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## **Part X**

# **Subsidiary organs of the Security Council: peacekeeping operations and special political missions**

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## **Introductory note**

### *Article 29*

*The Security Council may establish such subsidiary organs as it deems necessary for the performance of its functions.*

### *Rule 28*

*The Security Council may appoint a commission or committee or a rapporteur for a specified question.*

The powers of the Security Council to establish subsidiary organs are set out in Article 29 of the Charter of the United Nations and reflected in rule 28 of its provisional rules of procedure. Part X of the present Supplement covers decisions of the Council relating to field-based subsidiary organs that the Council established for the performance of its functions under the Charter and that were active during 2020. These field-based subsidiary organs can be divided into two categories: peacekeeping operations (covered in section I); and special political missions (covered in section II).

Other subsidiary organs, such as committees, working groups, investigative bodies, tribunals, ad hoc commissions, special advisers, envoys, representatives and coordinators, and the Peacebuilding Commission, are covered in part IX. Peace operations led by regional organizations are covered in part VIII, which deals with the Council's cooperation with regional organizations.

Peacekeeping operations and special political missions covered in part X are presented by region and in the order in which they were established. Successor missions are listed immediately after their predecessors. The introduction to each main section includes overview tables identifying the mandates assigned to each mission (tables 1, 2, 4 and 5) and provides an analysis of the key trends and developments during the reporting period. The mandates of the missions are presented in those tables according to 21 categories of mandated tasks which are based exclusively on the language of the decisions of the Council and do not necessarily reflect the specific structure or

activities of the mission. The categories are provided only as a convenience for readers and do not reflect any practice or position of the Council.

Subsections provide a summary of major developments concerning the mandate and composition of each mission, reflecting the decisions of the Council adopted during the period under review. For information on the mandate and composition of missions in the past, see previous supplements to the *Repertoire*.

## I. Peacekeeping operations

### Note

Section I focuses on the decisions adopted by the Security Council during the period under review concerning the establishment and termination of peacekeeping operations, as well as changes to their mandates and composition.

### Overview of peacekeeping operations during 2020

During the period under review, the Council oversaw 13 peacekeeping operations.<sup>1</sup> Seven of the operations were in Africa, three in the Middle East, two in Europe and one in Asia. The Council did not establish any new operations in 2020 and one completed its mandate.

#### *Terminations and extensions of mandates*

By resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#) of 22 December 2020, the Council terminated the mandate of African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) as of 31 December 2020.<sup>2</sup> The Council also extended the mandates of the following peacekeeping operations:

- United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO)
- United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO)
- United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA)
- United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS)
- United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA)
- United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA)
- United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP)
- United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF)

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<sup>1</sup> For Council decisions and deliberations relating to the item entitled “United Nations peacekeeping operations”, see part I, sect. 23. For Council discussions concerning individual peacekeeping operations, see the respective country-specific studies in part I.

<sup>2</sup> See resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 2.

- United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL)

The mandates of the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP), the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) and the United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO), remained open-ended.

*Mandates of peacekeeping operations, including the authorization of the use of force*

In 2020, the most common tasks of peacekeeping operations mandated by the Council related to the provision of good offices, mediation and technical support to peace processes, the protection of civilians and United Nations personnel and humanitarian workers, and the facilitation of humanitarian assistance. The Council also tasked missions with human rights monitoring, reporting and protection, gender mainstreaming and, as part of stabilization activities, the capacity-building of national security forces. The Council continued to highlight the importance of cooperation and coordination between peacekeeping operations and United Nations country teams, as well as international, regional and sub-regional stakeholders in the implementation of mission mandates. The mandate tasks of more longstanding missions such as MINURSO, UNMOGIP, UNTSO and UNDOF remained more narrowly focused on the monitoring of ceasefires.

The Council reauthorized the use of force by MONUSCO, UNMISS, MINUSMA and MINUSCA.<sup>3</sup> UNAMID, UNISFA and UNIFIL were reauthorized to take all necessary action in fulfilling only certain elements of their mandates such as protecting civilians, United Nations personnel and equipment, ensuring their freedom of movement and that of humanitarian workers, and protecting the mission area of responsibility.<sup>4</sup>

In instances where mandates were modified, the Council placed particular emphasis on strengthening peacekeeping early warning mechanisms and the protection of civilians from sexual and gender-based violence, good offices and other forms of support for political transitions and electoral cycles, and the facilitation of humanitarian assistance in the context of

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<sup>3</sup> In connection with MONUSCO, see resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), paras. 27 and 29 (i)(a); in connection with UNMISS, see resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), paras. 10 and 14; in connection with MINUSMA, see resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 18; and, in connection with MINUSCA, see resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 30. For more information on the authorizations to use force by the Council in 2020, see part VII, sect. IV.

<sup>4</sup> In connection with UNAMID, see resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), para. 1; in connection with UNISFA, see resolutions [2519 \(2020\)](#), para. 1 and [2550 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 12; and, in connection with UNIFIL, see resolution [2539 \(2020\)](#), para. 21.

the COVID-19 pandemic. Specifically, MONUSCO, UNMISS and MINUSMA were requested to strengthen their early warning and response mechanisms, with MONUSCO and MINUSMA also required to record and analyze their rate of response.<sup>5</sup> MONUSCO was further requested to ensure that risks of sexual violence in conflict were included in its data collection, threat analysis and early warning system.<sup>6</sup> With the decrease in political violence in South Sudan and the Mission's transition from static duties at protection of civilians sites, the Council requested UNMISS to focus deterrence and protection activities on areas of high risk of conflict or where there were emerging protection risks such as high rates of sexual and gender-based violence.<sup>7</sup>

The good offices support of MINUSCA for the preparation and delivery of peaceful presidential, legislative and local elections in the Central African Republic in 2020 and 2021 was defined to include encouraging dialogue among all political stakeholders, mitigating tensions throughout the electoral period, as well as providing security, operational, logistical and technical support.<sup>8</sup> Following the establishment of a transitional Government in Mali, the Council tasked MINUSMA to support the political transition in the country, including through good offices, confidence-building and facilitation and by supporting the holding of elections through technical assistance and security arrangements.<sup>9</sup>

In accordance with resolution [2532 \(2020\)](#) of 1 July 2020, which requested the Secretary-General to instruct peacekeeping operations to provide support to host country authorities to contain the COVID-19 pandemic, UNAMID and MINUSCA were assigned additional responsibilities to help alleviate the consequences of the pandemic, support national authorities in containing its spread, and support unhindered humanitarian access.<sup>10</sup> In connection with the mandate of UNIFIL, the Council commended the Mission for the preventive measures taken to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and, more generally, authorized it to take temporary and special

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<sup>5</sup> In connection with MONUSCO, see resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 29 (i)(h); in connection with UNMISS, see resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), para. 8 (a)(iii); and, in connection with MINUSMA, see resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 28 (c)(ii).

<sup>6</sup> See resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 29 (i)(h).

<sup>7</sup> See resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), paras. 8 (a)(ii) and 19.

<sup>8</sup> See resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 31 (c).

<sup>9</sup> See [S/PRST/2020/10](#), tenth paragraph.

<sup>10</sup> See resolution [2532 \(2020\)](#), para. 6. In connection with UNAMID, see resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), para. 8; and, in connection with MINUSCA, see resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 31 (d).

measures to provide support to Lebanon and its people in the aftermath of the explosion in the port of Beirut.<sup>11</sup>

Regarding cross-cutting issues, the Council requested UNFICYP to fully take into account gender considerations throughout its mandate.<sup>12</sup> UNMISS and MINUSMA, meanwhile, were assigned the role of supporting the meaningful participation of women and youth, among other marginalized groups, in political leadership, peace processes, transitional authorities, and the implementation of the peace agreements in South Sudan and Mali.<sup>13</sup> In addition, the Council requested MONUSCO to promote intercommunal and gender-responsive reconciliation while paying specific attention to the needs of women, in addition to children, as part of its support to the disarmament, demobilization, repatriation and resettlement process.<sup>14</sup>

With respect to the effectiveness of peacekeeping operations, the Council underscored the need to better address allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse and, further to resolution [2518 \(2020\)](#) of 30 March 2020, introduced new language regarding the safety and security of peacekeepers. In this regard, the Council requested several missions to take appropriate steps to ensure full accountability in cases involving their personnel, including through timely investigations by troop- and police-contributing countries and the missions as appropriate.<sup>15</sup> The Council requested the Secretary-General and troop- and police-contributing countries to seek to increase the number of women in MONUSCO, MINUSCA and UNDOF, including in leadership positions and to implement other relevant provisions of resolution [2538 \(2020\)](#) on the role of women in peacekeeping.<sup>16</sup> With respect to MINUSMA and MINUSCA, the Council requested the Secretary-General, Member States and national authorities to continue to take all appropriate measures to review and enhance the safety and security of peacekeeping personnel, in line with

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<sup>11</sup> See resolution [2539 \(2020\)](#), fifth preambular paragraph and para. 28.

<sup>12</sup> See resolution [2506 \(2020\)](#), para. 14.

<sup>13</sup> In connection with UNMISS, see resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), paras. 5 and 31; and, in connection with MINUSMA, see resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#) para. 28 (a)(v).

<sup>14</sup> See resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), paras. 29 (ii)(c) and (i).

