



Security Council

Distr.: General
31 December 2020

Original: English

Letter dated 15 December 2020 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2020. 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.

(Signed) **Dang Dinh Quy**
Chair

Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan



Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2020.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Dang Dinh Quy (Viet Nam) as Chair and representatives of the Dominican Republic and Indonesia as Vice-Chairs.

II. Background

3. By its resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#), the Security Council established the Committee and imposed a travel ban and an asset freeze on individuals and entities designated by the Committee as engaging in a wide range of forms of behaviour that threatened the peace, security or stability of South Sudan. By its resolution [2428 \(2018\)](#), the Security Council expanded the sanctions regime through the imposition of an arms embargo on the entire territory of South Sudan. The Committee is tasked with, among other things, overseeing the implementation of the sanctions measures.
4. Also by its resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#), the Security Council established a panel of five experts under the direction of the Committee. The mandate of the Panel of Experts on South Sudan was extended most recently in resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#).
5. Further background information on the South Sudan sanctions regime can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

6. The Committee held one briefing for Member States, on 7 February, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.
7. In the light of the challenges to the Committee's usual procedures posed by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including the limitations on holding in-person meetings, and in order to ensure the continuity of its work, the members of the Committee agreed, on an exceptional basis, to hold virtual meetings in the form of closed videoconferences, on 25 June, 7 August, 16 October and 20 November. In addition, the final report of the Panel of Experts ([S/2020/342](#)), submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 of resolution [2471 \(2019\)](#), and the recommendations contained therein, were considered by the Committee in writing during the month of April.
8. During the briefing of Member States held on 7 February, the Committee invited the Permanent Representatives of States in the region, as well as the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts, to discuss the Panel's interim report ([S/2019/897](#)), submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 of resolution [2471 \(2019\)](#).
9. During the closed videoconference held on 25 June, Committee members and regional Member States heard a briefing by the Permanent Representative of the Sudan, in his capacity as Chair in New York of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development, on the most recent efforts by the Authority to support the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan. During the videoconference, the Committee and regional Member States also heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the

Panel's final report (S/2020/342), submitted pursuant to paragraph 3 of resolution 2471 (2019).

10. During the closed videoconference held on 7 August, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on the programme of work of the Panel pursuant to resolution 2521 (2020).

11. During the closed videoconference held on 16 October, the Committee received a briefing by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict.

12. During the closed videoconference held on 20 November, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Panel of Experts on South Sudan concerning the interim report of the Panel (S/2020/1141), submitted pursuant to paragraph 18 of resolution 2521 (2020), and discussed the findings and recommendations contained therein.

13. Following the briefing of Member States held on 7 February, and in accordance with paragraph 104 of the annex to the note by the President of the Security Council (S/2017/507), the Committee issued a press release containing a brief summary of the meeting.

14. On 29 January, the Committee sent a note verbale to all Member States inviting them to attend the informal consultations of the Committee on 7 February 2020.

15. On 2 June, the Committee sent a note verbale to all Member States in which it referred to the recommendation contained in paragraph 132 (e) of the final report of the Panel of Experts (S/2020/342) and encouraged them, when seeking to provide financial or in-kind assistance to South Sudan, to take into account the risks associated with the possible misuse of such assistance to the peace, security and stability of South Sudan.

16. On 15 December, the Security Council heard a briefing by the Chair of the Committee on the activities of the Committee since the former Chair's last briefing on 17 December 2019.

17. To date, the Committee has received 26 reports from Member States on the implementation of resolution 2206 (2015).

18. The Committee sent 50 communications to 22 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

IV. Exemptions

19. Exemptions to the asset freeze are contained in paragraphs 13 to 15 of resolution 2206 (2015), as reaffirmed in paragraph 11 of resolution 2521 (2020).

20. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraph 11 of resolution 2206 (2015), as reaffirmed in paragraph 11 of resolution 2521 (2020).

21. Exemptions to the arms embargo are contained in paragraph 5 of resolution 2428 (2018), as reaffirmed in paragraph 3 of resolution 2521 (2020).

