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The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion

Overview

From 2010 to 2011, the Security Council held 10 meetings, including three private/closed meetings with the troop-contributing countries,¹ and adopted three resolutions and one presidential statement in connection with the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the sub-region. The Council focused on the withdrawal of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT), following a request by the President of Chad in a letter addressed to the President of the Security Council.² In addition, the Council heard briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and head of MINURCAT on the different stages of drawdown and options to address the challenges that arose from the withdrawal of MINURCAT.

Furthermore, the Council extended three times the mandate of MINURCAT to facilitate the smooth withdrawal of the mission.³ The mission was terminated on 31 December 2010.

12 March to 25 May 2010: decisions concerning the extension of the mandate of MINURCAT

¹ [S/PV.6282](#), [S/PV.6307](#) and [S/PV.6443](#).

² [S/2010/115](#).

³ [Resolutions 1913 \(2010\)](#); [1922 \(2010\)](#); and [1923 \(2010\)](#). For information on the mandate of MINURCAT, see part X, sect. I, with regard to peacekeeping operations.

On 12 March 2010, the Council adopted [resolution 1913 \(2010\)](#), taking note of the letter dated 3 March 2010 from the representative of Chad to the United Nations⁴ and the letter of the Secretary-General dated 11 March 2010⁵ indicating that discussions on the future of MINURCAT were still ongoing, and deciding to extend until 15 May 2010 the mandate of MINURCAT as set out in [resolution 1861 \(2009\)](#).

On 12 May 2010, the Council adopted [resolution 1922 \(2010\)](#), by which it extended the mandate of MINURCAT until 26 May 2010 in order to examine thoroughly the recommendations for a revised mandate of the Mission included in the report of the Secretary-General.⁶

On 25 May 2010, the Council adopted [resolution 1923 \(2010\)](#) by which it decided, inter alia, to extend the mandate of MINURCAT until 31 December 2010 and reduce its military component to 2,200 military personnel (1,900 in Chad and 300 in the Central African Republic). The Council also took note of the commitment of the Government of Chad to assume full responsibility for the security and protection of the civilian population in eastern Chad, including refugees, internally displaced persons, returnees and host communities. Furthermore, the Council requested the establishment of a joint Government of Chad/United Nations High-level working group to assess on a monthly basis the situation on the ground with respect to protection of civilians. Moreover, it decided, inter alia, that the Mission would select, mentor, monitor, train, advise and facilitate support to elements of the Chadian D tachment Int gr  de S curit  (DIS).

Following the adoption of the resolution, the representative of Austria stated that his country had voted in favour of the resolution, even though he would have preferred a more gradual approach in the drawback of MINURCAT and the continuation of a protection of civilians mandate for the Mission. On the other hand, he trusted that the

⁴ [S/2010/115](#).

⁵ [S/2010/129](#).

⁶ [S/2010/217](#).

Government of Chad would do its utmost to fulfill its responsibilities and use all available capabilities for the protection of civilians and humanitarian access.⁷

10 August to 14 December 2010: briefings by the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on the drawdown of MINURCAT

On 10 August 2010, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative who introduced the report of the Secretary-General⁸ assessing the security and humanitarian situation in eastern Chad and the north-eastern Central African Republic, as well as progress towards the implementation of the mandate of MINURCAT. The Special Representative stated that as of 27 May 2010, the Government of Chad had taken over full responsibility for the security and protection of civilians and humanitarian workers in eastern Chad despite the complexities of the situation and logistical and other limitations. He informed Council members that owing to the importance of the maintenance of security in the region after the withdrawal of MINURCAT, the Government of Chad and the United Nations established a joint technical working group that had been working since June 2010 on a plan for the sustainability of the *Détachement Intégré de Sécurité* (DIS). Turning to the Central African Republic, he said that the continuing security threats in the north-east were mainly the result of the weak presence of the country's armed forces, which lacked logistical and other means. To redress that situation, he recalled the proposal of the Secretary-General which provided for a United Nations peacekeeping force in north-eastern region of the country, or the deployment of joint border patrol forces between the Government of the Central African Republic and those of Chad and the Sudan.⁹ The representative of the Central African Republic stated that with the end of the mandate of MINURCAT, there was a need to protect the future of that precarious region, which could relapse into violence because of many destabilizing factors such as transborder insecurity, banditry, pockets of rebellion, interethnic conflict, the limited presence of defense and security forces and other emerging challenges. He informed Council members that his Government was working to increase patrols in the

⁷ [S/PV.6321](#), p. 2.

⁸ [S/2010/409](#).

⁹ [S/PV.6371](#), pp. 2-4.

north-east region, and working with the Economic Community of Central African States to step up surveillance in that area.¹⁰ The representative of Chad reiterated his Government's commitment to protecting civilians, especially refugees and internally displaced persons, until their voluntary return to their places of origin. That would involve DIS, which needed to be maintained and strengthened in terms of personnel, resources and the support for the Chadian security and defense forces. With regard to ensuring security in the eastern part of Chad, he hoped the international community would pursue its efforts to support his country.¹¹

On 20 October 2010, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative who introduced the report of the Secretary-General¹² on the drawdown of MINURCAT and the assumption of the responsibility by the respective Governments to protect civilians in areas that had received a large population of refugees and internally displaced persons. He informed members that the security situation in eastern Chad remained calm, in part due to the presence of the Chad-Sudan Border Monitoring Force that would soon reach 4,000 personnel. However, the humanitarian situation continued to be a concern. With regards to the north-eastern Central African Republic, he stated that the security situation remained volatile due to the imminent withdrawal of MINURCAT and the alleged attacks by elements associated with the Lord Resistance Army.¹³ The representative of the Central African Republic stated that at the end of MINURCAT's mandate on 31 December 2010, his country's defence and security forces would take over from the international forces in order to avoid a security vacuum in the north-east of the country. He further stated that the Central African armed forces lacked the materiel and equipment to complete their mission to ensure security in the region. In that connection, he requested support from the international community so as to bolster the operation capacity of his country. In conclusion, he noted that the withdrawal of MINURCAT provided an opportunity for security sector reform in the Central African

¹⁰ Ibid., pp. 5-6.