<sup>15</sup> In connection with UNISFA, see resolution [2550 \(2020\)](#), para. 29; in connection with MINUSMA, see resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 57; in connection MINUSCA, see resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 41; in connection with UNFICYP, see resolution [2506 \(2020\)](#), para. 16; and, in connection with UNIFIL, see resolution [2539 \(2020\)](#), para. 24.

<sup>16</sup> In connection with MONUSCO, see resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 43; in connection MINUSCA, see resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 39; and, in connection with UNDOF, see resolution [2555 \(2020\)](#), para. 13.



resolution [2518 \(2020\)](#).<sup>17</sup> Similarly, UNDOF and UNIFIL were requested to protect the safety, security and health of all personnel in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic, in line with, respectively, resolutions [2518 \(2020\)](#) and [2532 \(2020\)](#),<sup>18</sup> while UNAMID was also tasked with the provision of training to personnel in this context.<sup>19</sup>

Finally, the Council expanded upon the modalities regarding the planning and implementation of mission transitions. For example, with respect to MONUSCO, the Council endorsed a strategy on the progressive and phased drawdown of the Mission and its transition, and requested the Secretary-General to present a transition plan, defining the practical modalities of transfer of tasks to the Government, the United Nations country team and other stakeholders, as well as detailed, measurable and realistic benchmarks.<sup>20</sup> The Council also called on the Secretary-General to develop options for the final drawdown and follow-on presence to UNAMID, and requested both MONUSCO and UNAMID to establish mechanisms for their respective transitions and transfer of tasks to other stakeholders.<sup>21</sup> Taking a more long-term perspective, the Council tasked the Secretary-General with developing options and conditions, including benchmarks, for the future drawdown and eventual exit of UNISFA and MINUSMA, while MINUSCA was requested to continue reporting on the conditions required for such a transition.<sup>22</sup>

Tables 1 and 2 provide an overview of the mandates of peacekeeping operations in 2020, showing the wide range of tasks mandated by the Council. The mandates reflected in the tables include: (a) tasks mandated by the Council in decisions adopted during the reporting period; and (b) tasks mandated in previous periods and reiterated by the Council during the period under review. The tables also include the tasks of peacekeeping operations with open-ended mandates adopted in decisions of previous periods. The tables are provided for information purposes only

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<sup>17</sup> In connection with MINUSMA, see resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 47; and, in connection with MINUSCA, see resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 37.

<sup>18</sup> In connection with UNDOF, see resolutions [2530 \(2020\)](#), para. 8 and [2555 \(2020\)](#), para. 8; and, in connection with UNIFIL, see resolution [2539 \(2020\)](#), fifth preambular paragraph.

<sup>19</sup> See resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), para. 8.

<sup>20</sup> See resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 50.

<sup>21</sup> In connection with UNAMID, see resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), para. 5; and, in connection with MONUSCO, see resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), paras. 50 and 51.

<sup>22</sup> In connection with UNISFA, see resolution [2550 \(2020\)](#), para. 31; in connection with MINUSMA, see resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 64; and, in connection with MINUSCA, resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 53.

and do not reflect any position or view of the Council with regard to the status of the mandates of the operations concerned.

Table 1  
**Mandates of peacekeeping operations, 2020: Africa**

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>MINURSO</i>	<i>UNAMID</i>	<i>MONUSCO</i>	<i>UNISFA</i>	<i>UNMISS</i>	<i>MINUSMA</i>	<i>MINUSCA</i>
Chapter VII		X	X	X	X	X	X
Authorization of the use of force		X	X	X	X	X	X
Ceasefire monitoring	X				X	X	
Civil-military coordination		X	X		X	X	X
Demilitarization and arms management	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Electoral assistance	X					X	X
Human rights-related <sup>a</sup>		X	X	X	X	X	X
Humanitarian support	X	X	X		X	X	X
International cooperation and coordination	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Mission impact assessment			X			X	X
Political process	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Protection of civilians	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Protection of humanitarian/United Nations personnel and facilities; ensuring free movement of personnel and equipment		X	X	X	X	X	X
Public information			X			X	X
Rule of law/judicial matters		X	X	X		X	X
Security monitoring; patrolling; deterrence		X	X	X	X	X	X
Security sector reform			X			X	X
Support to military			X			X	X
Support to police	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Support to sanctions regimes		X	X		X	X	X
Support to State institutions		X	X		X	X	X

*Abbreviations:* MINURSO, United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara; UNAMID, African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur; MONUSCO, United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo; UNISFA, United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei; UNMISS, United Nations Mission in South Sudan; MINUSMA, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali; MINUSCA, United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic.

<sup>a</sup> Includes tasks related to human rights; children and armed conflict; women and peace and security; and youth, peace and security.

Table 2  
**Mandates of peacekeeping operations, 2020: Asia, Europe and Middle East**

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>UNMOGIP</i>	<i>UNFICYP</i>	<i>UNMIK</i>	<i>UNTSO</i>	<i>UNDOF</i>	<i>UNIFIL</i>
Chapter VII			X			
Authorization of the use of force						X
Civil-military coordination			X			
Ceasefire monitoring	X	X		X	X	X
Demilitarization and arms management						X
Electoral assistance						
Human rights-related <sup>b</sup>		X	X			X
Humanitarian support		X	X			X
International cooperation and coordination		X	X	X	X	X
Political process		X	X			
Protection of civilians						X
Protection of humanitarian/United Nations personnel and facilities; ensuring free movement of personnel and equipment						X
Public information						
Rule of law/judicial matters						
Security monitoring-patrolling-deterrence						X
Security sector reform						
Support to military						X
Support to police		X	X			
Support to sanctions regimes						
Support to State institutions			X			X

*Abbreviations:* UNMOGIP, United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan; UNFICYP, United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus; UNMIK, United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo; UNTSO, United Nations Truce Supervision Organization; UNDOF, United Nations Disengagement Observer Force; UNIFIL, United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

<sup>a</sup> Includes tasks related to human rights; children and armed conflict; women and peace and security; and youth, peace and security.

### *Authorized strength of peacekeeping operations*

As illustrated in table 3, during the review period, the Council modified the composition of one peacekeeping operation by decreasing the number of military personnel in UNIFIL.

Table 3  
**Changes in composition of peacekeeping operations, 2020**

<i>Mission</i>	<i>Changes in composition</i>	<i>Decision</i>
UNIFIL	The Council decided to reduce the authorized troop ceiling from 15,000 to 13,000 personnel	Resolution <a href="#">2539 (2020)</a>

*Abbreviations:* UNIFIL, United Nations Interim Security Force in Lebanon

## Africa

### United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara

The United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara (MINURSO) was established by the Council on 29 April 1991, by resolution [690 \(1991\)](#), in accordance with the settlement proposals accepted by Morocco and the Frente Popular para la Liberación de Saguia el-Hamra y de Río de Oro (Frente POLISARIO). MINURSO was mandated to monitor the ceasefire, provide security for the repatriation of refugees, and support the organization of a free and fair referendum.<sup>23</sup>

In 2020, by resolution [2548 \(2020\)](#) of 30 October 2020, the Council extended the mandate of MINURSO for one year until 31 October 2021.<sup>24</sup> The resolution was adopted with 13 votes in favour and two abstentions.<sup>25</sup> The Council did not modify the mandate or composition of MINURSO during the period under review.

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<sup>23</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of MINURSO, see previous supplements covering the period 1991-2019.

<sup>24</sup> Resolution [2548 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>25</sup> See [S/2020/1063](#). The Russian Federation and South Africa abstained in the vote on resolution [2548 \(2020\)](#). The representative of the Russian Federation expressed concern regarding the consultations process on the draft resolution and stressed the need to maintain the previously agreed parameters of the Western Saharan settlement. The representative of South Africa raised the issue of the working methods on the Western Sahara file and that the draft resolution did not reflect the current realities on the ground. See also [S/2020/1075](#). For more information on the situation in Western Sahara, see part I, sect. 1.

## **African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur**

The Council established the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) by resolution [1769 \(2007\)](#) of 31 July 2007 and, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, authorized UNAMID to take the necessary action to support the implementation of the Darfur Peace Agreement, protect civilians and United Nations personnel and equipment and ensure the security and freedom of its own personnel and humanitarian workers.<sup>26</sup>

In 2020, the Council adopted resolutions [2517 \(2020\)](#) of 30 March 2020, [2523 \(2020\)](#) of 29 May 2020, [2525 \(2020\)](#) of 3 June 2020, and [2559 \(2020\)](#) of 22 December 2020. By resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), acting under Chapter VII of the Charter and ahead of the expiry of the mandate as contained in resolution [2495 \(2019\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of UNAMID for two months from 31 October 2020 until 31 December 2020.<sup>27</sup> By resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#), the Council decided to terminate the mandate of UNAMID as of 31 December 2020.<sup>28</sup>

With the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic in March 2020 and the resulting impact on the operations and drawdown of UNAMID, by resolutions [2517 \(2020\)](#), [2523 \(2020\)](#) and [2525 \(2020\)](#), acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council decided to maintain the Mission's troop and police ceilings and extended the timelines for its decision on the courses of action regarding the responsible drawdown and exit of UNAMID from 31 March to 31 May, 3 June and 31 December 2020, respectively.<sup>29</sup>

By resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), the Council adjusted the strategic priorities of UNAMID and requested the Mission to focus on the protection of civilians as set out in resolution [2495 \(2019\)](#), including by supporting the Government of Sudan's capacity to protect civilians, and

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<sup>26</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNAMID, see previous supplements covering the period 2007-2019. For more information on the reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan, see part I, sect. 8.

