



Security Council

Distr.: General
10 June 2020
English
Original: French

Letter dated 10 June 2020 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

I have the honour to transmit herewith my quarterly report, prepared in accordance with paragraph 3 (a) (iv) of Security Council resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) (see annex). I should be grateful if you would have this letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) **Sven Jürgenson**
Chair

Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) concerning the Sudan



Annex

[Original: English]

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

1. In accordance with paragraph 3 (a) (iv) of resolution 1591 (2005), I have the honour to brief the Security Council on the work of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan. The present report covers the period from 26 March to 8 June 2020.
2. Following the appointment of the five experts to serve on the Panel of Experts on the Sudan until 12 March 2021, the Secretariat organized a virtual induction for the Panel, which was held from 8 to 14 April 2020. The induction sessions included planning the work for the new mandate and holding virtual bilateral meetings with Member States, including the Sudan, and United Nations agencies. Following the induction, in a letter dated 21 May that was addressed to me in my capacity as Chair of the Committee, the Panel outlined its priorities within its mandate, set out in the relevant Security Council resolutions.
3. In accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2508 (2020), the Panel submitted its first quarterly report to the Committee, which covered the period from 13 March to 1 June 2020. Owing to the restrictions warranted by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Panel was unable to travel. Instead, it collected and verified information remotely.
4. For the benefit of the Council, so that it can provide the best support to the Sudan regarding the most recent developments on the ground, I would like to highlight the following important elements from the Panel's reporting, without prejudice to the national positions of individual Committee members on the issues described.
5. The Panel reported that despite many hampering factors, including COVID-19, the peace talks in Juba continued, with 20 June 2020 set as the last date for negotiations.
6. The clashes between the Sudan Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid (SLA-AW) and the Government of the Sudan forces in Jebel Marra have lessened since late 2019 owing to the reciprocal ceasefire. However, SLA-AW continued to recruit and train new fighters as a result of its exploitation of the Torroye goldmine in south-eastern Jebel Marra. Further destabilizing events concerned a sanctioned individual, Musa Hilal, and Arab communities. The Panel stated that the supporters of Musa Hilal had been mobilizing in support for his release from prison. In addition, the Panel also reported the possible formation of a new armed group by communities that fear they may lose the land that they have seized during the conflict in Darfur.
7. In terms of the regional context, almost all Darfurian armed groups maintained their presence in Libya, which remained an important source of financing.
8. With regard to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Panel expressed its concern that certain factors, such as the presence of more than 1.8 million people in internally displaced person camps and the porous borders with neighbouring countries, may have a serious impact on the spread of the disease. The common social distancing measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 have been difficult to implement in internally displaced person camps owing to the difficult living conditions, in particular overpopulation and the scarcity of water.
9. Finally, I would like to reiterate that these elements have been brought to your attention for the purpose of pointing out areas in which challenges may be arising, so

that the Council is aware as it deliberates on how best to support the Sudan during its transition. I would also like to take this opportunity to emphasize that the sanctions regime was established for the sole purpose of helping to bring peace to Darfur. It is not to punish the Sudan, but to provide support in order to achieve sustainable peace. The Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) concerning the Sudan is committed to working together with the Sudan and all relevant stakeholders to make this a reality.
