

## Resolution 2648 (2022)

Adopted by the Security Council at its 9105th meeting, on  
29 July 2022

*The Security Council,*

*Recalling* all of its previous resolutions, statements of its President, and press statements on the situation in the Central African Republic (CAR),

*Welcoming* the efforts made by the CAR authorities, in coordination with their regional and international partners, to advance the reform of the security sector (SSR), including the ongoing deployment of CAR defence and security forces, *encouraging* them to continue and enhance the implementation of their National Defence Plan, Force Employment Concept, and National Security Policy, and *acknowledging* the urgent need for the CAR authorities to train and equip their defence and security forces to be able to respond proportionately to threats to the security of all citizens in the CAR and to protect and promote human rights and prevent violations and abuses,

*Reaffirming* that implementation of the Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation in the CAR (the Peace Agreement) remains the only mechanism for achieving lasting peace and stability in the CAR, *welcoming* the strategic review meeting held in Bangui on 4 June 2022 on the operationalization of the roadmap adopted by the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) in Luanda on 16 September 2021 under the leadership of Angola and Rwanda ('the roadmap') to revitalize the implementation of the Peace Agreement, *recalling* the announcement of a ceasefire by President Touadéra on 15 October 2021 and *urging* all parties to respect it, *expressing* concern that some signatories to the Peace Agreement continue to disregard their commitments, *urging* all signatories to implement the Peace Agreement in good faith and without delay, also *urging* all stakeholders in the CAR to engage in dialogue to make further progress toward peace, security, justice, reconciliation, inclusivity and development, and *underscoring* the need for international partners to support the implementation of the Peace Agreement via the roadmap, and to continue coordinating their actions with the CAR Government to bring lasting peace and stability to the CAR,

*Condemning* cross-border criminal activities, such as arms trafficking, illicit trade, illegal exploitation, and trafficking of natural resources, including gold, diamonds, timber, and wildlife, as well as the illicit transfer, destabilising accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons, that threaten the peace and stability of the CAR, also *condemning* the use of mercenaries and violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses perpetrated by

them, *calling upon* the Government of CAR to enhance the existing collaboration with neighbouring countries to secure its borders and other entry points to prevent the cross-border flows of armed combatants, arms and conflict minerals, *stressing* the need for CAR authorities to finalise and implement, in cooperation with relevant partners, a strategy to tackle the illegal exploitation and smuggling of natural resources, and *calling upon* the government of CAR and neighbouring countries to work together to secure their borders,

*Taking note* of the request of the CAR authorities to lift the arms embargo expressed in their letters of 8 June 2022 and 19 July 2022, and also *taking note* of the positions expressed by African regional and subregional organizations in the context of their support to the peace process,

*Recalling* that the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013) concerning the CAR (“the Committee”) has approved all exemption requests submitted by the CAR authorities under the framework of the arms embargo,

*Encouraging* the CAR authorities in their further efforts towards the attainment of the key benchmarks for the review of the arms embargo measures, established in the statement of its President of 9 April 2019 (S/PRST/2019/3) (“the key benchmarks”), *stressing* that each Council-mandated arms embargo is context specific and is subject to periodic review by the Security Council, and underscoring its readiness to review the arms embargo measures, through inter alia suspension or progressive lifting of these measures, *affirming* that the key benchmarks constitute a solid cooperation framework on reform of the security sector (SSR), the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation (DDRR) process, and the management of weapons and ammunition in the CAR, and *reiterating* the need for the CAR authorities to continue improving physical protection, control, management, traceability, and accountability of weapons, ammunition and military equipment transferred to their control,

*Welcoming* the commitment demonstrated and the progress made by the CAR authorities, along with their regional and international partners, to achieve the key benchmarks, *noting* in particular progress achieved by the Commission nationale de lutte contre la prolifération des armes légères et de petit calibre, as well as progress towards an agreement on the national marking format, and *encouraging* the upcoming launch of a pilot marking project with the support of UNODC,

*Encouraging* the CAR authorities to continue with their efforts aimed at reforming their security forces, implementing the Disarmament, Demobilisation, Reintegration and Repatriation (DDRR) programme in line with the Peace Agreement via the roadmap and operating an effective weapons and ammunition management system, *calling on* the CAR authorities and MINUSCA to continue strengthening their coordination, and also *calling on* the CAR authorities to take all appropriate measures to enhance the safety and security of United Nations personnel and equipment,