<sup>27</sup> Resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>28</sup> Resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 2.

<sup>29</sup> See resolutions [2517 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 2, [2523 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 2, and [2525 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 2. By resolution [2495 \(2019\)](#), the Council had expressed its intention to decide by 31 March 2020 courses of action regarding the drawdown and exit of UNAMID and the establishment of a follow-on presence to the Mission. By resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), the Council took note of the special report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General, providing recommendations on the appropriate courses of action regarding the drawdown of UNAMID and options for a follow-on presence to the Mission (see [S/2020/202](#)).

by preserving the requisite capacity, particularly in Jebel Marra.<sup>30</sup> The resolution requested UNAMID to provide support, within its mandate and capacities and existing resources, to Sudan in its efforts to contain the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic, in particular to facilitate and support unhindered humanitarian access, including to internally displaced persons and refugee camps.<sup>31</sup> UNAMID was also requested to take all appropriate steps to protect the safety, security and health of all of its personnel, in line with resolution [2518 \(2020\)](#) and to take further steps towards the provision of training for the personnel on issues related to preventing the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>32</sup>

The resolution requested UNAMID and the newly-established special political mission, the United Nations Integrated Assistance Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS), to establish a coordination mechanism to determine the modalities and timelines for the transition of responsibilities where the two Missions had common strategic objectives and priorities in Darfur and in order to ensure close coordination and cooperation, information and analysis sharing, to maximize synergies, leverage resources and prevent the duplication of efforts.<sup>33</sup> The Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission were requested to provide a special report no later than 31 October 2020, which should include an assessment of the situation on the ground, including the impact of the peace process on the security situation in Darfur, the capacity of the Government, including the Sudan Police Force, to protect civilians, and recommendations on the appropriate course of action regarding the drawdown of UNAMID, taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>34</sup> The Council also expressed its intention to decide by 31 December 2020, taking into account the findings of the requested special report, courses of action regarding the responsible drawdown and exit of UNAMID.<sup>35</sup>

By resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#), the Council took note of the special report of the Chairperson of the African Union and the Secretary-General dated 13 November 2020,<sup>36</sup> in particular the recommendation that the mandate of UNAMID be terminated by 31 December 2020 and the estimate that the environmental clean-up, the removal of the Mission's footprint

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<sup>30</sup> Resolution [2525 \(2020\)](#), para. 3.

<sup>31</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 8.

<sup>32</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>33</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5. For more information on the mandate of UNITAMS, see sect. II.

<sup>34</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 11.

<sup>35</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 2.

<sup>36</sup> See [S/2020/1115](#).



and the repatriation from closed locations of staff, troops and police would take an estimated six months, subject to the COVID-19 pandemic and the rainy season. The Council further underscored that a reasonable time would be required for the liquidation of UNAMID following its withdrawal.<sup>37</sup>

In accordance with the recommendations, in addition to terminating the mandate of UNAMID as of 31 December 2020, the Council requested the Secretary-General to commence the drawdown of the Mission personnel on 1 January 2021 and to complete the withdrawal of all uniformed and civilian personnel by 30 June 2021, other than those required for the Mission's liquidation.<sup>38</sup> The Council called on UNAMID to establish with the United Nations country team, as part of the transition and drawdown process, appropriate arrangements enabling the country team to oversee the residual activities of programmatic cooperation which was initiated by UNAMID in 2020 to ensure a smooth transition of peacebuilding and support for capacity development of the Government in Darfur.<sup>39</sup> The Council reiterated the mandate of UNAMID to protect the safety, security and health of all personnel, emphasizing the need to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic during the course of the drawdown and withdrawal.<sup>40</sup> The Council requested the Secretary-General to keep it regularly informed about all relevant developments in relation with the drawdown and withdrawal as an annex to the regular reporting requested on UNITAMS and to provide an oral briefing on 31 July 2021 on the completion of the process.<sup>41</sup>

The Council expressed its deep appreciation for the work of UNAMID in Sudan and its overall contribution to the maintenance of peace and security in Darfur since its establishment in 2007, commended the contribution of troop- and police-contributing countries, and underlined the importance of the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union in Sudan.<sup>42</sup> Finally, the Council requested the Secretary-General to provide an assessment on lessons learned from the experience of UNAMID no later than 31 October 2021.<sup>43</sup>

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<sup>37</sup> Resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#), eleventh preambular paragraph.

<sup>38</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 1 and 2.

<sup>39</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 9.

<sup>40</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 13.

<sup>41</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 14.

<sup>42</sup> *Ibid.*, fifth preambular paragraph.

<sup>43</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 15.

## **United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo**

The United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) was established by the Council on 28 May 2010 by resolution [1925 \(2010\)](#), under Chapter VII of the Charter, to succeed the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC). MONUSCO was authorized to use all necessary means to carry out its protection mandate as set out in the resolution and tasked with, inter alia, ensuring the effective protection of civilians and supporting the efforts of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo on stabilization and peace consolidation.<sup>44</sup>

In 2020, by resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#) of 18 December 2020, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council extended the mandate of MONUSCO for one year until 20 December 2021.<sup>45</sup> The resolution was adopted with 14 votes in favour and one abstention.<sup>46</sup>

By the resolution, the Council maintained the two strategic priorities of MONUSCO to protect civilians and support the stabilization and strengthening of State institutions and key governance and security reforms.<sup>47</sup> The Council also reiterated the corresponding priority tasks of MONUSCO with the addition of new language on the protection of civilians and human rights, the Force Intervention Brigade, security sector reform, and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration.

Specifically, the Council requested MONUSCO to strengthen its early warning and response mechanisms, including by systematically recording and analyzing its rate of response and to ensure that risks of sexual violence in conflict were included in its data collection, threat analysis and early warning system.<sup>48</sup> While reiterating the mandate of MONUSCO to carry out targeted offensive operations, either unilaterally or jointly with the Armed Forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (FARDC), the Council specified that

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<sup>44</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of MONUSCO, see previous supplements covering the period 2010-2019.

<sup>45</sup> Resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 22.

<sup>46</sup> See [S/2020/1265](#). The Russian Federation abstained in the vote on the draft resolution, stating that his delegation could not agree with the new wording of the paragraphs on international humanitarian assistance proposed by the authors of the draft resolution. For more information on the situation concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo, see part I, sect. 4.

<sup>47</sup> See resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 24.

<sup>48</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 29 (i)(h).

this task would be carried out by a reconfigured and effective Force Intervention Brigade that included additional combat units from additional troop- and police-contributing countries as quick reaction forces, able to cope with asymmetric warfare.<sup>49</sup> Furthermore, the Council expressed support for the efforts of the Secretary-General to improve the performance of the Force Intervention Brigade, including in the light of the independent assessment report on the protection of civilians and neutralization of armed groups in Beni and Mambasa territories, as appropriate and consistent with MONUSCO's mandate, including through the expeditious deployment of combat units functioning as quick reaction forces.<sup>50</sup>

The Council underlined that MONUSCO would support the United Nations system in-country to ensure that any support provided by the United Nations would be in strict compliance with United Nations Human Rights Due Diligence Policy.<sup>51</sup> On security sector reform and disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, the Council noted that MONUSCO would provide good offices and advice to the Government, particularly in North and South Kivu and Ituri provinces.<sup>52</sup>

In terms of cross-cutting issues, the Council requested MONUSCO to promote intercommunal and gender-responsive reconciliation and to pay specific attention to the needs of women, in addition to children, as part of its support to the disarmament, demobilization, repatriation and resettlement process.<sup>53</sup> Beyond the priorities, the Council reiterated the Mission's tasks related to cooperation with the Office of the Special Envoy for the Great Lakes,<sup>54</sup> protection of United Nations personnel, facilities and equipment,<sup>55</sup> child protection,<sup>56</sup> gender and sexual violence,<sup>57</sup> humanitarian access,<sup>58</sup> support to the implementation of the sanctions regime, and managing the environmental impact of its operations.<sup>59</sup>

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<sup>49</sup> Ibid., para. 29(i)(e).

<sup>50</sup> Ibid., para. 44. See also the report of the Secretary-General on MONUSCO of 18 March 2020 ([S/2020/214](#)), para. 62.

<sup>51</sup> Resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 29 (ii)(e).

<sup>52</sup> Ibid., para. 29 (ii)(f) and (g).

<sup>53</sup> Ibid., paras. 29 (ii)(c) and (i).

<sup>54</sup> Ibid., para. 26.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid., para. 30.

<sup>56</sup> Ibid., para. 31.

<sup>57</sup> Ibid., para. 32.

<sup>58</sup> Ibid., para. 36.

<sup>59</sup> Ibid., para. 38. For more information on the Committee and Group of Experts established by resolution [1533 \(2004\)](#), see part IX, sect. I.

