

Distr.: General 15 September 2020 English Original: French

## Letter dated 15 September 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 the present letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sven Jürgenson Chair Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan



20-11947 (E) 170920 210920

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

## Briefing on the work of the Committee held on 15 September 2020

1. At the outset, I would like to congratulate the Sudan on behalf of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1591 (2005) concerning the Sudan on reaching a historic peace agreement. We commend the commitment of the transitional authorities to prioritizing peace and urge the parties that have not yet joined the peace agreement to do so urgently. We hope that this peace deal will pave the way for sustainable peace for all people in the Sudan.

2. 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 Committee over the period from 9 June to 14 September 2020.

3. On 13 July, the Committee held its first "informal" informal consultations, which were also the first consultations to be held remotely. The purpose of that meeting was to discuss the final report of the Panel of Experts on the Sudan with the regional Member States and to continue to strengthen the dialogue between the Committee and those States, in accordance with the mandate of the Committee. I convened a meeting in accordance with paragraph 28 of resolution 2340 (2017), in which the Security Council emphasized the importance of holding regular consultations with concerned Member States, as may be necessary, in order to ensure full implementation of the measures set forth in that resolution. After a brief presentation by the Panel Coordinator, the representatives of the Sudan, Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Uganda made statements. All representatives expressed their appreciation for the opportunity to share their views on the final report with the Committee and the Panel. We discussed with our interlocutors the issue of peace in the Sudan, borders, security, and armed groups in the region.

4. In accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 2508 (2020), the Panel submitted to the Committee its interim report, which the Committee discussed during the "informal" informal consultations held on 18 August. Owing to the restrictions warranted by the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, the Panel continued to collect and verify information remotely.

5. In order to ensure that the Council may provide the best support possible to the Sudan regarding the most recent developments on the ground, I would like to highlight the following elements in the report of the Panel.

6. The Panel reported that the security environment in Darfur had been volatile and had deteriorated in several areas. Bolstered by new gold mining revenues, the Sudan Liberation Army-Abdul Wahid had been able to increase its capability in Jebel Marra by recruiting new fighters and purchasing weapons, even though the movement was divided by internal infighting. Intercommunal clashes and related attacks on civilians had increased since May, especially in West Darfur and South Darfur. Attacks on civilians had increased, in particular those on internally displaced persons and farmers trying to return to their land. The Committee recognizes the willingness of the Government of the Sudan to respond to the security incidents, as well as the need for the necessary capacity-building support to be provided in order to address this issue. The Panel also reported that most Darfurian rebel groups remained in Libya, where they participated in large numbers in military clashes in 2020, including in Tripoli and Sirte. These rebel groups have grown significantly over the past six months, engaging in large-scale recruitment and obtaining new equipment.

7. We would like to recognize the Government of the Sudan for increasingly acknowledging the issue of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations in Darfur, and would encourage it to address that issue.

8. Regarding the implementation of sanctions, the Panel reported that parties in the Sudan had continued to transfer arms and other military material into Darfur in violation of the arms embargo. Porous borders and easy availability of small arms in Darfur and the region meant that the illicit flows of weapons in and out of Darfur continued and posed a threat to security and stability both in Darfur and in neighbouring countries. The Panel reported that the implementation of the travel ban and assets freeze also remained a challenge.

9. In connection with the Sanctions List, I would like to note that, as at 31 August 2020, the Committee was considering a proposal, submitted by a Member State, for the delisting of four individuals.

10. Lastly, I would like to take this opportunity to reiterate 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 support it in achieving sustainable peace. The Committee is committed to working together with the Sudan and all relevant stakeholders to make this a reality.

\_\_\_\_\_