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Committee: Security Council

Topic: The crisis in the Central African Republic

Security Council Press Statement on the Central African Republic

The members of the Security Council support the results of the presidential elections of 27th December 2020 in the Central African Republic and the officially elected president. They express their concern over the deteriorating military and political situation and the threat of government overthrow. Further, they confirm the importance of restoring state power throughout the entire territory of the country.

The members of the Security Council express their deepest concern about the new outbreak of the Ebola disease in the Central African Republic. They urge the international community to provide vaccines and medical equipment to the people of CAR to combat the disease.

The Security Council strongly opposes the violence and crimes committed by certain rebellious groups with the support of former President François Bozizé trying to undermine the electoral process, and condemns the violations of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, signed by the Government of the Central African Republic and armed groups in Bangui on 6th February 2019. The Security Council urges all signatory parties to fully honour their commitments and join the path of dialogue and peace. The Security Council recalls that individuals or entities who are threatening the stabilization of the country may be targeted under a Security Council sanctions regime. Violence fueled by disinformation campaigns is also strongly condemned. The Security Council stresses the urgent need to end impunity in the CAR and to let justice prevail over perpetrators of violations of international humanitarian law and of violations and abuses of human rights. Further, it encourages the national authorities to continue their efforts to make the Truth, Justice, Reparation and Reconciliation Commission operational.

The Central African Republic has submitted a request to lift the arms embargo of 5th December 2013 (Resolution 2127). This was noted by the members of the Security Council. At the same time, the Security Council reiterates its willingness to review the measures of the arms embargo, including through suspension or gradual lifting, in the light of progress on the key benchmarks set by the council. The members of the Security Council are keen to stress the need for the authorities of the Central African Republic to ensure the physical

protection, control, management, traceability and accountability of weapons, ammunition and military equipment transferred to their control.

In the strongest possible terms, the members of the Security Council condemn the increasing attacks on humanitarian workers. They reiterate their call on all parties who are part of the conflict in the Central African Republic to respect their obligations under international humanitarian law and to ensure access for humanitarian workers.

The members of the Security Council also express their deepest condolences for the peacekeepers killed. They also recall the importance of the United Nations peacekeeping mission to have the necessary capacity to fulfil its mandate and to promote the security of United Nations peacekeepers in accordance with Security Council resolution 2552 (2020). They welcome the support of the other international and regional partners of the Central African Republic and encourage the coordination of international support to the Central African Republic.

The Security Council calls for continued mobilisation of the sub-region and welcome regional initiatives aimed at strengthening dialogue, reducing tensions and finding concerted political solutions to this crisis.