

The President of the Security Council presents her compliments to the members of the Council and has the honour to transmit herewith, for their information, a copy of a **letter dated 9 December 2015 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan** addressed to the President of the Security Council, and its enclosure.

This letter and its enclosure will be issued as a document of the Security Council under the symbol S/2015/991.

18 December 2015

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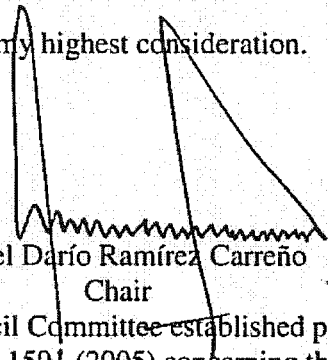
9 December 2015

Madam President,

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2015. The report, which was approved by the Committee, is being submitted in accordance with the note by the President of the Security Council of 29 March 1995 (S/1995/234).

I should be grateful if the present letter and the report were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

Please accept, Madam President, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Rafael Darío Ramírez Carreño
Chair

Security Council Committee established pursuant to
to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan

Her Excellency
Ms. Samantha Power
President of the Security Council
New York

Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Samuel Moncada (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) as Chair from January to February and Rafael Dario Ramirez Carreño (Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)) for the remainder of the reporting period. The representatives of Nigeria and Spain served as Vice-Chairs throughout the reporting period.

II. Background

3. By its resolution 1556 (2004), the Security Council imposed an arms embargo on all non-governmental entities and individuals, including the Janjaweed, operating in the States of North Darfur, South Darfur and West Darfur in the Sudan, and by its resolution 1591 (2005) the Council broadened the scope of the arms embargo to include all parties to the N'Djamena Ceasefire Agreement and any other belligerents in those States (subsequently confirmed, by resolution 2035 (2012), to also include the new States of East and Central Darfur). Exemptions to the measures were also included.
4. By its resolution 1591 (2005), the Security Council also established a committee to monitor the implementation of the arms embargo and the two additional measures, a travel ban and an assets freeze, imposed by the same resolution on individuals, to be designated by the Committee, on the basis of the criteria contained in the resolution. A panel of experts, operating under the direction of the Committee, was also established to assist the Committee in monitoring the implementation of the measures and to act as a source of information for potential designations. The Council, by its resolution 2035 (2012), subsequently extended the applicability of the designation criteria to entities. By its resolution 1672 (2006), the Council designated four individuals as subject to the travel ban and assets freeze.
5. The enforcement of the arms embargo was strengthened in resolution 1945 (2010), when the Council clarified the exemptions to that measure and made the sale or supply of arms and related materiel to the Sudan not prohibited by the embargo contingent upon the necessary end user documentation. The exemptions to the arms embargo were further updated in resolution 2035 (2012).
6. By its resolution 1769 (2007), the Security Council provided for an arms embargo monitoring aspect to the mandate of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID). In resolution 2228 (2015), the Council requested UNAMID to discontinue all other tasks not aligned to its revised strategic priorities, with the latter not having included any reference to the above-mentioned monitoring role. The Council expressed deep concern over the proliferation of arms,

in particular small arms and light weapons and requested UNAMID to continue to cooperate in that context with the Panel of Experts in order to facilitate its work

7. Further background information on the Sudan sanctions regime can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

8. During 2015, the Committee met four times in informal consultations, on 14 January, 6 May, 20 August and 18 December. It also convened two formal meetings, on 29 May and 23 November. Furthermore, the Committee conducted its work through written procedures.

9. During the informal consultations held on 14 January, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its final report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2138 (2014), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

10. During the informal consultations held on 6 May, the Committee heard a presentation by the regional expert of the Panel of Experts, appointed pursuant to resolution 2200 (2015), on the Panel's programme of work under its extended mandate.

11. At its sixth formal meeting on 29 May, the Committee met with Sudan and countries in the region (Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Libya), pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) (vii) of resolution 1591 (2005), with the aim of strengthening dialogue between the Committee and the invited delegations, particularly on challenges faced by the region in achieving full implementation of the sanctions measures.

12. During the informal consultations held on 20 August, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the Panel's midterm update, submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2200 (2015), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

13. At its seventh formal meeting 23 November, the Committee met with the Sudan and countries in the region (Egypt, Ethiopia, Libya and South Sudan), pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) (vii) of resolution 1591 (2005), with the aim of further strengthening dialogue between the Committee and the invited delegations. The Panel of Experts also participated in this meeting via videoteleconference.

14. During the informal consultations held on 18 December, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its final report, submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution 2200 (2015), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

15. On 6 February, 28 May, 26 August and 4 November, the Chair of the Committee briefed the Security Council during consultations on the activities of the Committee since his previous briefing, pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) (iv) of resolution 1591 (2005).

16. The Committee sent 23 letters to 13 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures. On 20 March, the Committee also sent a note verbale to all Member States in connection with the

implementation of the travel ban and assets freeze. The Committee received one implementation report from a Member State.

