



## Security Council

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### **Letter dated 9 November 2022 from the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission addressed to the President of the Security Council**

It is my pleasure to share with you, in my capacity as Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission, the advice of the Commission pertaining to the upcoming renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) (see annex). The advice, presented to you by the Commission in its advisory capacity to the Security Council, is the outcome of a consultative process within the Commission.

I remain at the disposal of the Security Council to provide further information and clarifications, as may be required. The Peacebuilding Commission, through its Central African Republic configuration, will continue accompanying the Central African Republic and informing the Council on peacebuilding-related developments, as appropriate.

I kindly request that the present letter and its annex be circulated to the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

*(Signed)* Omar **Hilale**  
Ambassador

Chair of the Central African Republic configuration  
of the Peacebuilding Commission



## **Annex to the letter dated 9 November 2022 from the Chair of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission addressed to the President of the Security Council**

### **Advice of the Peacebuilding Commission to the Security Council on the renewal of the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic**

The Peacebuilding Commission has engaged with the Central African Republic through the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission pursuant to Security Council resolution [2282 \(2016\)](#) in reaffirmation of the Commission's advisory role to the Council. This year, the Commission has engaged with the country on the rule of law, the fight against impunity, and transitional justice efforts, including by highlighting the need for greater support for the Special Criminal Court and the Truth, Justice, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission. Participants at the second ambassadorial meeting on the Central African Republic this year discussed the postponed local elections, which are intrinsically linked to the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation; the expansion of political space and inclusivity for the meaningful participation and empowerment of woman and youth; and decentralization at the grass-roots level to foster governance, development, national reconciliation and social cohesion. An expert-level meeting served to inform the configuration about the implementation of the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan.

The Peacebuilding Commission appreciates the continued engagement, including the sharing of experiences and lessons learned from the country's context with its members, and recognizes the efforts made by authorities there to advance the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation through the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region joint road map for peace in the Central African Republic, adopted in Luanda on 16 September 2021.

On the basis of its continuing engagement in peacebuilding in the Central African Republic, the Commission would like to share the following points:

1. The Commission is alarmed by the continuation of conflict and violence in the country and their adverse repercussions for vulnerable groups, especially women and children. This security situation compounds the already precarious fragility in the country, especially in the socioeconomic and development sphere. The Commission welcomes the Government's commitment to and progress in the process of integrating the joint road map and the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, and the progress made in the implementation of priority activities. The Commission highlights the continued need to foster dialogue, reconciliation and social cohesion, which are the cornerstones of peace, in addition to ensuring the effective provision of and access to basic social and economic services.

2. The Commission stresses the importance of holding local elections, scheduled for January 2023, as a major symbolic and institution-building step, crucial to ensuring inclusivity, especially for the participation of women and youth in the election and electoral process. The Commission emphasizes that required legislation for the local elections should be passed as soon as possible to enable voter registration and other critical processes to ensure the success of the elections. It notes with concern the significant shortfall of \$14 million in the budgetary allocation, which risks undermining the preparations for local elections and, potentially, poses risks to long-term stability and peace in the country.

3. The Commission recognizes the continued importance of the rule of law and transitional justice to building sustainable peace in the Central African Republic and supporting the peace process. In this regard, it welcomes progress in the operationalization and functioning of transitional justice in the judicial sector, welcomes the operationalization of transitional justice mechanisms, especially the Special Criminal Court, and underlines their crucial roles in the fight against impunity and the extension of State authority, as well as in accountability, justice and national reconciliation. It also welcomes the completion of the first trial by the Special Criminal Court, on 31 October, the resumption of criminal sessions at the courts of appeal of Bangui and Bouar, and progress with the training and deployment of internal security forces and the new national prison service. The Commission underlines the crucial need for adequate, predictable and sustainable financing, as well as technical and logistical support for the Special Criminal Court and the Truth, Justice, Reconciliation and Reparation Commission to perform their mandated tasks. The Peacebuilding Commission recalls its efforts to utilize its platform as a pledging forum to address the budgetary constraints of these mechanisms. It stresses the need to continue the necessary and multifaceted support for the Central African justice system within the framework of the national justice sector reform policy, which is aimed at strengthening and enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of the sector.

4. The Commission underscores the critical nature of the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan in inclusively fostering socioeconomic recovery and development, which underpins the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, and the consolidation of peacebuilding dividends that are intrinsically linked to sustainable peace. Noting the negative impacts of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) and the ongoing global energy and food crises on the implementation of the Plan, the Commission highlights the importance of providing the necessary support to the Central African Republic authorities so as not to compromise the recovery efforts made, which could increase the vulnerability of the Central African population. The Commission encourages the Government of the Central African Republic and its partners to ensure alignment with Plan and the Agreement, and notes the critical support provided by MINUSCA for the implementation of the Plan through the civil affairs component.

5. The Commission recognizes the significant contribution that young people can make to peacebuilding and calls for more efforts by the Government of the Central African Republic to ensure the effective inclusion and participation of youth in the country's election and electoral process. In this respect, the Commission recognizes the role of MINUSCA in supporting prevention and response networks in local communities.

6. The Commission emphasizes the importance of the inclusion of women in the peacebuilding process in the Central African Republic, which currently remains limited, and calls for further efforts to address the root causes of conflict and violence in communities, including gender-based inequality and discrimination. The Commission also emphasizes the importance of efforts to address the proliferation of small arms and light weapons in a gender-responsive manner in collaboration with women's civil society organizations.

7. The Commission underlines the importance of enhanced cooperation and coordination between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, such as the African Union, the Economic Community of Central African States and the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, in assisting the country with its peacebuilding processes in accordance with its identified priorities and with full respect for the principle of national ownership.

8. The Commission welcomes the invaluable support provided by the Peacebuilding Fund to the Central African Republic. Having approved over \$115,933,004 approved for projects in the country since 2008, the Fund supports cross-cutting projects related to sustainable solutions, transhumance, national dialogue, youth inclusion and mental health within the greater framework of the National Recovery and Peacebuilding Plan and the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation. The Commission also welcomes the annual Gender and Youth Promotion Initiative, which supports national initiatives to enhance women's and young people's participation in peacebuilding.

The Commission, while adhering to its mandate, will continue to support the Government of the Central African Republic in the implementation of the joint road map to foster sustainable peace and bring about improvements in livelihoods for the citizens of the Central African Republic.

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