

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 9 December 2015 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire 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 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire, containing an account of the Committee's activities from 1 January to 31 December 2015. 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) **Cristián Barros Melet**

Chair

Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire



Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1572 (2004) concerning Côte d'Ivoire covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of Cristián Barros Melet (Chile) as Chair and the representatives of Angola and New Zealand as Vice-Chairs.

II. Background

3. By its resolution 1572 (2004), the Security Council imposed an arms embargo on Côte d'Ivoire and established a committee to oversee its implementation. Subsequently, in its resolutions 1584 (2005), 1632 (2005), 1643 (2005), 1708 (2006), 1727 (2006), 1761 (2007), 1782 (2007), 1842 (2008), 1893 (2009), 1946 (2010), 1975 (2011), 1980 (2011), 2045 (2012), 2101 (2013), 2153 (2014) and 2219 (2015), the Council, among other things, requested the Secretary-General to create a group of experts, outlined exemptions to the embargo and further elaborated the scope of the measures.
4. By its resolution 2219 (2015), the Security Council extended the arms embargo for 12 months. It decided that supplies of non-lethal equipment and the provision of technical assistance to Côte d'Ivoire no longer required notification to the Committee. It also decided that the arms embargo no longer applied to supplies of arms and lethal materiel intended solely for the support of or use in the Ivorian security sector reform process, as notified in advance to the Committee, except for those arms and related lethal materiel set out in the annex to the resolution, which required the advance approval of the Committee.
5. Further background information on the Côte d'Ivoire sanctions regime can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

6. The Committee met three times in informal consultations, on 10 April, 10 July and 11 September, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.
7. During the informal consultations held on 10 April, the Committee heard a briefing from the Chargé d'affaires of the Permanent Mission of Côte d'Ivoire to the United Nations and a presentation by the Group of Experts on its final report, submitted in accordance with paragraph 27 of resolution 2153 (2014), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.
8. During the informal consultations held on 10 July, the Committee was briefed by the Group of Experts on its programme of work.
9. During the informal consultations held on 11 September, the Committee heard a presentation by the Coordinator of the Group on its interim update, submitted in

accordance with paragraph 27 of resolution 2219 (2015), and discussed the recommendations contained therein.

10. On 22 April, the Chair of the Committee briefed the Security Council on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire (see [S/PV.7431](#)).

11. The Committee received a report from Côte d'Ivoire on the progress achieved in relation to the disarmament, demobilization and reintegration process and security sector reform, pursuant to paragraph 8 of resolution 2153 (2014), and three reports on the implementation of the strategy after the lifting of the diamonds embargo, on 14 February, 26 November and 5 December, respectively.

12. The Committee received from the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire 11 embargo monitoring reports, 11 media monitoring reports and 12 human rights reports.

13. The Committee sent 21 communications to 10 Member States and entities and the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL) with reference to the implementation of the sanctions measures.

IV. Exemptions

14. Exemptions to the arms embargo are contained in paragraphs 2 to 5 of resolution 2219 (2015).

15. Exemptions to the travel ban and asset freeze are contained in paragraphs 9 and 11 of resolution 1572 (2004).

16. The Committee received four notifications and one exemption request with regard to the arms embargo, which was approved, pursuant to paragraph 4 of resolution 2219 (2015).

V. Sanctions list

17. The criteria for the designation of individuals and entities as subject to the travel ban and asset freeze are set out in paragraph 10 of resolution 1980 (2011). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.

18. The Committee considered a delisting request submitted by a Member State and removed an individual from its sanctions list.

19. As at the end of the reporting period, there were six individuals on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Group of Experts

20. On 6 March, in accordance with paragraph 27 of resolution 2153 (2014), the Group of Experts appointed pursuant to the same resolution provided its final report to the Committee, which was transmitted to the Security Council on 13 April and issued as a document of the Council ([S/2015/252](#)).

21. On 29 May, following the adoption by the Security Council of resolution 2219 (2015) on 28 April, the Secretary-General appointed five individuals to serve on the Group, with expertise in arms, customs and transport, diamonds and natural resources, finance and regional issues (see [S/2015/399](#)). The mandate of the Group expires on 30 May 2016.

22. On 4 September, in accordance with paragraph 27 of resolution 2219 (2015), the Group provided its interim update to the Committee.

23. The Group conducted visits to Australia, Belgium, Burkina Faso, China, France, Liberia, Guinea, Mali, the Netherlands, the United Arab Emirates and the United States of America. Members also undertook regular visits throughout Côte d'Ivoire.

24. In pursuance of its mandate, the Group, through the Secretariat, sent 94 letters to Member States, the Security Council, the Committee and international and national entities.

VII. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

25. The Security Council Affairs Division provided substantive and procedural support to the Chair and 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. On 1 December, a sanctions workshop was organized for incoming members of the Security Council to familiarize them with the substantive and procedural aspects of chairing a sanctions committee, including interaction with the United Nations system, sanctions experts and other relevant actors.

26. On 14 October, the Division launched a redesigned website for the subsidiary organs of the Security Council. The new website, which is available in the six official languages of the United Nations and accessible to the visually impaired, features an improved and user-friendly layout. It offers swift and easy access to the current sanctions measures and applicable exemptions, the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List and individual committee sanctions lists. Narrative summaries of the reasons for listing are displayed in an easy-to-navigate and searchable format. The website also provides clear and practical explanations of the procedures for listing, delisting and exemptions.¹

27. On 28 December, the Division made available all the Security Council sanctions lists in the six official languages. This builds upon last year's standardization of the format of all Council sanctions lists and the establishment of the Consolidated United Nations Security Council Sanctions List, in response to resolutions 2083 (2012) and 2161 (2014). In addition, the Division maintained the relevant INTERPOL-United Nations Security Council Special Notices to promote the effective implementation of the sanctions measures.

28. As part of the Division's effort to recruit well-qualified experts to serve on sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels, a note verbale was sent to all Member States on 1 December to request the nomination of qualified candidates for

¹ The website is accessible at www.un.org/sc/suborg/ or from the Security Council's website at www.un.org/en/sc/.

membership of the Division's roster of experts. Upon the receipt of nominations, the Division will assess the suitability of nominated candidates for its roster for future consideration for the relevant expert panels. In addition, the Division sent notes verbales to all Member States notifying them of upcoming vacancies on specific sanctions panels and providing information on recruitment timelines, areas of expertise and pertinent requirements.

29. The Division continued to provide substantive advice and support to the Group of Experts, conducting an induction for newly appointed members, in New York, and assisting in the preparation of the Group's report in March and during the preparation of its interim update in August.

30. From 8 to 11 September, the Division, in cooperation with United Nations system partners, conducted a pilot training workshop on investigative techniques for 12 experts from sanctions monitoring groups, teams and panels. The objective of the training was to equip the participants with an understanding of basic investigative techniques, processes and tools and to strengthen their understanding of the approach to investigations within the framework of the Security Council sanctions regimes.

31. Moreover, to promote greater cooperation among the different expert panels, the Division organized a third annual inter-panel coordination workshop, held in New York on 16 and 17 December. The event was attended by members of all 12 monitoring groups, teams and panels. The workshop afforded sanctions experts the opportunity to discuss strategic and technical issues relating to Security Council sanctions with representatives of the sanctions committees, as well as United Nations system, other international, private sector and non-governmental partners.

32. During the reporting period, the Secretariat established the Inter-Agency Working Group on United Nations Sanctions under the leadership of the Department of Political Affairs. The Working Group brings together 25 United Nations entities to support Security Council sanctions regimes and integrate United Nations sanctions with other peace and security efforts of the United Nations system, as appropriate.