¹² [S/2010/529](#).

¹² [S/2010/529](#).

¹³ [S/PV.6406](#), pp. 2-4.

Republic.¹⁴ The representative of Chad, pursuant to paragraph 5 of [resolution 1923 \(2010\)](#), announced the recent submission to the Council of his Governments' plan to make permanent the DIS, the implementation of which would ensure continued security in the refugee camps, displaced persons sites and surrounding areas, as well as the provision of security escorts.¹⁵

On 14 December 2010, the Council heard a briefing by the Special Representative who introduced the Secretary-General's final report on MINURCAT.¹⁶ He reported that all of MINURCAT's administrative, management and operational responsibilities had been transferred to DIS, under the supervision of United Nations police. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the United Nations Development Programme would assist the Government of Chad to sustain DIS through the creation of a UNDP-managed "basket fund" and operational assistance provided by UNHCR. He added that the Mission's civilian programmes would be officially handed over on 21 December to the Government of Chad and the United Nations country team, marking the end of MINURCAT's activities. Moreover, pursuant to [resolution 1923 \(2010\)](#), all MINURCAT'S uniformed personnel would have left Chad and the Central African Republic by 31 December. Lastly, he noted that the key findings of a lessons-learned study commissioned by MINURCAT included the necessity of securing and sustaining the consent of the host nations and the creation of a nationally owned, internationally supported security entity to protect civilians.¹⁷ The representative of the Central African Republic reiterated his appeal for the international community to support the national armed forces so they could accomplish their mission.¹⁸ The representative of Chad stressed that the non-renewal of MINURCAT's mandate was fully justified and welcomed the successful implementation of the agreement between Chad and the United Nations on the drawdown of the Mission from eastern Chad and the transfer of responsibilities to the Government of Chad.¹⁹

¹⁴ Ibid., pp. 4-5.

¹⁵ Ibid., p. 5.

¹⁶ [S/2010/611](#).

¹⁷ [S/PV.6449](#), pp. 2-3.

¹⁸ Ibid, p. 4.

¹⁹ Ibid., p. 5.

20 December 2010: presidential statement terminating the mandate of MINURCAT

By a presidential statement²⁰ of 20 December 2010, the Security Council in the context of the expiration of MINURCAT's mandate on 31 December 2010, commended the contribution of MINURCAT for providing security for refugees, internally displaced persons and humanitarian actors in eastern Chad and enhancing the capacity of DIS. The Council called upon Member States to ensure that the necessary donor funds were made available to meet budgetary requirements of DIS, and urged the Government of Chad to assume full responsibility for the sustainment of DIS as soon as possible. Furthermore, it requested the Secretary-General to report by the conclusion of the MINURCAT liquidation phase on 30 April 2011 on the progress made in eastern Chad on the protection of civilians and encouraged further cooperation between the Central African Republic, Chad and the Sudan in order to secure their common borders.

29 April 2011: post-MINURCAT report

Pursuant to the Security Council's presidential statement of 20 December 2010 which called upon the Secretary-General to report on the progress made in eastern Chad on the protection of civilians, the Secretary-General issued his report on the protection of civilians in Chad on 29 April 2011.²¹ The report was discussed in informal consultations on 13 May 2011.

²⁰ [S/2010/470](#).

²¹ [S/2011/278](#).

Meetings: the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub- item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Rule 37 invitations</i>	<i>Rule 39 and other invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6283 12 March 2010		Draft resolution submitted by Austria, Brazil, France, Gabon, Japan, Lebanon, Mexico, Nigeria, Republic, Chad United Kingdom, United States (S/2010/130) Letter dated 3 March 2010 from the representative of Chad concerning MINURCAT technical mandate extension (S/2010/115) Letter dated 11 March 2010 from the Secretary-General concerning a two-month technical roll-over of the mandate of MINURCAT (S/2010/129)	Central African Republic			Resolution 1913 (2010) 15-0-0
6312 12 May 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) (S/2010/217)	Draft resolution submitted by France (S/2010/237)	Central African Republic			Resolution 1922 (2010) 15-0-0
6321 25 May 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2010/217)	Draft resolution submitted by France (S/2010/251) Letter dated 21 May 2010 from the representative of Chad containing a memorandum on the future of MINURCAT and the post-MINURCAT period (S/2010/250 , annex)	Chad		Austria	Resolution 1923 (2010) 15-0-0
6371 10 August 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2010/409)		Central African Republic (Minister for Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Francophone World), Chad	Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic and Chad and head of MINURCAT	All invitees	
6406 20 October 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2010/529)	Letter dated 7 September 2010 from the representative of Chad transmitting the Détachement intégré de sécurité sustainment plan (S/2010/470 , annex)	Central African Republic (Minister for Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and Francophone	Special Representative of the Secretary-General	All invitees	

	Letter dated 12 October 2010 from the representative of the Central African Republic's armed forces (S/2010/530 , enclosure)	World), Chad	
	Letter dated 15 October 2010 from the representative of Chad transmitting an updated <i>Détachement intégré de sécurité</i> sustainment plan (S/2010/536 , annex)		
6449 14 December 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2010/611)	Central African Republic and Chad	Special Representative of the Secretary-General All invitees
6460 20 December 2010	Report of the Secretary-General on MINURCAT (S/2010/611)	Central African Republic and Chad	S/PRST/2010/29