Regarding the exit strategy, the Council endorsed the Joint Strategy on the Progressive and Phased Drawdown of MONUSCO and the broad parameters of MONUSCO's transition, as well as its planned withdrawal from the Kasai in 2021 and progressively from Tanganyika in 2022, as well as the gradual consolidation of the Mission's footprint in the three provinces where active conflict persisted.<sup>60</sup> Furthermore, the Council requested the Secretary-General to present, no later than September 2021, a transition plan on the basis of the Joint Strategy defining the practical modalities of the transfer of tasks to the Government, the United Nations country team and other stakeholders, including a set of detailed, measurable and realistic benchmarks with indicative timelines, roles and responsibilities, risks assessment and mitigation strategies, as appropriate for the progressive and phased drawdown of MONUSCO.<sup>61</sup> The Council also requested the establishment of a working group comprised of the representatives from MONUSCO, the Government, the United Nations country team, to enhance coordination and planning, in liaison with civil society, for the transition, including the transfer of tasks.<sup>62</sup> Finally, the Council stressed that the Mission's activities should be conducted in such a manner to facilitate progress towards sustainable and inclusive peace and development and address the root causes of conflict, to reduce the threat posed by domestic and foreign armed groups to a level that could be managed by the security forces of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.<sup>63</sup>

By resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), the Council maintained the Mission's authorized troop and police ceiling. As was the case in 2019, the Council further agreed to a temporary deployment of up to 360 personnel of formed police units provided they were deployed in replacement of military personnel, as proposed by the Secretary-General,<sup>64</sup> and invited the Secretariat to consider further reductions of military deployment and area of operations based on the evolution of the positive situation on the ground.<sup>65</sup>

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<sup>60</sup> Ibid., para. 49. See also the letter dated 26 October 2020 addressed to the President of the Council ([S/2020/1041](#)), in which the Secretary-General transmitted the joint strategy on the progressive and phased drawdown of MONUSCO.

<sup>61</sup> See resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 50.

<sup>62</sup> Ibid., para. 51.

<sup>63</sup> Ibid., para. 52.

<sup>64</sup> See [S/2019/905](#).

<sup>65</sup> See resolution [2556 \(2020\)](#), para. 23.

## **United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei**

The Council established the United Nations Interim Security Force for Abyei (UNISFA) by resolution [1990 \(2011\)](#) of 27 June 2011, taking into account the Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement on Temporary Arrangements for the Administration and Security of the Abyei Area of 20 June 2011. The Council mandated UNISFA to, inter alia, monitor and verify the redeployment of any Sudanese Armed Forces and the Sudan People's Liberation Army or its successor from the Abyei Area, participate in relevant bodies as stipulated in the Agreement, facilitate the delivery of humanitarian aid and strengthen the capacity of the Abyei Police Service. By the same resolution, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council authorized UNISFA to take the actions necessary, inter alia, to protect United Nations and humanitarian personnel and property, protect civilians under imminent threat of physical violence, and ensure security in the Abyei Area. By resolution [2024 \(2011\)](#) of 14 December 2011, the Council expanded the mandate of UNISFA to include assisting Sudan and South Sudan in ensuring the observance of their agreement on border security and supporting the operational activities of the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism.<sup>66</sup>

In 2020, the Council adopted resolutions [2519 \(2020\)](#) of 14 May 2020 and [2550 \(2020\)](#) of 12 November 2020 concerning UNISFA. By these resolutions, the Council extended the mandate of UNISFA for periods of six months each time, the second time until 15 May 2021.<sup>67</sup>

The Council largely maintained the existing mandate of UNISFA during the period under review. By resolution [2550 \(2020\)](#), the Council invited UNISFA to coordinate with the Juba-appointed administration in Abyei, the Misseriya administration in Muglad, as well as the Khartoum-appointed administration, using appropriate civilian expertise, to maintain stability, foster intercommunal reconciliation, and facilitate the return of displaced persons to their villages and the delivery of services.<sup>68</sup> By resolution [2519 \(2020\)](#), in addition to the regular reporting of the Secretary-General on the situation in Abyei, the Council requested

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<sup>66</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNISFA, see previous supplements covering the period 2011-2019. For more information on the reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan, see part I, sect. 8.

<sup>67</sup> See resolutions [2519 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 2 and [2550 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 and 2.

<sup>68</sup> Resolution [2550 \(2020\)](#), para. 16.

him to continue to inform it of progress in the implementation of the mandate as set out in resolution [2497 \(2019\)](#).<sup>69</sup>

Regarding the future mandate of UNISFA, the Council requested the Secretary-General to hold a joint consultation with the Governments of Sudan, South Sudan and Ethiopia, and relevant stakeholders, to discuss the exit strategy for the Mission and develop options for its responsible drawdown and exit. The Secretary-General was requested to report no later than 31 March 2021, elaborating on those options, prioritizing the safety and security of civilians, accounting for the stability of the region, and including an option for a responsible drawdown and exit that was not limited by the implementation of the 2011 agreements.<sup>70</sup> Furthermore, the Council expressed its intention to request an independent review of UNISFA in the context of recent political developments between and within Sudan and South Sudan and based on the outcomes of the joint consultation.<sup>71</sup>

In 2020, the Council decided to maintain the authorized ceiling of 3,550 troops and 640 police personnel, including 148 individual police officers and three formed police units.<sup>72</sup> In addition, by resolution [2519 \(2020\)](#), the Council decided to allow the postponement in the withdrawal of 295 troops above the authorized troop ceiling only until the Secretary-General lifted the COVID-19 related suspension on troop repatriations.<sup>73</sup> By resolution [2550 \(2020\)](#), the Council requested the United Nations to take necessary steps to deploy additional police sequentially in order to meet the authorized police ceiling and expressed its intention to reduce the authorized police ceiling as the Abyei Police Service was gradually established and providing effective law enforcement throughout the Abyei Area.<sup>74</sup> The Council also reiterated its request to the Secretary-General to appoint a civilian Deputy Head of Mission and add civilian staff within existing resources to further facilitate liaison between and

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<sup>69</sup> Resolution [2519 \(2020\)](#), para. 6. See also the letter dated 29 July 2020 addressed to the President of the Council ([S/2020/767](#)), in which the Secretary-General reported on the progress in mandate implementation, including on the increase in the police contingent, appointment of a civilian Deputy Head of Mission, usage of Athony airport, issuance of visas, and on progress and challenges related to the Joint Border Verification and Monitoring Mechanism.

<sup>70</sup> See resolution [2550 \(2020\)](#), para. 31.

<sup>71</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 32.

<sup>72</sup> See resolutions [2519 \(2020\)](#), para. 3 and [2550 \(2020\)](#), paras. 4 and 5.

<sup>73</sup> Resolution [2519 \(2020\)](#), para. 3.

<sup>74</sup> Resolution [2550 \(2020\)](#), para. 5.

engagement with the parties in a manner consistent with the 2011 Agreement, including the agreement to establish the Abyei Police Service.<sup>75</sup>

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<sup>75</sup> Ibid., para. 6.

## **United Nations Mission in South Sudan**

By resolution [1996 \(2011\)](#) of 8 July 2011, the Council established the United Nations Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS) under Chapter VII of the Charter, with a mandate to support peace consolidation and foster longer-term State-building and economic development; support the Government of South Sudan in exercising its responsibilities for conflict prevention, mitigation and resolution and to protect civilians; and support the Government, in cooperation with the United Nations country team and other international partners, in developing its capacity to provide security, to establish the rule of law and to strengthen the security and justice sectors. UNMISS was authorized to use all necessary means to carry out its protection of civilians mandate.<sup>76</sup>

In 2020, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted resolutions [2514 \(2020\)](#) of 12 March 2020 and [2521 \(2020\)](#) of 29 May 2020 in connection with UNMISS. By resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of UNMISS for one year until 15 March 2021.<sup>77</sup>

By resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), the Council welcomed the encouraging developments in South Sudan's peace process, including the beginning of the formation of a Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity and the reduction of political violence,<sup>78</sup> and decided to maintain the overall mandate of UNMISS with some modifications and the addition of new tasks. Specifically, the Council re-authorized the Mission to use all necessary means to protect civilians, create conditions conducive to the delivery of humanitarian assistance, support the implementation of the 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan and the peace process, and monitor and investigate human rights.<sup>79</sup> The Council also reiterated the existing tasks related to the provision of a secure environment in and around Juba, the prevention and response to sexual and gender-based violence, the implementation of the action plan to prevent violations

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<sup>76</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNMISS, see previous supplements covering the period 2011-2019.

<sup>77</sup> Resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), para. 6.

<sup>78</sup> *Ibid.*, seventh preambular paragraph and para. 4. For more information on the reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan, see part I, sect. 8.

<sup>79</sup> Resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), para. 8.



against children, and assistance to the Committee and the Panel of Experts established by resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan.<sup>80</sup>

In terms of modifications and additions, the Council placed particular emphasis on the Mission's protection of civilians mandate in areas of return, relocation, resettlement and integration, the prevention of sexual and gender-based violence, and the participation of women and other groups in the peace process and political decision-making. Specifically, the Council requested UNMISS to ensure that its deterrence of violence against civilians, proactive deployment and identification of threats and attacks against civilians also included areas of potential return.<sup>81</sup> In addition to the safe, informed, voluntary, and dignified return and relocation, the role of UNMISS in fostering a secure environment would also apply to the resettlement or integration of internally displaced persons into host communities.<sup>82</sup> UNMISS was requested to strengthen the implementation of a mission-wide early warning strategy which would include the establishment of an Information Acquisition Plan.<sup>83</sup>

The Council requested UNMISS to continue to intensify and extend its presence and active patrolling in areas of high risk of conflict, or where there were emerging protection risks or threats such as high rates of sexual and gender-based violence, among others, in order to contribute to a secure environment for the safe, informed, voluntary and dignified return, relocation, resettlement or integration into host communities for internally displaced persons and refugees.<sup>84</sup> Additionally, the Council requested UNMISS to prioritize enhanced force mobility to better execute its mandate in areas of emerging protection risks and emerging threats, including in remote locations, and encouraged the Mission to prioritize the deployment of forces with appropriate air, land and water assets.<sup>85</sup>

With respect to the political process, the Council called upon the Mission to assist all parties in their efforts to ensure full, effective, and meaningful participation of youth, women, diverse communities, faith groups, and civil society in all conflict resolution and peacebuilding efforts.<sup>86</sup> Similarly, the resolution tasked UNMISS with assisting the parties to

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<sup>80</sup> For more information on the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan, see part IX, sect. I.

