

FACT SHEET ON THE 1533 DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO SANCTIONS COMMITTEE (2004)

Chair (as of 1 Jan 2018)	Ambassador Mansour Al-Otaibi (Kuwait)
Mandate	Seek from all states, and particularly those in the region, information regarding the actions taken by them to implement effectively the measures imposed, including by providing states with an opportunity, at the Committee's request, to send representatives to meet with the Committee for more in-depth discussion of relevant issues; examine and take appropriate action on information concerning alleged violations of the measures, present regular reports to the Council on its work, with its observations and recommendations, in particular on the ways to strengthen the effectiveness of the measures.
Types of Sanctions	Arms embargo, travel ban and assets freeze. Sanctions expire on 1 July 2019 and are normally renewed for 12 months.
Exemptions	Arms embargo: supplies of arms to the DRC government, supplies of arms and related materiel for support of or use by MONUSCO or the African Union-Regional Task Force, other supplies of non-lethal military equipment intended solely for humanitarian or protective use, and related technical assistance and training, as notified in advance to the Committee. Travel ban: humanitarian grounds, including religious obligation; participation in efforts to bring to justice perpetrators of grave violations of human rights or international humanitarian law; entry or transit necessary for the fulfilment of judicial processes; cases determined by the Committee to further the objectives of the Council's resolutions and transit to the individual's state of nationality authorized in advance by the Committee. Assets freeze: for basic expenses, legal services, extraordinary expenses, or assets determined by a relevant state to be the subject of a judicial, administrative or arbitration lien or judgement.
Number of Listed Individuals/ Entities	35 individuals/nine entities Most recent listing made: 1 February 2018
Travel Ban/Asset Freeze Listing Criteria	Political and military leaders: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> of foreign armed groups operating in the DRC who impede the disarmament and the voluntary repatriation or resettlement of combatants belonging to those groups; of Congolese militias receiving support from outside the DRC and in particular those operating in Ituri, who impede the participation of their combatants in DDR processes; or recruiting or using children in armed conflict in violation of applicable international law. Individuals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> operating in the DRC and committing serious violations of international law involving the targeting of children or women in situations of armed conflict, including killing and maiming, sexual violence, abduction and forced displacement; or obstructing the access to or the distribution of humanitarian assistance in the DRC. support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the DRC. Individuals or entities: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> supporting the illegal armed groups in the eastern part of the DRC through illicit trade of natural resources, including gold; or acting on behalf of or at the direction of a designated individual or entity owned or controlled by a designated individual; or planning, sponsoring or participating in attacks against MONUSCO peacekeepers or UN personnel; or providing financial, material, or technological support for, or goods or services to, or in support of a designated individual or entity.
Delisting Procedures	Member States may at any time submit to the Committee requests for delisting of individuals and entities inscribed on the 1533 Sanctions List. Listed individuals and entities seeking to submit a request for delisting can do so either directly to the Focal Point for Delisting or through his/her state of residence or nationality.
Monitoring Mechanism	Group of Experts with six members, last updated on 26 July 2018: Zobel Behalal, natural resources/finance (Cameroon) Nelson Alusala, natural resources/finance expert (Kenya) David Zounmenou, arms (Benin) Bart Vanthomme, armed groups (Belgium) Ledio Cakaj, armed groups (Albania) Virginie Monchy, humanitarian affairs (France) In March 2017, two members of the 1533 DRC Sanctions Committee's Group of Experts, Zaida Catalán and Michael Sharp, and their interpreter, Betu Tshintela, were murdered in the DRC. The mandate was last renewed in June 2017 in resolution 2360 and expires on 1 August 2018, but is due to be renewed by 1 July. The midterm mid-term report is due no later than 30 December 2017, and the final report is due no later than 15 June 2018. The group also submits monthly updates to the Committee, except in the months where the mid-term and final reports are due. These updates are not made public.

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Decision-Making

All decisions are made by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached on a particular issue, the matter may be referred to the Council. Decisions may be made by a "no-objection procedure" of five working days. In emergency situations the chair may decide to reduce that time period after notifying all Committee members accordingly. In exceptional cases, the Committee may decide to extend that time period. If no objection is received within the defined period, the proposed decision will be deemed adopted.

A hold placed on a matter by a member of the Committee will cease to have effect at the time its membership of the Committee ends. New members shall be informed of all pending matters one month before their membership begins and are encouraged to inform the Committee of their position on relevant matters, including possible approval, objection or hold, at the time they become members. The Committee will review at least once a month the status of pending issues as updated by the Secretariat.

Committee Reporting to the Council

Resolution 2360 requests the Committee to report to the Council at least once a year. Briefings by chair in 2017: 17 August

Open Briefings for Wider UN Membership

One formal meeting was held on 4 August.

Summary of Committee Activities (1 Jan-31 Dec 2017)

Eleven meetings in total: two formal meetings (30 January and 10 March) and six informal consultations (15 February, 22 May, 21 July, 7 September, 13 November and 11 December)

The Committee met with the following external actors:

- Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Great Lakes Region (twice);
- and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the DRC and head of MONUSCO;
- the UN Mine Action Service to discuss weapons management in the DRC;
- the Executive Secretary of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region; and
- neighbouring countries.

From 16 to 19 October, the Chair of the Committee visited the DRC, the Republic of Congo and the United Arab Emirates.

Member States Reporting Obligations

Resolution 2424 refers back to Resolution 2360, which recommends all member states to fully implement the regional certification scheme on natural resources and report mineral trade statistics.

UN Documents

Security Council Resolution

[S/RES/2424](#) (29 June 2018) renewed the DRC sanctions regime until 1 July 2019 and the mandate of the Group of Experts assisting the 1533 DRC Sanctions Committee until 1 August 2019.

[S/RES/2360](#) (21 June 2017) renewed the DRC sanctions regime and the mandate of the Group of Experts.

[S/RES/1533](#) (12 March 2004) established the Sanctions Committee and the Group of Experts.

Other

[S/2018/741](#) (27 July 2018) was a letter from the

Secretary-General to the President of the Security Council, appointing the Group of Experts assisting the DRC Sanctions Committee.

[S/2018/531](#) (4 June 2018) was the final report of the Group of Experts.

[SC/13194](#) (1 February 2018) was a press release about the addition of four individuals to the DRC sanctions list.

[S/2016/1091](#) (22 December 2017) was the midterm report of the Group of Experts.

[S/2017/917](#) (31 October 2017) was a letter from the Secretary-General about the deployment of a team

to assist national authorities in the investigation of the murder of two members of the DRC Sanctions Committee's Group of Experts.

[SC/12959](#) (17 August 2017) was a press release on the 4 August open briefing of the DRC Sanctions Committee.

[S/2017/713](#) (15 August 2017) was a letter from the Secretary-General containing the executive summary of the Board of Inquiry's report on the murder of two members of the DRC Sanctions Committee's Group of Experts.

[S/2017/672](#) (10 August 2017) was the final report of the Group of Experts.