IV. Exemptions

17. Exemptions to the arms embargo are outlined in paragraph 9 of resolution 1556 (2004) and paragraph 7 of resolution 1591 (2005), subsequently updated in paragraph 8 (b) of resolution 1945 (2010) and paragraph 4 of resolution 2035 (2012).

18. Exemptions to the travel ban are outlined in paragraph 3 (f) of resolution 1591 (2005), and exemptions to the assets freeze are outlined in paragraph 3 (g) of resolution 1591 (2005).

19. No exemption requests or notifications were received by the Committee during the period under review.

V. Sanctions list

20. The criteria for designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze are set out in paragraph 3 (c) of resolution 1591 (2005). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

21. At the end of the reporting period, there were four individuals on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Panel of Experts

22. The final report of the Panel of Experts under resolution 2138 (2014), which was submitted to the Committee on 12 December 2014 by the Panel appointed pursuant to the same resolution, was transmitted to the Security Council on 16 January 2015 and issued as a document of the Council (S/2015/31).

23. On 12 March, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2200 (2015) on 12 February, the Secretary-General appointed five individuals to serve on the Panel of Experts, with expertise in arms, aviation, finance, international humanitarian law, and regional (S/2015/180). The mandate of the Panel expires on 12 March 2016.

24. On 12 August, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2200 (2015), the Panel provided its midterm update to the Committee.

25. On 4 December, also in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2200 (2015), the Panel of Experts provided its final report to the Committee, which is expected to be transmitted to the Security Council in January 2016 and issued as a document of the Council.

26. On 5 March, 5 June and 1 October, in accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution 2138 (2014) and paragraph 3 of resolution 2200 (2015), the Panel submitted quarterly updates to the Committee.

27. The Panel conducted visits to Belgium, Chad, Ethiopia, France, Greece, Italy, the Netherlands, Spain, the Sudan, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America.

28. During 2015, in pursuance of its mandate, the Panel, through the Secretariat, sent 127 letters to Member States, the Committee and international and national entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

29. For the reporting period, the Security Council Affairs Division (SCAD) provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and members of the Committee. Advisory support was also provided to Member States, to promote understanding of the sanctions regime and facilitate implementation of the sanctions measures. On 1 December 2015, a sanctions workshop was organized for incoming members of the Security Council to familiarize them with the substantive and procedural aspects of chairing a sanctions committee, including interaction with the UN system, sanctions experts, and other relevant actors.

30. On 14 October, SCAD launched a re-designed website for the Security Council's Subsidiary Organs. The new website, which is available in all six official languages and accessible to the visually-impaired, features an improved user-friendly layout. The website offers quick and easy access to the current sanctions measures and applicable exemptions, the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List, as well as individual committee sanctions lists. Narrative summaries of reasons for listing each name are displayed in an easy-to navigate, searchable format. The website also provides clear, practical explanations of the procedures for listing, de-listing and exemptions.

31. On 28 December, SCAD will make available all United Nations Security Council sanctions lists in the six official languages of the United Nations. This builds upon last year's standardization of the format of all Security Council sanctions lists, and establishment of the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List, in response to resolutions 2083 (2012) and 2161 (2014). In addition, SCAD created and maintained INTERPOL-UN Security Council Special Notices to promote effective implementation of the sanctions measures.

32. As part of SCAD's effort to recruit well-qualified experts for service on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a Note Verbale was sent to all Member States on 1 December 2015 to request the nomination of qualified candidates for the SCAD Roster of Experts. Upon the receipt of nominations, SCAD will assess the suitability of nominated candidates for its roster, for future consideration for the relevant expert panels. In addition to this annual outreach, this year, SCAD also sent Notes Verbales to all Member States notifying them of upcoming vacancies in specific sanctions panels, providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise, and pertinent requirements.

33. In 2015, SCAD continued providing substantive advice and support to the Panel of Experts, conducting an induction for newly appointed members of the Panel in New York, assisting in the preparation of the Panel's midterm update in July and during the preparation of the Panel's final report in November.

34. From 8 to 11 September 2015, SCAD in cooperation with UN System partners, conducted a pilot training workshop on investigative techniques for 12 experts from sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels. The objective of this training was to equip participants with an understanding of basic investigative techniques, processes and tools, as well as to strengthen their understanding of the approach to investigations within the framework of the Security Council sanctions regimes.

35. Moreover, to promote greater cooperation amongst the different expert panels, SCAD organized its third annual Inter-Panel Coordination Workshop in New York from 16-17 December 2015. This event was attended by members of all 12 monitoring groups, teams and panels. This workshop afforded sanctions experts the opportunity to discuss strategic and technical issues relating to Security Council sanctions with representatives of the sanctions committees, as well as UN system, other international, private sector and non-governmental partners.

36. In 2015, the Secretariat established the Interagency Working Group on United Nations Sanctions under the leadership of the Department of Political Affairs. This working group brings together 25 UN entities to support Security Council sanctions regimes, and integrate UN sanctions with other peace and security efforts of the UN system, as appropriate.