<sup>81</sup> Resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), para. 8 (a)(ii).

<sup>82</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 8 (a)(vii).

<sup>83</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 8 (a)(iii).

<sup>84</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 19.

<sup>85</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 16.

<sup>86</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5.

do more to ensure that the minimum commitments to the inclusion of women in the Revitalized Agreement, including the 35 percent for women's representation, were achieved and to ensure the full, effective, and meaningful participation and involvement of women in all spheres and levels of political leadership, the peace process, and the transitional government.<sup>87</sup> Moreover, the resolution requested UNMISS to assist the parties in the implementation of specific commitments and measures related to the prevention and accountability for sexual violence.<sup>88</sup>

Regarding the future mandate of UNMISS, by resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), the Council requested the Secretary-General, in accordance with best practices, to conduct and provide, no later than 15 December 2020, an independent strategic review of UNMISS assessing the challenges to peace and security in South Sudan and providing detailed recommendations for the possible reconfiguration of the Mission mandate and its civilian, police, and military components to account for developments in the peace process, based on broad consultations, including, but not limited to, relevant transitional government bodies, humanitarian and development actors, and civil society organizations.<sup>89</sup>

By resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#), in addition to reiterating the mandate of UNMISS to assist the Committee and Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution [2206 \(2015\)](#) concerning South Sudan, the Council recalled the Mission's mandate, as outlined in resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), regarding the monitoring, investigating, verifying and reporting on abuses and violations of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law.<sup>90</sup>

By resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), while deciding to maintain the overall force levels of UNMISS with a troop ceiling of 17,000, which included the Regional Protection Force, and a police ceiling of 2,101 personnel, the Council specified that the ceiling included 88 corrections officers.<sup>91</sup> Furthermore, by an exchange of letters dated 22 and 23 December 2020 between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council, noting emergency circumstances, the Council approved the temporary redeployment, for a two-month period, of

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<sup>87</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 31.

<sup>88</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 32.

<sup>89</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 39. See also the letter dated 15 December 2020 addressed to the President of the Council ([S/2020/1224](#)), in which the Secretary-General transmitted the report of the independent strategic review of UNMISS.

<sup>90</sup> Resolution [2521 \(2020\)](#), paras. 22 and 23. The resolution was adopted with 12 votes in favour and three abstentions. For more information on the adoption of the draft resolution, see part I, sect. 8.

<sup>91</sup> Resolution [2514 \(2020\)](#), para. 7.

two infantry companies and two military utility helicopters from UNMISS to assist MINUSCA in reinforcing security in critical areas, while maintain the security of Bangui. The Council stated that any forces temporarily redeployed should continue to be counted against the authorized ceiling on military and civilian personnel of UNMISS.<sup>92</sup>

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<sup>92</sup> See [S/2020/1290](#) and [S/2020/1291](#).

## **United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali**

The Council established the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) by resolution [2100 \(2013\)](#) of 25 April 2013, under Chapter VII of the Charter. MINUSMA was authorized to use all necessary means to stabilize population centres and support the re-establishment of State authority, support the implementation of a transitional road map, protect civilians and United Nations personnel and property, assist the Malian authorities in promoting and protecting human rights, and support humanitarian assistance, national and international justice, and cultural preservation.<sup>93</sup>

In 2020, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted resolutions [2531 \(2020\)](#) of 29 June 2020 and [2541 \(2020\)](#) of 31 August 2020 concerning MINUSMA. The Council also issued a presidential statement addressing the Mission's mandate on 15 October 2020.<sup>94</sup> By resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), the mandate of MINUSMA was extended by one year until 30 June 2021.<sup>95</sup>

During the period under review, the Council maintained the overall mandate of MINUSMA with several modifications and additions. By resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), the Council welcomed and expressed its full support for the implementation of the adaptation plan of MINUSMA with a view to improving the Mission's support to the implementation of the 2015 Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, the stabilization and restoration of State authority in the Centre and enhancing protection of civilians.<sup>96</sup> The Council reiterated the strategic priorities of MINUSMA, namely to support the implementation of the Agreement and to facilitate the implementation of the *Stratégie de stabilisation du centre du Mali*, in a comprehensive and politically-led manner, with a view to protecting civilians, reducing intercommunal violence, and re-establishing State authority, State presence and basic social services in Central Mali.<sup>97</sup> The Council reiterated that the mandate of MINUSMA would be

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<sup>93</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of MINUSMA, see previous supplements covering the period 2012-2019. For more information on the situation in Mali, see part I, sect. 12.

<sup>94</sup> See [S/PRST/2020/10](#).

<sup>95</sup> Resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 16.

<sup>96</sup> *Ibid.*, nineteenth preambular paragraph and para. 23. See also the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in Mali ([S/2019/983](#)), paras. 58-66.

<sup>97</sup> Resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 19.

implemented based on a prioritization of tasks<sup>98</sup> and maintained the priority tasks related to the support for the implementation of the Agreement; support to the stabilization and restoration of State authority in the Centre; protection of civilians; good offices and reconciliation; promotion and protection of human rights; and humanitarian assistance.<sup>99</sup>

The Council made several modifications to the tasks of MINUSMA within the framework of these priorities. Regarding the implementation of the Agreement, the support, monitoring and supervision of the ceasefire by MINUSMA was expanded to include the designation of weapon-free areas.<sup>100</sup> Furthermore, the Mission's support to the implementation of the reconciliation and justice measures of the Agreement would encompass the follow-up of the recommendations of the International Commission of Inquiry.<sup>101</sup> Among other groups, MINUSMA was requested to promote the meaningful participation of women peacebuilders and youth peacebuilders in the implementation of the Agreement and to help the Government of Mali to raise awareness on its content and objectives.<sup>102</sup> In connection with the stabilization and restoration of State authority in the Centre, MINUSMA was requested to support Malian authorities in fully and effectively implementing the *Stratégie de stabilisation du centre du Mali* and meeting priority measures set out in the resolution with respect to the re-establishment of State presence and State authority and fighting against impunity for violations and abuses of international human rights law and violations of international and humanitarian law, by bringing to justice the individuals accused of perpetrating the massacres that killed hundreds of civilians in 2019 and 2020 and by holding the corresponding trials.<sup>103</sup>

Regarding the protection of civilians, in addition to strengthening early warning mechanisms, the Council requested MINUSMA to systematically record and analyze its rate of response and to deploy civilian and uniformed gender advisors and focal points in order to provide specific protection and assistance for women and children affected by armed conflict.<sup>104</sup>

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<sup>98</sup> Ibid., para. 20.

<sup>99</sup> Ibid., para. 28.

<sup>100</sup> Ibid., para. 28 (a)(iii).

<sup>101</sup> Ibid., para. 28 (a)(iv). For more information on the International Commission of Inquiry on Mali, see part VI, sect. B.

<sup>102</sup> Resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 28 (a)(v).

<sup>103</sup> Ibid., paras. 14 and 28 (b)(i).

<sup>104</sup> Ibid., paras. 28 (c)(ii) and (iii).

In connection with good offices and reconciliation, the resolution provided that the Mission's electoral support would include regional, local and legislative by-elections, as needed, and as appropriate, a constitutional referendum, including through the provision of technical assistance and security arrangements.<sup>105</sup> MINUSMA was requested to improve efforts to monitor, document, conduct fact-finding missions, help investigate and report on violations of international humanitarian law and human rights violations and abuses, including on, among other issues, trafficking in persons, and by liaising with relevant partners, as appropriate.<sup>106</sup> With respect to humanitarian assistance, MINUSMA was requested to closely coordinate its activities with humanitarian actors, including relevant United Nations agencies.<sup>107</sup>

The Council also maintained the Mission's other tasks with two modifications. By resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), the Council broadened the scope of the Mission's communication efforts to underscore the role and responsibilities of the Malian authorities to protect civilians and implement the Agreement.<sup>108</sup> Furthermore, while reiterating the task of MINUSMA to assist and exchange information with the Committee and the Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution [2374 \(2017\)](#) concerning Mali, the Council requested the Mission to ensure that its activities in Mali were consistent with efforts to promote the implementation of the sanctions measures.<sup>109</sup>

Going forward, the Council requested the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Instance de Coordination du Mali, the Government of Mali, and in consultation with other relevant partners, including United Nations agencies, Member States, regional organizations and independent experts, to develop a long-term roadmap assessing the continued challenges to peace and security in Mali and focusing on a set of realistic, relevant and clearly measurable benchmarks and conditions to be presented to the Council by 31 March 2021. The benchmarks and conditions would include, among others, progress in the implementation of the Agreement, the redeployment of the reformed and reconstituted Malian Defence and Security Forces, the full

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<sup>105</sup> Ibid., para. 28 (d)(iii).