22. The Committee received four requests pursuant to paragraphs 11 (c) and 13 (b) of resolution 2206 (2015), which were approved.

23. The Committee received three requests pursuant to paragraphs 5 (f) and (g) of resolution 2428 (2018), two of which were approved.

V. Sanctions list

24. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze were initially set out in paragraphs 6 to 8 of resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#). The designation criteria were expanded in paragraphs 15 and 16 of resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

25. No entries were added to or removed from the list. As at the end of the reporting period, there were eight individuals on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Panel of Experts

26. The final report of the Panel of Experts, submitted in accordance with paragraph 3 of resolution [2471 \(2019\)](#), was issued on 28 April ([S/2020/342](#)).

27. On 2 July, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#) on 29 May, the Secretary-General appointed five experts in, respectively, natural resources, arms, finance, humanitarian affairs, and armed groups and regional issues to serve on the Panel (see [S/2020/647](#)). The mandate of the Panel expires on 1 July 2021.

28. The interim report of the Panel of Experts, submitted in accordance with paragraph 18 of resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#), was issued on 25 November ([S/2020/1141](#)).

29. The Panel conducted visits to Italy, Kenya, South Sudan, Switzerland and Uganda.

30. In pursuance of its mandate, the Panel, through the Secretariat, sent 72 letters to 49 Member States, the Committee and several national and international entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

31. The Security Council Affairs Division provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and the members of the Committee. Advisory support was also provided to Member States to promote understanding of the sanctions regime and facilitate the implementation of the sanctions measures. Induction briefings were also provided to incoming members of the Council to familiarize them with the specific issues relevant to the sanctions regime.

32. The Division worked with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and the Office of Information and Communications Technology of the Department of Management Strategy, Policy and Compliance to facilitate the conduct of virtual meetings held by the Committee, through a variety of platforms.

33. To support the Committee in its recruitment of well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 14 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for the roster of experts. In addition, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 9 March, notifying them of upcoming vacancies on the Panel of Experts and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements. On 4 March, vacancy announcements were also made available online at careers.un.org.

34. The Division continued to provide support to the Panel of Experts, conducting a virtual induction for newly appointed members and assisting in the preparation of the Panel's interim report, submitted to the Committee in November, and its final report, submitted to the Committee in March. While COVID-19 pandemic restrictions impeded the travel of Panel members for much of the year, the Secretariat facilitated

travel by Panel members to Member States, taking into account World Health Organization guidelines, national travel advisories and other pandemic-related requirements. The Secretariat also organized a remote workshop on investigative techniques, held from 14 to 16 December, which was focused on investigative methods and tools for experts. In addition, the Secretariat organized training sessions for experts on the use of subscription-based analytical products and programmes, as well as databases and other research tools, to facilitate their monitoring and reporting work.

35. The Secretariat continued to update and maintain the United Nations Security Council Consolidated List and the committee-specific sanctions lists in the six official languages and the three technical formats. Furthermore, the Secretariat implemented improvements concerning the effective utilization of and access to the lists, as well as further developing, in all official languages, the data model approved in 2011 by the Committee pursuant to resolutions [1267 \(1999\)](#), [1989 \(2011\)](#) and [2253 \(2015\)](#) concerning Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (Da'esh), Al-Qaida and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities, as requested by the Council in paragraph 54 of resolution [2368 \(2017\)](#). Since November 2020, the notes verbales notifying Member States about listings on, delistings from and updates to the Consolidated List and the committee-specific sanctions lists have also been made available in Arabic, Chinese and Russian, in addition to English, French and Spanish, in order to facilitate the timely implementation of changes to the relevant lists.

36. On 31 October 2020, the Secretary-General submitted his report on the implementation of paragraph 5 of resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#) (S/2020/1067), assessing the role of the arms embargo in facilitating the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan and articulating options for the elaboration of benchmarks to assess the arms embargo measures according to progress made in the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement, including adherence to the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities, Protection of Civilians and Humanitarian Access and the ceasefire provisions of the Revitalized Agreement.
