



Security Council

Distr.: General
31 December 2020

Original: English

Letter dated 15 December 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 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 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) **Sven Jürgenson**
Chair

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



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 2020.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Sven Jürgenson (Estonia) as Chair and representatives of Germany and Viet Nam as Vice-Chairs.

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. 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, in 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 asset freeze, imposed through the same resolution on individuals, to be designated by the Committee, on the basis of the criteria contained in the resolution. 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 asset freeze.
5. The enforcement of the arms embargo was strengthened in resolution 1945 (2010), when the Security 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 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 its resolution 2228 (2015), the Council requested UNAMID to discontinue all other tasks not aligned to its revised strategic priorities, which did not include 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 on the Sudan in order to facilitate its work. The Council reiterated its concern and request in its resolution 2363 (2017).
7. The Panel of Experts, operating under the direction of the Committee, was established by the Security Council in its resolution 1591 (2005) to assist the Committee in monitoring the implementation of the measures and to act as a source of information for potential designations. The membership of the Panel, which initially consisted of four experts, was increased to five experts by the Council in its resolution 1713 (2006). The Panel's mandate was extended most recently in resolution 2508 (2020).

8. 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

9. The Committee met once in informal consultations on 10 January, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.

10. In the light of the challenges posed to the Committee's usual procedures 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 13 July and 18 August.

11. During the informal consultations held on 10 January, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its final report, submitted in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution [2455 \(2019\)](#), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

12. During the closed videoconference held on 13 July, the Committee met with representatives of the Sudan and countries in the region (Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia and Uganda), pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) (vii) of resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) and as reaffirmed in paragraph 27 of resolution [2340 \(2017\)](#), with the aim of further strengthening dialogue between the Committee and the invited delegations. The Panel of Experts also participated in the closed videoconference.

13. During the closed videoconference held on 18 August, the Committee heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on the Panel's interim report submitted pursuant to paragraph 2 of resolution [2508 \(2020\)](#).

14. The Chair of the Committee gave a briefing to the Security Council on the activities of the Committee, pursuant to paragraph 3 (a) (iv) of resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#), by letter on 30 March ([S/2020/250](#)), by videoconference on 9 June ([S/2020/526](#)), by videoconference on 15 September ([S/2020/907](#)), and by videoconference on 11 December ([S/2020/1235](#)).

15. In 2020, the Committee received no implementation reports from Member States.

16. The Committee sent 25 communications to 11 Member States and other stakeholders with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

IV. Exemptions

17. Exemptions to the arms embargo are contained 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 contained in paragraph 3 (f) of resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#).

19. Exemptions to the asset freeze are contained in paragraph 3 (g) of resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#).

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

V. Sanctions list

21. The criteria for the 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.

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

VI. Panel of Experts

23. On 10 March, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution [2508 \(2020\)](#), the Secretary-General appointed five experts, with expertise in arms and armed groups, regional issues, finance, international humanitarian law and transport and customs, to serve on the Panel (see [S/2020/198](#)). The mandate of the Panel expires on 12 March 2021.

24. On 5 August, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution [2508 \(2020\)](#), the Panel provided its interim report to the Committee.

25. On 5 February, 3 March, 1 June and 25 September, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution [2455 \(2019\)](#) and paragraph 2 of resolution [2508 \(2020\)](#), the Panel of Experts submitted quarterly updates to the Committee.

26. On 24 December, in accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution [2508 \(2020\)](#) the Panel provided its final report to the Committee, which will be transmitted to the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council in January 2021.

27. The Panel conducted visits to Egypt, France, Kenya, the Sudan and the United States of America.

28. Since 1 January 2020, in pursuance of its mandate, the Panel has, through the Secretariat, sent 22 letters to 10 Member States, the Committee and several international and national entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

29. 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.

30. The Division worked with the Department for General Assembly and Conference Management and the Office of Information and Communication 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.

31. 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 2 November, notifying them of upcoming vacancies on the Panel of Experts and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent

requirements. On 31 October, vacancy announcements were also made available online at careers.un.org.

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

33. 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, de-listings 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.