<sup>106</sup> Ibid., para. 28 (e)(ii).

<sup>107</sup> Ibid., para. 28 (f).

<sup>108</sup> Ibid., para. 27.

<sup>109</sup> Ibid., para. 29 (b). By resolution [2541 \(2020\)](#), the Council also reiterated the request to MINUSMA to assist the Committee and the Panel of Experts, within its mandate and capabilities (see para. 3).

operationalization of the Joint Force of the G5 Sahel and the implementation of the Mission's adaptation plan. The objective of the roadmap would be to ensure a phased, coordinated and deliberate transition of security responsibilities, opening the way for a possible exit strategy for MINUSMA, when the conditions were met, without jeopardizing the stability of Mali and its region.<sup>110</sup>

In its presidential statement of 15 October 2020, welcoming the establishment of the transitional arrangements in Mali, the Council also requested MINUSMA, within its mandate and existing resources, to support the political transition in the country, particularly by exercising good offices, confidence-building and facilitation at the national and local levels, and by supporting, together with the United Nations country team, the holding of inclusive, free, fair, transparent, and credible elections, conducted in a peaceful environment, including through the provision of technical assistance and security arrangements, consistent with the provisions of the Agreement.<sup>111</sup>

The Council maintained the composition of MINUSMA during the reporting period.<sup>112</sup>

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<sup>110</sup> Resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 64.

<sup>111</sup> See [S/PRST/2020/10](#), first and tenth paragraphs.

<sup>112</sup> Resolution [2531 \(2020\)](#), para. 17.

## **United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic**

The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) was established by the Council on 10 April 2014 by resolution [2149 \(2014\)](#), under Chapter VII of the Charter. MINUSCA was authorized to take all necessary means to, inter alia, protect civilians and United Nations personnel and property; support the implementation of the transition process; facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance; promote and protect human rights; support justice and the rule of law; and support the implementation of disarmament, demobilization, reintegration, and repatriation strategies.<sup>113</sup>

In 2020, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council adopted resolutions [2507 \(2020\)](#) of 31 January 2020, [2536 \(2020\)](#) of 28 July 2020 and [2552 \(2020\)](#) of 12 November 2020 concerning MINUSCA. By resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of MINUSCA for one year until 15 November 2021.<sup>114</sup>

By resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), the Council maintained the strategic objective of MINUSCA to support the creation of the political, security and institutional conditions conducive to the sustainable reduction of the presence of, and threat posed by, armed groups through a comprehensive approach and proactive and robust posture.<sup>115</sup> Furthermore, recalling that the mandate of MINUSCA should be implemented based on a prioritization of tasks, the Council reiterated, with several modifications, the Mission's five priority tasks, namely the protection of civilians; the provision of good offices and support to the peace process, including the implementation of the 2019 Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic; preparation for the presidential, legislative and local elections in 2020 and 2021; the creation of a secure environment for the delivery of humanitarian assistance; and the protection of United Nations personnel, installations, equipment and goods.<sup>116</sup>

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<sup>113</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of MINUSCA, see previous supplements covering the period 2014-2019. For more information on the situation in the Central African Republic, see part I. sect. 5.

<sup>114</sup> Resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 26.

<sup>115</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 28.

<sup>116</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 31.



In terms of modifications to the Mission's tasks, the Council specified that the assistance of MINUSCA to the Central African Republic authorities for the 2020 and 2021 elections would consist of providing good offices, including to encourage dialogue among all political stakeholders, in an inclusive manner, and to mitigate tensions throughout the electoral period. The Mission would also provide security, operational, logistical and, as appropriate, technical support, in particular to facilitate access to remote areas, and coordinate international electoral assistance.<sup>117</sup> With respect to humanitarian assistance, expressing serious concern about the dire humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic and recalling its resolution [2532 \(2020\)](#), the Council expanded the mandate to include alleviating the consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>118</sup>

Underscoring that they were mutually reinforcing with the aforementioned priority tasks, the Council reiterated, also with certain modifications, the other tasks of MINUSCA, namely support for the extension of State authority, the deployment of security forces and the preservation of territorial integrity; support to security sector reform; support to disarmament, demobilisation, reintegration and repatriation processes; the promotion and protection of human rights; and support for national and international justice, the fight against impunity, and the rule of law.<sup>119</sup> Regarding security sector reform, the Council mandated MINUSCA to coordinate with the newly-established European Union Advisory Mission in the Central African Republic (EUAM-RCA) and the African Union Observer Mission in the Central African Republic (MOUACA), in addition to the European Union Training Mission in the Central African Republic (EUTM-RCA) and other international partners of the Central African Republic, including France, the Russian Federation, United States and China, in providing strategic and technical advice to the national authorities in implementing the National Strategy on Security Sector Reform and the National Defence Plan.<sup>120</sup> The Council further tasked MINUSCA with coordinating technical assistance and training between the international partners in the country,

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<sup>117</sup> Ibid., para. 31 (c).

<sup>118</sup> Ibid., fifteenth preambular paragraph and para. 31 (d).

<sup>119</sup> Ibid., para. 32.

<sup>120</sup> Ibid., para. 32 (b)(i).

in particular with EUTM-RCA and EUAM-RCA, in order to ensure a clear distribution of tasks in the field of security sector reform.<sup>121</sup>

The Council also reiterated the additional tasks of MINUSCA to manage the environmental impact of its operations,<sup>122</sup> child protection,<sup>123</sup> gender mainstreaming,<sup>124</sup> weapons and ammunition management, with the latter task expanded to include technical assistance to the national authorities in the implementation of the national action plan of the “Commission nationale de lutte contre la prolifération des armes légères et de petit calibre”.<sup>125</sup> By resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), the Council reiterated the tasks of MINUSCA in support of the Committee and Panel of Experts established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#).<sup>126</sup> Moreover, by resolutions [2507 \(2020\)](#) and [2536 \(2020\)](#), the Council also reiterated the task of MINUSCA to report on the contribution to security sector reform of the sanctions exemption for supplies of non-lethal equipment and provision of assistance to the security forces of the Central African Republic, including state civilian law enforcement institutions.<sup>127</sup>

Regarding the effectiveness of the Mission, the Council requested the Secretary-General, Member States, and the Central African Republic authorities to continue to take all appropriate measures to review and enhance the safety and security of MINUSCA’s personnel, in line with resolution [2518 \(2020\)](#).<sup>128</sup> On the Mission’s future, the Council requested the Secretary-General to continue reviewing and reporting on a regular basis the conditions required for the transition, drawdown and withdrawal of MINUSCA, in a manner which did not prejudice overall efforts to support long-term objectives for peace and stability.<sup>129</sup>

During the period, the Council decided to maintain the Mission’s authorized troop and police levels.<sup>130</sup> Following rising tensions in the Central African Republic ahead of the

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<sup>121</sup> Ibid., para. 32 (b)(iii).

<sup>122</sup> Ibid., para. 42.

<sup>123</sup> Ibid., para. 43.

<sup>124</sup> Ibid., para. 44.

<sup>125</sup> Ibid., paras. 45 and 46.

<sup>126</sup> Ibid., para. 33.

<sup>127</sup> Resolutions [2507 \(2020\)](#), para. 1 (b) and [2536 \(2020\)](#), para. 1 (b). For more information on the mandate of the Committee established pursuant to resolution [2127 \(2013\)](#) concerning the Central African Republic, see part IX, sect. I.

<sup>128</sup> Resolution [2552 \(2020\)](#), para. 37.

<sup>129</sup> Ibid., para. 53.

<sup>130</sup> Ibid., para. 27.

presidential and legislative elections scheduled for 27 December 2020, by an exchange of letters dated 22 and 23 December 2020 between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council, noting emergency circumstances, the Council approved the temporary redeployment, for a two-month period, of two infantry companies and two military utility helicopters from UNMISS to assist MINUSCA in reinforcing security in critical areas, while maintaining the security of Bangui. The Council stated that any forces temporarily redeployed should continue to be counted against the authorized ceiling on military and civilian personnel of UNMISS and not be counted against the ceiling of MINUSCA.<sup>131</sup>

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<sup>131</sup> See [S/2020/1290](#) and [S/2020/1291](#).

## Asia

### United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan

The Council established the United Nations Military Observer Group in India and Pakistan (UNMOGIP) by resolution [47 \(1948\)](#) of 21 April 1948. The first team of military observers, who eventually formed the nucleus of UNMOGIP, was deployed in January 1949 to the United Nations Commission for India and Pakistan established by resolution [39 \(1948\)](#). Following the termination of the Commission, the Council, by resolution [91 \(1951\)](#), decided that UNMOGIP would continue to supervise the ceasefire in the State of Jammu and Kashmir. Since the renewed hostilities in 1971, the task of UNMOGIP has been to monitor developments pertaining to the strict observance of the ceasefire of 17 December 1971. In 2020, the Council did not discuss UNMOGIP or make changes to its composition or mandate, which remained open-ended.<sup>132</sup>

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<sup>132</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNMOGIP, see *Repertoire, Supplement 1946-1951*, and subsequent supplements covering the period 1952-2019.

