutional order in the Niger. He noted that the invitation extended to those three countries to attend the Group of Eight summit in Deauville and the political and financial decisions taken at that time was a strong signal of support from the international community. Stability was nevertheless fragile and many challenges remained, including chronic food insecurity in the Niger and the implementation of reforms already undertaken in Guinea and elsewhere. Referring to the crisis in Libya, he expressed concern about the impact of thousands of migrants from Libya returning to Mali and the Niger, and the significant increase in arms and explosives circulating in those countries and the Sahel in general. Instability associated with elections remained a significant challenge, especially considering the number of elections to be held in the coming few years; and the scourges of drug trafficking and organized crime must be fought if the actions taken to

225 For more information on the mandate of UNOWA, see part X, sect. II, “Political and peacebuilding missions”.
226 S/PV.6256, pp. 2-3.
227 S/PV.6358, pp. 2-3.
228 S/PV.6455, pp. 2-3.
promote security and stability in the subregion were to produce results.\textsuperscript{229}

**16 February 2010: presidential statement concerning Guinea**

On 16 February 2010, the Council adopted a presidential statement, by which it inter alia welcomed the recent positive developments in Guinea, and the appointment of a Prime Minister and designation of a National Unity Government. The Council welcomed the Joint Declaration of Ouagadougou of 15 January 2010, which provided in particular for the establishment of a National Unity Government led by a civilian Prime Minister designated by the opposition, the holding of elections within six months, the commitment that the Head of State of the transition, members of the Conseil national pour la démocratie et le développement, the Prime Minister, members of the National Unity Government and the defence and security forces in active service would not stand in the forthcoming presidential elections. It commended the work of the International Commission of Inquiry established by the Secretary-General to investigate the facts and circumstances of the events of 28 September 2009 in Guinea,\textsuperscript{230} and took note positively of the submission by the Commission of its report.\textsuperscript{231} The Council requested the Secretary-General to continue to update it as appropriate on the situation on the ground, the potential implications for the subregion, the fight against impunity, the efforts of ECOWAS and the African Union, and the actions of the United Nations Secretariat.\textsuperscript{232}

\textsuperscript{229} S/PV.6577, pp. 2-4.

\textsuperscript{230} S/2009/556.

\textsuperscript{231} S/2009/693.

\textsuperscript{232} S/PRST/2010/3.

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### Meetings: peace consolidation in West Africa

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14. The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion

Overview

In the period under review, the Security Council held 10 meetings, including three closed meetings with the troop-contributing countries, and adopted three resolutions and one presidential statement in connection with the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion. The Council focused on the withdrawal of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT), following a request by the President of Chad in a letter addressed to the President of the Security Council. In addition, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of MINURCAT on the different stages of drawdown and options to address the challenges that arose from the withdrawal of MINURCAT.

The Council extended three times the mandate of MINURCAT to facilitate the smooth withdrawal of the Mission. The Mission was terminated on 31 December 2010.

12 March to 25 May 2010: extension of the mandate of MINURCAT

On 12 March 2010, by resolution 1913 (2010), the Council, considering the letter dated 3 March 2010 from the representative of Chad to the United Nations and the letter dated 11 March 2010 from the Secretary-General indicating that discussions on the future of MINURCAT were still ongoing, decided to

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235 Resolutions 1913 (2010); 1922 (2010); and 1923 (2010). For information on the mandate of MINURCAT, see part X, sect. I, “Peacekeeping operations”.
237 S/2010/129.