*Welcoming* all efforts by CAR authorities towards achieving the key benchmarks in order to contribute to the advancement of the SSR process, the DDRR process and necessary weapons and ammunition management reforms, *encouraging* the CAR authorities to continue their progress in this regard, *calling on* regional and international partners to provide coordinated support to the CAR authorities in these efforts, noting in that regard the roles of MINUSCA in line with its mandate, the European Union Training Mission in the CAR (EUTM) and the African Union Observer Mission in the CAR (MOUACA), as well as joint bilateral commissions, and *calling attention* to the need for the CAR authorities to facilitate access by the Panel of Experts and MINUSCA to the arms and related material exported to CAR in compliance with the arms embargo, to develop an arms registration and management protocol, and to launch the process for marking and tracing weapons,

*Welcoming* efforts by the Panel of Experts to investigate violations of the arms embargo, and noting its intention to hold those who violate the arms embargo accountable,

*Stressing* that deliveries of weapons, ammunition and military equipment and the provision of technical assistance or training, to the CAR security forces and intended solely for support of or use in the CAR process of SSR, by Member States or international, regional and subregional organisations should only be used for the purposes specified in the relevant notifications and underlining their contribution to the development of CAR security sector institutions, to the response to the specific needs of the CAR defence and security forces, and to support the progressive extension of State authority, and *stressing* the importance of training on the proper operation of such weapons, ammunitions and military equipment to reduce risks to civilians,

*Stressing* that the measures imposed by this resolution are not intended to have adverse humanitarian consequences for the civilian population of the CAR,

*Recalling* the need for States to ensure that all measures taken by them to implement this resolution comply with their obligations under international law, including international humanitarian law, international human rights law and international refugee law, as applicable,

*Welcoming* the report of the Secretary-General of 16 June 2022 (S/2022/491) submitted pursuant to resolution 2605 (2021),

*Taking note* of the Secretary-General's letter dated 14 June 2022 addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2022/489) consistent with paragraph 13 of resolution 2588 (2021) and of the CAR authorities' report addressed on 16 June 2022 to the Committee consistent with paragraph 12 of resolution 2588 (2021),

*Further taking note* of the final report (S/2022/527) of the Panel of Experts on the CAR established pursuant to resolution 2127 (2013), expanded by resolution 2134 (2014) and extended pursuant to resolution 2588 (2021) ("the Panel of Experts"), and taking note also of the Panel of Experts' recommendations,

*Determining* that the situation in the CAR continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region,

*Acting* under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations,

1. *Decides* that, until 31 July 2023, all Member States shall continue to take the necessary measures to prevent the direct or indirect supply, sale or transfer to the CAR, from or through their territories or by their nationals, or using their flag vessels or aircraft, of arms and related materiel of all types, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, paramilitary equipment, and spare parts for the aforementioned, and technical assistance, training, financial or other assistance, related to military activities or the provision, maintenance or use of any arms and related materiel, including the provision of armed mercenary personnel whether or not originating in their territories, and *further decides* that these measures shall not apply to:

(a) Supplies intended solely for the support of or use by MINUSCA and the European Union training missions deployed in the CAR, French forces under the conditions provided by paragraph 56 of resolution 2605 (2021), and other Member States' forces providing training and assistance as notified in accordance with paragraph 1 (b) below;

(b) Supplies of non-lethal equipment and provision of assistance, including operational and non-operational training to the CAR security forces, including state

civilian law enforcement institutions, intended solely for support of or use in the CAR process of security sector reform (SSR), in coordination with MINUSCA, and as notified to the Committee, and *requests* that MINUSCA report on the contribution to SSR of this exemption, as part of its regular reports to the Council;

(c) Supplies brought into the CAR by Chadian or Sudanese forces solely for their use in international patrols of the tripartite force established on 23 May 2011 in Khartoum by the CAR, Chad and Sudan, to enhance security in the common border areas, in cooperation with MINUSCA, as notified to the Committee;

(d) Supplies of non-lethal military equipment intended solely for humanitarian or protective use, and related technical assistance or training, as notified to the Committee;

(e) Protective clothing, including flak jackets and military helmets, temporarily exported to the CAR by United Nations personnel, representatives of the media and humanitarian and development workers and associated personnel, for their personal use only;

(f) Supplies of small arms and other related equipment intended solely for use in international-led patrols providing security in the Sangha River Tri-national Protected Area and by armed wildlife rangers of the Chinko Project and the Bamingui-Bangoran National Park to defend against poaching, smuggling of ivory and arms, and other activities contrary to the national laws of the CAR or the CAR's international legal obligations, as notified to the Committee;