## Europe

### United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus

The Council established the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus (UNFICYP) by resolution [186 \(1964\)](#) of 4 March 1964. In the interest of preserving international peace and security, UNFICYP was mandated to use its best efforts to prevent a recurrence of fighting and, as necessary, to contribute to the maintenance and restoration of law and order and a return to normal conditions.<sup>133</sup>

In 2020, the Council adopted resolutions [2506 \(2020\)](#) of 30 January 2020 and [2537 \(2020\)](#) of 28 July 2020 in relation to UNFICYP. The Council extended the mandate of the Mission twice for a period of six months, the second time until 31 January 2021.<sup>134</sup>

By the two resolutions, the Council renewed the existing mandate of UNFICYP with several new elements. By resolution [2506 \(2020\)](#), the Council called for the establishment of an effective mechanism for direct military contacts between the sides and the relevant involved parties, and urged UNFICYP, as facilitator through its liaison role, to submit proposals in this regard.<sup>135</sup> The Council requested UNFICYP to take fully into account gender considerations as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate, while reiterating its request to the Secretary-General and troop- and police-contributing countries to increase the number of women in the Mission and ensure their full, equal and meaningful participation in all aspects of operations.<sup>136</sup>

The Council did not modify the composition of UNFICYP during the review period.

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<sup>133</sup> For further information on the history of the mandate of UNFICYP, see previous supplements covering the period 1964-2019. For more information on the situation in Cyprus, see part I, sect. 17.

<sup>134</sup> Resolutions [2506 \(2020\)](#), para. 10 and [2537 \(2020\)](#), para. 11.

<sup>135</sup> Resolutions [2506 \(2020\)](#), para. 6 and [2537 \(2020\)](#), para. 6.

<sup>136</sup> Resolutions [2506 \(2020\)](#), para. 14 and [2537 \(2020\)](#), para. 15.

## **United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo**

The United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo (UNMIK) was established by the Council on 10 June 1999, by resolution [1244 \(1999\)](#), under Chapter VII of the Charter. The Council mandated UNMIK to carry out a range of tasks, including promoting the establishment of substantial autonomy and self-government in Kosovo, performing basic civilian administrative functions, and organizing and overseeing the development of provisional institutions for democratic and autonomous self-government.<sup>137</sup> In 2020, the Council did not adopt any decisions relating to UNMIK and made no change to its composition or to its mandate, which remained open-ended.<sup>138</sup>

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<sup>137</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNMIK, see previous supplements covering the period 1996-2019.

<sup>138</sup> For more information on Security Council resolutions [1160 \(1998\)](#), [1199 \(1998\)](#), [1203 \(1998\)](#), [1239 \(1999\)](#) and [1244 \(1999\)](#), see part I, sect. 18 B.

## Middle East

### United Nations Truce Supervision Organization

The United Nations Truce Supervision Organization (UNTSO) was established by the Council on 29 May 1948, by resolution [50 \(1948\)](#), to assist the United Nations Mediator and the Truce Commission in supervising the observance of the truce following the end of the 1948 Arab-Israeli conflict. Since the establishment of UNTSO, the Council has assigned it different tasks without formally changing its mandate, including the supervision of the General Armistice, the supervision of the armistice following the Suez war, the supervision of the armistice between Egypt and Israel in the Sinai, and the supervision of the truce between Israel and Lebanon and Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic, in collaboration with the United Nations Interim Security Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) and the United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF), respectively.<sup>139</sup>

In 2020, the Council did not make changes to the mandate or the composition of UNTSO, which remained open-ended. By resolutions [2530 \(2020\)](#) of 29 June 2020 and [2555 \(2020\)](#) of 18 December 2020 concerning the mandate of UNDOF, the Council encouraged the Department of Peace Operations, UNDOF and UNTSO to continue relevant discussions on recommendations from the 2018 independent review of UNDOF to improve mission performance and implementation of the mandate of UNDOF.<sup>140</sup>

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<sup>139</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNTSO, see *Repertoire 1946-1951* and subsequent supplements covering the period 1952-2019. For more information on the situation in the Middle East, see part I, sect. 20.

<sup>140</sup> Resolutions [2530 \(2020\)](#), para. 12 and [2555 \(2020\)](#), para. 12.

## United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

The United Nations Disengagement Observer Force (UNDOF) was established by the Council on 31 May 1974, by resolution [350 \(1974\)](#), following the Agreement on Disengagement between Israeli and Syrian forces, in the Golan Heights. Since then, UNDOF has remained in the area to maintain the ceasefire between Israel and the Syrian Arab Republic and to supervise the implementation of the Agreement and the areas of separation and limitation.<sup>141</sup>

In 2020, the Council adopted resolutions [2530 \(2020\)](#) of 29 June 2020 and [2555 \(2020\)](#) of 18 December 2020 concerning UNDOF. The Council extended the mandate of the Mission twice for a period of six months each time, the second time until 30 June 2021.<sup>142</sup>

By resolution [2530 \(2020\)](#), the Council requested UNDOF, within existing capacities and resources, to take all appropriate steps to protect the safety, security and health of all Mission personnel, in line with resolution [2518 \(2020\)](#), taking into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>143</sup> By resolution [2555 \(2020\)](#), the Council requested the Secretary-General and troop- and police-contributing countries to seek to increase the number of women in UNDOF, as well as to ensure the full, equal and meaningful participation of uniformed and civilian women at all levels, and in all positions, including senior leadership positions, and to implement other relevant provisions of resolution [2538 \(2020\)](#).<sup>144</sup> By resolutions [2530 \(2020\)](#) and [2555 \(2020\)](#), the Council reiterated its encouragement to the Department of Peace Operations, UNDOF and UNTSO to continue relevant discussions on recommendations from the 2018 independent review of UNDOF to improve its performance and the implementation of its mandate.<sup>145</sup> The Council did not modify the composition of UNDOF during the reporting period.

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<sup>141</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNDOF, see previous supplements covering the period 1972-2019.

<sup>142</sup> Resolutions [2530 \(2020\)](#), para. 15 and [2555 \(2020\)](#), para. 15. For more information on the situation in the Middle East, see part I, sect. 20.

<sup>143</sup> Resolution [2530 \(2020\)](#), para. 8. See also resolution [2555 \(2020\)](#), para. 8.

<sup>144</sup> Resolution [2555 \(2020\)](#), para. 13.

<sup>145</sup> Resolutions [2530 \(2020\)](#), para. 12 and [2555 \(2020\)](#), para. 12. See also the report of the Secretary-General on UNDOF in which he provided an overview of the recommendations of the independent review of the Mission's mandate ([S/2018/1088](#)).



## United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

The United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) was established by the Council on 19 March 1978, by resolutions [425 \(1978\)](#) and [426 \(1978\)](#), to confirm the withdrawal of Israeli forces from southern Lebanon, restore international peace and security, and assist the Government of Lebanon in ensuring the return of its effective authority in the area. By resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#), to address the continuing hostilities in Lebanon, the Council expanded the mandate of UNIFIL to include monitoring the cessation of hostilities, accompanying and supporting the Lebanese armed forces; extending its assistance to help to ensure humanitarian access to civilian populations and the voluntary and safe return of displaced persons; and assisting the Government of Lebanon in securing its borders and other entry points to prevent the entry of arms or related materiel.<sup>146</sup>

In 2020, by resolution [2539 \(2020\)](#) of 28 August 2020, the Council extended the mandate of UNIFIL for one year until 31 August 2021.<sup>147</sup> The resolution was adopted further to the letter from the Secretary-General of 29 July 2020 addressed to the President of the Council recommending the extension of the mandate of the Mission.<sup>148</sup>

By resolution [2539 \(2020\)](#), the Council welcomed the assessment of the Secretary-General of UNIFIL of 1 June 2020, requested in resolution [2485 \(2019\)](#), and noted with appreciation the recommendations to further increase the efficiency and effectiveness of the Mission.<sup>149</sup> The Council reiterated the overall mandate of UNIFIL with several additions. In the aftermath of the explosions that occurred in the port of Beirut on 4 August 2020, the Council authorized UNIFIL, without prejudice to the implementation of its mandate and within existing resources, to take temporary and special measures to provide support to Lebanon and its people. In that connection, the Council requested the Secretary-General to conduct an assessment of the impact of those explosions on UNIFIL personnel, capacities and operations, together with

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<sup>146</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNIFIL, see previous supplements covering the period 1975-2019. For more information on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question and the situation in the Middle East, see part I, sects. 20 and 21.

<sup>147</sup> Resolution [2539 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>148</sup> *Ibid.*, sixth preambular paragraph. See [S/2020/760](#).

