FACT SHEET ON THE 2140 YEMEN SANCTIONS COMMITTEE (2014)

Chair (as of 1 Jan 2018)
Ambassador Gustavo Meza-Cuadra (Peru)

Mandate
Monitor implementation of the sanctions measures with a view to strengthening, facilitating and improving implementation; seek and review information regarding those individuals and entities who may be engaging in the acts described in paragraphs 17 and 18 of resolution 2140 (2014) as well as paragraph 19 of resolution 2216 (2015) (constituting the designating criteria); designate individuals and entities as subject to the assets freeze, travel ban and targeted arms embargo; report within 60 days to the Security Council on its work for the first report and thereafter to report as deemed necessary by the committee; encourage a dialogue between the committee and interested member states, in particular those in the region, including by inviting representatives of such states to meet with the committee to discuss implementation of the measures; seek from all states further information it may consider useful regarding the actions taken by them to implement effectively the sanctions measures; examine and take appropriate action on information regarding alleged violations or non-compliance with the measures.

Types of Sanctions
Assets freeze; travel ban; targeted arms embargo

Assets freeze and travel ban expire on 26 February 2018, normally renewed every 12 months. Arms embargo does not expire.

Number of Listed Individuals/Entities
Five individuals

Most recent listings made: 14 April 2015 in annex to resolution 2216

Travel Ban/Asset Freeze Listing Criteria
Individuals or entities engaging in or providing support for acts that threaten the peace, security or stability of Yemen. Such acts may include, but are not limited to: obstructing or undermining the successful completion of the political transition; impeding the implementation of the outcomes of the final report of the comprehensive National Dialogue Conference through violence or attacks on essential infrastructure; planning, directing, or committing acts that violate applicable international human rights law or international humanitarian law, or acts that constitute human rights abuses; violating the targeted arms embargo; obstructing the access to or delivery of humanitarian assistance.

Exemptions
• Arms embargo: no exemptions
• Travel ban: humanitarian need, including religious obligation; fulfilment of a judicial process; where an exemption would further the objectives of peace and national reconciliation; and where such entry or transit is required to advance peace and stability. As a general rule, the committee makes exemption decisions on a case-by-case basis.
• Asset freeze: for basic expenses; for extraordinary expenses; for judicial, administrative or arbitral lien or judgment.

Delisting Procedures
Member states may at any time submit requests for delisting of individuals and entities inscribed on the 2140 Sanctions List. A petitioner 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. A state can decide that as a rule, its nationals or residents should address their delisting requests directly to the Focal Point for Delisting.

Requests made in 2016: 0

Monitoring Mechanism
Panel of Experts, five members appointed on 19 March 2019:
Dakshinie Ruwanthika Gunaratne, armed groups (Sri Lanka)
Fernando Carvajal, regional (Mexico)
Ahmed Himmiche, finance expert and coordinator (Morroco)
Wolf-Christian Paes, arms (Germany)
Henry Thompson, regional issues (UK)
Marie-Louise Tougas, international humanitarian law (Canada)

Mandate was last renewed on 26 February 2019 in resolution 2456 and expires on 28 March 2020. Most recent publicly available Panel report submitted in January 2019.

Decision-Making
Committee decisions are made by consensus. If consensus cannot be reached, the matter may be submitted to the Security Council by the Chair or by the committee member concerned. Decisions may be taken by a written “no-objection procedure” within five working days or, in urgent situations such as a shorter period as the Chair shall determine. If no objection is received by the end of the specified period, the proposed decision will be deemed adopted. Objections received after the defined period will not be considered. Members can place a hold on a proposed decision, but normally not for more than six months. An extension of up to one month can be requested based on “extraordinary circumstances.”

Committee Reporting to the Council
Committee to report within 60 days of its establishment to the Security Council on its work and thereafter to report as deemed necessary by the committee.

Briefings by the Chair in 2018: 1 (On 27 February 2018 in consultations)

Open Briefings for Wider UN Membership
According to committee guidelines, the Chair will, on a regular basis, hold open briefings for all interested member states. The last open briefing was held on 1 September 2015 to raise awareness about the existing sanctions measures, member states’ obligations, the work of the Panel of Experts and to answer member states’ questions about the sanctions regime.
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Summary of Committee Activities (1 Jan 2018-9 April 2019)

Meetings in 2018: 3 (23 January 2018, 27 April 2018, and 10 August 2018)

Actions:
• On 23 January, met with the Panel of Experts to consider the findings and recommendations of the Panel of Experts January 2018 Final Report
• On 27 April, heard a presentation by the Panel of Experts on its activities since the presentation of its final report for 2018 and its programme of work
• On 10 August, met with the Panel of Experts to consider a 9 July 2018 case study on Houthi attacks in the Red Sea using anti-ship missiles and the Panel’s 27 July 2018 midterm update
• On 11 October, issued a press release that condemned attacks on commercial vessels indicated in a 9 July case-study of the Panel of Experts as perpetrated by the Houthis
• On 18 January, met with the Panel of Experts to consider the findings and recommendations of the Panel’s January 2019 final report
• 30 March to 4 April 2019, the committee undertook a regional visit to Amman, Riyadh, Muscat and Tehran.

Member States Reporting Obligations

Resolution 2204 calls on all member states to report to the committee within 90 days of the adoption of the resolution on the steps they have taken with a view to implementing effectively the sanctions measures.

Resolution 2216 requires any member state when it undertakes an inspection pursuant to paragraph 15 of the resolution (the targeted arms embargo), to submit promptly an initial written report to the committee containing, in particular, explanation of the grounds for the inspections, the results of such inspections, and whether or not cooperation was provided. If prohibited items are found, such member states are required to submit to the committee within 30 days a subsequent written report containing relevant details on the inspection, seizure, and disposal, and relevant details of the transfer, including a description of the items, their origin and intended destination, if this information is not in the initial report. In 2018, the committee received 203 inspection reports from the UN Verification and Inspection Mechanism.

UN Documents

Security Council Resolutions

S/RES/2216 (14 April 2015) established a targeted arms embargo, expanded the designation criteria, expanded the Panel of Experts from four to five members to include an arms expert; and in an attached annex designated two new individuals as subject to the sanctions measures.
S/RES/2204 (24 February 2015) renewed the Yemen sanctions and extended the mandate of the Panel of Experts.
S/RES/2140 (26 February 2014) established financial and travel ban sanctions against individuals and entities threatening the peace, security or stability of Yemen, established the 2140 Sanctions Committee and the Panel of Experts.

Other

S/2019/247 (19 March 2019) was the Secretary-General’s letter to the Council on the appointment of the Panel of Experts.
S/2019/305 (4 April 2018) was the Secretary-General’s letter to the Council on the appointment of one expert to the Panel of Experts.
S/2018/272 (27 March 2018) was the Secretary-General’s letter on the appointment of three experts to the Panel of Experts.
S/2018/156 (26 February 2018) was a draft resolution to renew the Yemen sanctions regime vetoed by Russia, which received 11 votes in favour, with Bolivia voting against and China and Kazakhstan abstaining.
S/2018/68 (26 January 2018) was the Panel of Experts’ final report under its previous mandate.
S/2018/740 (25 January 2019) was the final report of the Yemen Panel of Experts.
S/2018/1125 (31 December 2018) was the 2140 Committee’s 2018 annual report.
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