



Security Council

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Letter dated 8 February 2019 from the President of the Security Council addressed to the Secretary-General

Further to the letter dated 15 January 2019 from Ambassador José Singer Weisinger, I have the honour to confirm that the members of the Security Council have agreed to send a mission to West Africa from 13 to 17 February 2019. The members have agreed on the terms of reference of the mission (see annex).

The mission will be co-led by Ambassador Kacou Houadja Léon Adom (Côte d'Ivoire) and Ambassador Anatolio Ndong Mba (Equatorial Guinea).

Following consultations with the members, it has been agreed that the composition of the mission will be as follows:

Ambassador Marc Pecsteen de Buytsverve (Belgium)
Ambassador Wu Haitao (China)
Ambassador Kacou Houadja Léon Adom (Côte d'Ivoire)
Mr. Josué Fiallo (Dominican Republic)
Ambassador Anatolio Ndong Mba (Equatorial Guinea)
Mr. Antoine Michon (France)
Ambassador Juergen Schulz (Germany)
Ambassador Dian Triansyah Djani (Indonesia)
Ambassador Mansour Alotaibi (Kuwait)
Mr. Paul Duclos (Peru)
Ambassador Joanna Wronecka (Poland)
Mr. Dmitry A. Polyanskiy (Russian Federation)
Ambassador Jerry Matthews Matjila (South Africa)
Ambassador Jonathan Allen (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)
Ms. Elaine French (United States of America)

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Anatolio Ndong Mba
President of the Security Council



Annex**Terms of reference of the Security Council mission to West Africa****Mission to Côte d'Ivoire (14 and 15 February 2019), co-led by Equatorial Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire**

1. The Security Council will undertake a mission to Côte d'Ivoire in accordance with the statements by the President of the Security Council of 30 June 2017 (S/PRST/2017/8) and 24 July 2017 (S/PRST/2017/10 and S/PRST/2017/11). The purpose of the visit is to take stock of the ongoing transition in Côte d'Ivoire, as well as in Liberia and Sierra Leone, and to support the work of the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) for conflict prevention and peacebuilding in the Mano River subregion and the respective United Nations country teams in those three countries.

2. The Security Council will meet with the Vice-President and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Côte d'Ivoire and take part in a round-table discussion on transitions from peacekeeping to peace consolidation in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone, with the participation of experts from the relevant United Nations country teams and UNOWAS.

3. In accordance with the framework established in paragraph 1 above and the areas of interest to the Security Council, the Council will:

(a) Review the state of play of the political, economic and security situation in the Mano River Union subregion, in particular in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone. In that regard, the mission will:

- (i) Discuss the overall situation of the political, economic and social environment in the subregion, specifically in the countries concerned;
- (ii) Review the security situation in the Mano River Union subregion, in particular in the countries concerned;
- (iii) Identify current challenges to peace and stability in the subregion;

(b) Welcome and support the strategies put in place by the Mano River Union to promote peace, stability and economic development in the subregion. In that connection, the mission will:

- (i) Learn about regional strategies for strengthening States' resilience to crises and the cooperation between the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and UNOWAS, in the framework of support for States in post-crisis situations;
- (ii) Assess the progress made by the Government in stabilizing the security situation in Abidjan and the rest of the country, in particular in the border region between Côte d'Ivoire and Liberia;
- (iii) Encourage the Government to continue to improve inclusive political and democratic governance and to promote human rights;

(c) Review the transition of United Nations peacekeeping operations in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone. In that regard, the mission will:

- (i) Evaluate national strategies for crisis resolution and peacebuilding;
- (ii) Create an opportunity for exchanges with United Nations country teams and sharing experiences and best practices on the transition from United Nations operations to peacebuilding in Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone;

