

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 14 December 2015 from the Chair of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau 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 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau, 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) U. Joy **Ogwu**
Chair

Security Council Committee established pursuant to
resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau



Report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau

I. Introduction

1. The present report of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2048 (2012) concerning Guinea-Bissau covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2015.
2. The Bureau of the Committee consisted of U. Joy Ogwu (Nigeria) as Chair and the representative of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela as Vice-Chair.

II. Background

3. By paragraph 4 of its resolution 2048 (2012), the Security Council imposed a travel ban on five designated individuals and, by paragraph 9, established a committee to oversee the implementation of the targeted measure. On 18 July 2012, the Committee approved the designation of six additional individuals.
4. Further background information on the Guinea-Bissau sanctions regime can be found in the previous annual reports of the Committee.

III. Summary of the activities of the Committee

5. The Committee met once in informal consultations, on 11 August, in addition to conducting its work through written procedures.
6. On 11 August, the Committee heard a briefing from the Chief of the Security Council Subsidiary Organs Branch on the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made with regard to the stabilization of and restoration of constitutional order in Guinea-Bissau ([S/2015/619](#)).

IV. Exemptions

7. Exemptions to the travel ban are contained in paragraph 5 of resolution 2048 (2012).
8. During the reporting period, the Committee received no exemption requests.

V. Sanctions list

9. The criteria for the designation of individuals as subject to the travel ban are set out in paragraph 6 of resolution 2048 (2012). The procedures for requesting listing and delisting are described in the Committee's guidelines for the conduct of its work.
10. As at the end of the reporting period, there were 11 individuals on the sanctions list of the Committee.

VI. Secretariat administrative and substantive support

11. 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.

12. 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 reasons for listing are displayed in an easy-to-navigate and searchable format. The website also provides clear, practical explanations of the procedures for listing, delisting and exemptions.¹

13. 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 International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL)-United Nations Security Council Special Notices to promote effective implementation of the sanctions measures.

14. 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 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.

15. 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.

16. Moreover, to promote greater cooperation among the different expert panels, the Division organized a third annual inter-panel coordination workshop 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

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

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.

17. In its resolution 2203 (2015), the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to provide an assessment of the progress made by Guinea-Bissau with regard to the stabilization of the country and the restoration of constitutional order in the post-election environment. In fulfilment of this mandate, the Department of Political Affairs undertook an assessment from 22 June to 21 July, and provided to the Council recommendations (see [S/2015/619](#), sect. V) on the continuation of the sanctions regime in the post-election environment, in line with paragraph 12 of resolution 2048 (2012).

18. 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.
