



Security Council

Distr.: General
12 September 2019

Original: English

Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 8618th meeting of the Security Council, held on 12 September 2019, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Central African region", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls its resolutions [2349 \(2017\)](#) and [2448 \(2018\)](#), as well as its presidential statements [S/PRST/2018/17](#), [S/PRST/2018/14](#) and [S/PRST/2015/12](#).

"The Security Council expresses full support for the United Nations Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, in carrying out the mandate of the mission. In particular, the Security Council welcomes UNOCA's role in promoting inclusive political dialogue in non-mission settings such as Cameroon, Chad, Gabon, the Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, and Sao Tome and Principe, in encouraging stability in the region, and in assisting the countries of the sub-region in consolidating peace, resolving tensions, and preventing or mitigating political crises.

"The Security Council welcomes the letter of the Secretary-General on the conclusions of the strategic review of UNOCA and the briefing on 14 August 2019 by Assistant Secretary-General for Africa, Ms. Bintou Keita.

"The Security Council notes the recommendations of the Secretary-General's strategic review regarding the scope of UNOCA's mandate and activities. In particular, the Council acknowledges that the mandate of UNOCA remains valid and welcomes the recommendation that UNOCA should enhance its work on: early warning and analysis with a gender perspective; good offices in non-mission settings, particularly in the lead up to the upcoming electoral cycle in the region; support for and strengthening the capacity of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS); and building partnerships with civil society and supporting sub-regional civil society networks. The Council reaffirms these as the key priorities for the remainder of UNOCA's mandate.

"The Security Council welcomes the cooperation between UNOCA and other regional entities. The Council encourages further enhanced cooperation between UNOCA and the United Nations Regional Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), ECCAS, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and United Nations country teams, to address cross-border threats and inter-regional issues, such as the Lake Chad Basin crisis, transhumance, forced displacement, and maritime security in the Gulf of Guinea. The Council further encourages UNOCA to take into consideration



climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters among other factors affecting the stability of the Central African Region, including through drought, desertification, land degradation and food insecurity, continues to stress the need for long-term strategies by governments and the United Nations, based on risk assessments, to support stabilisation and build resilience, and further requests that such information be taken into consideration by UNOCA in its activities.

“The Security Council underlines the importance of a clear division of labour between UNOCA and other United Nations entities. In particular, the Council welcomes the recommendation that UNOCA should continue to rally regional support for the peace process in the Central African Republic, in close consultation with the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA). The Council further welcomes the recommendation that there be a clear division of labour between UNOCA and other United Nations entities operating in the region, such as the United Nations Organisation Stabilisation Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), the Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes and the Office of the Special Envoy on the situation in Burundi.

“The Security Council encourages UNOCA to build on its partnership with United Nations Resident Coordinators and country teams, and with relevant regional directors of the United Nations Development Coordination Office to further support cross-border initiatives.”