(g) Supplies of weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment, and provision of related assistance, to the CAR security forces, including state civilian law enforcement institutions, and intended solely for support of or use in the CAR process of SSR, as notified to the Committee; or

(h) Other sales or supply of arms and other related materiel, or provision of assistance or personnel, as approved in advance by the Committee;

2. *Decides* that the supplying Member State or international, regional or subregional organisation is primarily responsible for notifying the Committee and that such notification must be in advance of the delivery of any supplies or provision of assistance;

3. *Decides* to renew until 31 July 2023 the measures and provisions as set out in paragraphs 4 and 5 of resolution 2488 (2019) and in paragraph 2 of resolution 2399 (2018) and *recalls* paragraphs 8 and 9 of resolution 2488 (2019);

4. *Decides* to renew until 31 July 2023 the measures and provisions as set out in paragraphs 9, 14, and 16 to 19 of resolution 2399 (2018) and extended by paragraph 4 of resolution 2536 (2020) and *recalls* paragraphs 10 to 13 and 15 of resolution 2399 (2018);

5. *Reaffirms* that the measures described in paragraphs 9 and 16 of resolution 2399 (2018) shall apply to individuals and entities as designated by the Committee, as set forth in paragraphs 20 to 22 of resolution 2399 (2018) and extended by paragraph 5 of resolution 2588 (2021), including for involvement in planning, directing, sponsoring or committing acts in the CAR that violate international humanitarian law, which include attacks against medical personnel or humanitarian personnel;

6. *Decides* to extend until 31 August 2023 the mandate of the Panel of Experts, as set out in paragraphs 30 to 39 of resolution 2399 (2018) and extended by paragraph 6 of resolution 2588 (2021), expresses its intention to review the mandate and take appropriate action regarding its further extension no later than 31 July 2023,

and requests the Secretary-General to take the necessary administrative measures as expeditiously as possible to allow the Panel of Experts to pursue its work without interruptions, in consultation with the Committee, drawing, as appropriate, on the expertise of the current members of the Panel of Experts;

7. *Requests* the Panel of Experts to provide to the Council, after discussion with the Committee, a midterm report no later than 31 January 2023, a final report no later than 30 May 2023, and progress updates, as appropriate;

8. *Strongly condemns* attacks committed by armed groups of the Coalition des patriotes pour le changement (CPC), and *requests* the Panel, in the course of carrying out its mandate, to consider proposing or updating further statements of cases for possible designation pursuant to paragraphs 20 to 21 of resolution 2399 (2018);

9. *Expresses particular concern* about reports of illicit transnational trafficking networks which continue to fund and supply armed groups in the CAR, *notes* in particular the increasing use of explosive ordnances, including improvised explosive devices (IEDs), and landmines, which account for a growing number of civilian casualties as well as the destruction of civilian properties and continue to disrupt humanitarian access, and *requests* the Panel, in the course of carrying out its mandate, to devote special attention to the analysis of such networks and threats relating to explosive ordnances, in cooperation with other Panels or Groups of Experts established by the Security Council as appropriate;

10. *Urges* all parties, and all Member States, as well as international, regional and subregional organisations to ensure cooperation with the Panel of Experts and the safety of its members;

11. *Further urges* all Member States and all relevant United Nations bodies to ensure unhindered access, in particular to persons, documents and sites in order for the Panel of Experts to execute its mandate and recalls the value of information-sharing between MINUSCA and the Panel of Experts;

12. *Reaffirms* the Committee provisions and the reporting and review provisions as set out in resolution 2399 (2018) and extended by resolution 2588 (2021);

13. *Requests* the CAR authorities to report, by 15 May 2023, to the Committee on the progress achieved regarding the SSR, the disarmament, demobilisation, reintegration and repatriation (DDRR) process in line with the Peace Agreement via the roadmap, and the management of weapons and ammunition;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in close consultation with MINUSCA, including UNMAS, and the Panel of Experts, to report, no later than 15 May 2023, on the progress achieved by the CAR authorities on the key benchmarks;

15. *Affirms* that it shall keep the situation in the CAR under continuous review and be prepared to review the appropriateness of the measures contained in this resolution, at any time as may be necessary, in light of the evolution of the security situation in the country, of the progress achieved in relation to the SSR process, the DDRR process in line with the Peace Agreement via the roadmap and the management of weapons and ammunition, in particular the management and tracking of notified and exempted arms and other related equipment, including in relation to the reports requested in paragraphs 13 and 14 of this resolution, and of compliance with this resolution;

16. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.