

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-agenda item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6240th 15 December 2009	Report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and on the activities of BONUCA in that country (S/2009/627)		Rule 37 Central African Republic Rule 39 Special Representative of the Secretary-General, Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission	All invitees	
6250th 21 December 2009					S/PRST/2009/35

10. The situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia

Overview

During the period 2008-2009, the Security Council held five meetings, including one private meeting with the troop-contributing countries,¹¹⁴ and adopted two resolutions and two presidential statements in connection with the situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia. The Council considered the continued disagreement on the border issue between the two countries and extended the mandate of United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) until 31 July 2008.¹¹⁵ In response to the restrictions imposed by the Government of Eritrea on UNMEE operations, the Council terminated the mandate of UNMEE on 31 July 2008.¹¹⁶

30 January 2008: extension of the mandate of UNMEE

On 30 January 2008, the Council adopted resolution [1798 \(2008\)](#), in which it extended the mandate of UNMEE for a period of six months, until 31 July 2008, and demanded that Eritrea and Ethiopia immediately take concrete steps to complete the process

launched by the Peace Agreement of 12 December 2000¹¹⁷ by enabling the physical demarcation of the border. The Council reiterated its demands on Eritrea to withdraw immediately all troops and heavy military equipment from the Temporary Security Zone, to provide the Mission with the access, assistance, support and protection required for the performance of its duties and to remove immediately and without precondition the restrictions on the Mission. The Council also demanded that the Government of Eritrea resume immediately fuel shipments to the Mission or allow the Mission to import fuel without restrictions.

15 February and 30 April 2008: presidential statements concerning Eritrea's lack of cooperation and temporary relocation of UNMEE

In a presidential statement dated 15 February 2008, the Council condemned the lack of cooperation from the Government of Eritrea, which had placed impediments and logistical constraints on the Mission in its attempt to organize a temporary relocation. In addition, the Council stated that the Government of Eritrea had failed to comply with its general obligation

¹¹⁴ 5826th meeting, held on 25 January 2008.

¹¹⁵ Resolution 1798 (2008).

¹¹⁶ Resolution 1827 (2008).

¹¹⁷ S/2000/1183, annex.

to assist forces that had been stationed with its consent. The Council demanded that the Government of Eritrea resume full cooperation with the Mission, including by ending all its restrictions on the Mission, and abide by all its obligations as a State Member of the United Nations.¹¹⁸

In a presidential statement of 30 April 2008, the Council noted that the continuation of Eritrea's obstructions towards UNMEE had reached a level such as to undermine the basis of the Mission's mandate and had compelled the Mission to temporarily relocate. The Council expressed its readiness to assist the parties to overcome the existing stalemate and stated that it would, in the light of consultations with the parties, decide on the terms of a future United Nations engagement and on the future of the Mission.¹¹⁹

30 July 2008: termination of the mandate of UNMEE

On 30 July 2008, the Council adopted resolution [1827 \(2008\)](#), in which it decided to terminate the mandate of UNMEE, effective 31 July 2008, and emphasized that this termination was without prejudice to the obligations of Ethiopia and Eritrea under the Algiers Agreements.¹²⁰ The Council, *inter alia*, demanded that Ethiopia and Eritrea comply fully with

their obligations under the Agreements, show maximum restraint and refrain from any threat or use of force against each other, and avoid provocative military activities. Moreover, it strongly supported the ongoing efforts of the Secretary-General and the international community to engage with Ethiopia and Eritrea to help them to implement the Algiers Agreements, to normalize their relations to promote stability between them and to lay the foundation for a comprehensive and lasting peace between them.

Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of Belgium stated that the border dispute between Ethiopia and Eritrea remained unresolved, and that UNMEE was coming to an end not because UNMEE had accomplished its mandate but because it had become impossible to implement the mandate. Stating that the responsibility for the current impasse rested "with the parties and with them alone", he noted that Eritrea had restricted the Mission's movement to the point that UNMEE was compelled to leave the buffer zone that it had been supposed to monitor. At the same time, he also held that the Mission's mandate had been restricted by the refusal of the Government of Ethiopia to implement the decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission. Lastly, he stressed that only the parties could decide to choose the path of dialogue, while adding that the international community remained ready to assist.¹²¹

¹¹⁸ S/PRST/2008/7.

¹¹⁹ S/PRST/2008/12.

¹²⁰ S/2000/601, annex, and S/2000/1183, annex.

¹²¹ S/PV.5946, pp. 3-4.

Meetings: the situation between Eritrea and Ethiopia

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
5829th 30 January 2008	Report of the Secretary-General on Ethiopia and Eritrea (S/2008/40 and Corr.1)	Draft resolution submitted by Belgium (S/2008/49) Letter from the representative of Eritrea (S/2008/54) concerning Eritrea's response to the report of the Secretary-General (S/2008/40 and Corr.1)			Resolution 1798 (2008) 15-0-0

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
5838th 15 February 2008		Letter from the representative of Eritrea concerning the relocation of UNMEE (S/2008/100)			S/PRST/2008/7
5883rd 30 April 2008	Special report of the Secretary-General on UNMEE (S/2008/226)				S/PRST/2008/12
5946th 30 July 2008	Special report of the Secretary-General on UNMEE (S/2008/226)	Draft resolution submitted by Belgium (S/2008/491) Letter from the Secretary-General concerning future United Nations engagement in Ethiopia and Eritrea (S/2008/496)		1 Council member (Belgium)	Resolution 1827 (2008) 15-0-0

11. The situation in Guinea-Bissau

Overview

During 2008 and 2009, the Security Council held 11 meetings in connection with the situation in Guinea-Bissau, adopting one resolution and four presidential statements. The Council focused on developments regarding peacebuilding, security sector reform, organized crime and drug trafficking, the assassinations of the President of Guinea-Bissau and the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces as well as on the holding of legislative and presidential elections. The Council heard regular briefings by the Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS), the Chair of the Guinea-Bissau configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna, and the Under-Secretary-General for Political Affairs.

The Council extended the mandate of UNOGBIS for six months¹²² and requested the Secretary-General to establish a United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) to succeed it for an initial period of 12 months.

26 March 2008 to 5 November 2009: peacebuilding activities

On 26 March 2008, the Council heard a briefing by the Representative of the Secretary-General, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General.¹²³ He highlighted, inter alia, that the first quarter of 2008 had seen strong activity that illustrated the tangible progress made by the Government in engaging the international community. In particular, the arrival of missions from the Peacebuilding Commission and of

¹²² Resolution 1876 (2009). For more information, see part X, sect. II, with regard to the mandate of UNOGBIS.

¹²³ S/2008/181.