- (iii) Identify persistent structural vulnerabilities, which could be factors in the resurgence of instability and conflict in the States concerned;
 - (iv) Evaluate national and country team capacity to develop and coordinate long-term financing strategies for peace and stability, taking into account the role of international financial institutions and the private sector;
 - (v) Identify lessons from the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in setting the scene for longer-term peacebuilding efforts, and recommendations for the role the Commission can play in transitions more broadly;
 - (vi) Encourage cross-border cooperation between the countries concerned to combat cross-border organized crime and community violence;
- (d) Express support for the role of civil society and women in prevention and post-crisis processes. In that regard, the mission will:
- (i) Emphasize the role of civil society organizations in conflict prevention and resolution;
 - (ii) Share experiences and good practices in social cohesion and national reconciliation and reinforce the gender dimension in prevention and in the process of ending the crisis;
 - (e) Reaffirm the continued support of the Security Council for the subregion. In that regard, the mission will:
- (i) Reaffirm the commitment of the United Nations to continue supporting Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia and Sierra Leone, through their respective United Nations country teams and through UNOWAS;
 - (ii) Emphasize that Côte d'Ivoire is an important country in the subregion, which should remain a model of stability and development, and reiterate the support of the United Nations in pursuit of its peacebuilding policy;
 - (iii) Reaffirm the support of the Security Council for enhancing the capacity of UNOWAS to support the transition from peacekeeping to peacebuilding in United Nations engagements in West Africa.

Mission to Guinea-Bissau (15 and 16 February 2019), co-led by Equatorial Guinea and Côte d'Ivoire

4. The Security Council will carry out a mission to Guinea-Bissau within the framework of Council resolution [2404 \(2018\)](#) and the press statements dated 21 February, 7 September and 27 December 2018.
5. The Security Council will meet with the President of Guinea-Bissau, the Prime Minister and his Government, the President of the Parliament, the President of the Supreme Court of Justice, the President of the National Electoral Commission and the heads of the political parties represented in the Parliament and of those not represented in the Parliament. The Council will also meet the representatives of civil society organizations, including women's and youth groups, the members of the group of five international organizations represented in Guinea-Bissau (African Union, Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, ECOWAS, European Union and United Nations), the diplomatic community, the United Nations country team and the leadership of the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS), among others.
6. The members of the Council will fulfil the following tasks:
- (a) Engage with key stakeholders involved in the political crisis in Guinea-Bissau and advocate strongly for: (i) political dialogue towards the implementation

of the Conakry Agreement and the ECOWAS road map within the agreed timelines; (ii) preparing for and conducting free and fair elections; (iii) holding the legislative elections on 10 March and presidential elections thereafter in 2019, in line with the legal framework; (iv) constitutional reforms to mitigate the risk of renewed political crisis among the political leaders with the aim of having a clear division of labour and functions of the executive, legislative and judicial branches; and (v) the commitment by the Government and/or legislature to administer funding and continue implementation of development programmes for the benefit of the people of Guinea-Bissau throughout the political deliberations and elections planning;

(b) Analyse the consequences of political tensions for the living conditions of the populations in Guinea-Bissau;

(c) Evaluate the progress made in reform processes, such as the reform of the security and justice sectors, as well as progress made in addressing impunity for past violations and crimes;

(d) Evaluate the compliance of UNIOGBIS with its mandate, in support of the Guinea-Bissau authorities, to contribute to lasting peace and stability in the country, including through support for strengthening democratic institutions and assistance to national authorities and stakeholders to promote and protect human rights;

(e) Evaluate the efforts made by the Guinea-Bissau authorities to implement and review national laws and mechanisms to more effectively combat transnational organized crime, in particular drug trafficking and money-laundering, which threaten security and the stability of Guinea-Bissau and the subregion (resolution [2404 \(2018\)](#), para. 20);

(f) Reiterate the Council's support for the fundamental role and active participation of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Guinea-Bissau and Head of UNIOGBIS, José Viegas Filho, including his good offices and close coordination and cooperation with the international community, especially the African Union, the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, ECOWAS and the European Union;

(g) Reiterate the Council's support for the subregional, regional and international organizations that actively participate in the stabilization of Guinea-Bissau.