<sup>149</sup> *Ibid.*, thirty-third preambular paragraph. See also the report of the Secretary-General on UNIFIL ([S/2020/473](#)).

recommendations to address such impact, with a view to maintaining continuity and effectiveness of the Mission's operations.<sup>150</sup>

Welcoming the constructive role played by the Tripartite Mechanism in facilitating coordination and in de-escalating tensions, the Council encouraged UNIFIL, in close coordination with the parties, to implement measures to further reinforce the capacities of the Tripartite Mechanism, including the creation of additional ad hoc sub-committees, as recommended in the assessment report of the Secretary-General.<sup>151</sup> Reiterating the request to UNIFIL to take fully take into account gender considerations as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate, the Council tasked the Mission with supporting the implementation of the action plan on Women and Peace and Security, including to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence, and further requested enhanced reporting on this issue.<sup>152</sup>

The Council welcomed the report of the Secretary-General on the assessment of the continued relevance of the resources of UNIFIL and options for improving the efficiency and effectiveness between UNIFIL and the Office of the United Nations Special Envoy for Lebanon (UNSCOL). In this connection, the Council requested the Secretary-General to elaborate a detailed plan, with timelines and specific modalities, in full and close consultation with the parties, including Lebanon, the troop-contributing countries and the members of the Council, to implement recommendations, as appropriate, and further requested him to present the first elements of the plan within 60 days after the adoption of the resolution.<sup>153</sup>

The Council commended UNIFIL for the preventive measures taken to fight the COVID-19 pandemic and recalled resolution [2532 \(2020\)](#) and its request to the Secretary-General to instruct peacekeeping operations to provide support to host country authorities in their efforts to contain the pandemic and take all appropriate steps to protect the safety, security and health of all United Nations personnel in United Nations peace operations, while maintaining the continuity of operations, and take further steps towards the provision of training for peacekeeping personnel related to preventing the spread of COVID-19.<sup>154</sup>

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<sup>150</sup> Resolution [2539 \(2020\)](#), para. 28.

<sup>151</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 12.

<sup>152</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 26.

<sup>153</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 8.

<sup>154</sup> *Ibid.*, fifth preambular paragraph.

Recognizing that UNIFIL had successfully implemented its mandate since 2006 and had allowed for maintaining peace and security since then, the Council authorized the reduction of the troop-ceiling set out in resolution [1701 \(2006\)](#) from 15,000 to 13,000 troops, without prejudice to the possibility for the force strength to be increased in the future in case a degraded security situation required such increase for the implementation of resolutions [425 \(1978\)](#), [426 \(1978\)](#) and [1701 \(2006\)](#).<sup>155</sup> The Council further reiterated its call for the Government of Lebanon to present a plan to increase its naval capabilities as soon as possible with the goal of ultimately decreasing the maritime taskforce of UNIFIL and transitioning its responsibilities to the Lebanese Armed Forces.<sup>156</sup>

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<sup>155</sup> Ibid., para. 29.

<sup>156</sup> Ibid., para. 7.

## II. Special political missions

### Note

Section II focuses on the decisions adopted by the Security Council during the period under review concerning the establishment and termination of special political missions,<sup>157</sup> as well as the changes to their mandates.<sup>158</sup>

### Overview of special political missions during 2020

In 2020, the Council oversaw 13 special political missions. Six were based in Africa, three in the Middle East, and two each in the Americas and Asia. Their nature varied from regional offices such as the United Nations Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) and the United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS), missions with limited mandates to monitor and support the implementation of ceasefires and peace agreements such as the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia and the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA), to larger assistance missions such as the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL), the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) and the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI).

### *Newly established special political missions, terminations and extensions of mandates*

The Council established one and terminated one special political mission during the period under review. By resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#) of 3 June 2020, the Council established the United Nations Integrated Technical Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) for an initial period of 12 months.<sup>159</sup> By resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#) of 28 February 2020, the Council extended the mandate of

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<sup>157</sup> Special political missions described in the present part include regional offices and offices in support of political processes. Other types of special political missions, such as offices of special and personal envoys, advisers or representatives of the Secretary-General, sanctions monitoring teams, groups and panels and other entities and mechanisms, are covered in parts VII and IX of the present Supplement.

<sup>158</sup> For information on the envoys, advisers and representatives of the Secretary-General whose mandates relate to the Council's responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security, other than those appointed as heads of peacekeeping operations or special political missions, see part IX, sect. VI.

<sup>159</sup> See resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) for a final period of ten months until 31 December 2020.<sup>160</sup> The Council extended the mandates of UNSMIL, UNSOM, UNOWAS, United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), UNAMA, UNAMI and UNMHA. The mandate of UNOCA had been renewed in 2018 for a three-year period until 31 August 2021, while the mandates of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia (UNRCCA) and the Office of the Special Coordinator for Lebanon (UNSCOL) remained open-ended.

#### *Mandates of special political missions*

In 2020, for most special political missions, the Council prioritized mandate tasks related to the provision of good offices support for the implementation of peace agreements, inclusive peace processes, political dialogue and national and local-level reconciliation, as well as good offices and technical support for political transitions involving elections and constitutional review processes. The Council also underlined the importance of strengthening good governance and the capacity of national institutions, the rule of law, as well as support for the promotion of human rights and ensuring accountability. As part of these priorities, most missions were mandated to coordinate and support the mobilization of humanitarian and development assistance among a broad spectrum of United Nations, international, regional and sub-regional partners and stakeholders. Moreover, gender mainstreaming, including ensuring the full, meaningful and effective participation of women in political-decision making, featured as the most common cross-cutting element of mandates.

Regional offices, such as UNOCA and UNOWAS, continued to monitor and analyze emerging threats to peace and security, to support the strengthening of local capacities for conflict prevention and early warning and to address cross-border and cross-cutting issues and challenges such as transnational organized crime, terrorism and violent extremism, illicit trafficking, transhumance and conflicts between farmers and herders, and the security implications of climate change. The mandates of BINUH and the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia placed particular emphasis on, respectively, capacity-building of national justice and rule of law institutions and the political, economic and social reincorporation of

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<sup>160</sup> See resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

former armed group members. UNMHA further retained its relatively narrow mandate to oversee and facilitate the implementation of ceasefire arrangements.

The Council modified the mandates of six missions, namely UNIOGBIS, UNSMIL, UNSOM, UNOWAS, UNAMA and UNAMI, and defined the new mandate of UNITAMS. In the context of the political transition in Sudan, UNITAMS was given a broad mandate to support various aspects of the process, including technical assistance for constitution drafting, preparation for elections, and the implementation of human rights, equality, accountability and rule of law, and the promotion of women's rights.<sup>161</sup> With further progress in peace talks between the Government of Sudan and Sudanese armed groups in Juba and the beginning of the intra-Afghan negotiations in Doha, the Council emphasized the good offices role of UNITAMS and UNAMA, with the former Mission also tasked to support the future implementation should an agreement be reached.<sup>162</sup> UNSMIL was requested to use its good offices and mediation to help achieve a ceasefire in Libya, while both UNSMIL and UNITAMS were tasked with the implementation of ceasefires once they were achieved.<sup>163</sup>

Electoral support continued to feature prominently in the Council's changes to mandates of special political missions. For example, UNSOM and UNAMI were requested to provide good offices, technical, operational and logistical support to national institutions for the preparation of future elections in Somalia and Iraq, respectively.<sup>164</sup> UNSOM was further requested to strengthen the coordination of international electoral support to Somalia.<sup>165</sup> Following the completion of the electoral cycle in Guinea-Bissau in 2019, UNIOGBIS was requested to support national authorities in bringing the resulting electoral dispute to a peaceful, stable and democratic conclusion and the implementation of electoral legislative reforms.<sup>166</sup>

The Council also made several additions to the peacebuilding-related tasks of missions. For example, as part of its new mandate, UNITAMS was tasked with supporting various aspects of national peacebuilding efforts, including prevention, mitigation and reconciliation, community

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<sup>161</sup> See resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (i).

<sup>162</sup> In connection with UNITAMS, see resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (ii); and, in connection with UNAMA, see resolution [2543 \(2020\)](#), para. 6 (a).

<sup>163</sup> In connection with UNSMIL, see resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), paras. 1 (iv) and 2; and, in connection with UNITAMS, see resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (ii).

<sup>164</sup> In connection with UNSOM, see resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 5 (c); and, in connection with UNAMI, see resolution [2522 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (b) (i).

<sup>165</sup> See resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 5 (c).

<sup>166</sup> See resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#), paras. 2 (a) and 4 (a).

violence reduction and durable solutions for internally displaced persons and refugees.<sup>167</sup> UNSOM was requested to support Somalia's efforts to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to provide strategic advice to institutional capacity-building.<sup>168</sup> Both missions were requested to collaborate with international financial institutions on the mobilization of economic and development assistance and to ensure integrated cooperation with United Nations agencies, funds and programmes.<sup>169</sup> Similarly, UNOWAS was tasked with coordinating with international donors to promote conditions and capacities for sustainable peace and development and to conduct analysis and research on transnational issues relevant to peace and security and the links to humanitarian action and sustainable development.<sup>170</sup>

On cross-cutting issues, UNITAMS and UNAMI were requested to take into account gender considerations and to mainstream gender as part of their mandates, while UNSOM, UNITAMS and UNAMI were also mandated to assist national authorities in ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation and empowerment of women in political decision-making at all levels.<sup>171</sup> UNSMIL was requested to provide enhanced reporting on the participation of women and the protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence.<sup>172</sup> UNOWAS was tasked to implement the youth and peace and security agenda, UNSOM and UNAMA to pay particular attention to the empowerment of minority communities, while UNITAMS was tasked with supporting the political participation of civil society, women, youth, internally displaced persons and other marginalized groups.<sup>173</sup> The Council specified that UNOWAS would take into consideration the adverse implication of climate change, energy poverty, ecological changes and natural disasters, among other factors, including by assisting the governments in West Africa and the Sahel and the United Nations system in undertaking risk assessments and risk management strategies relating to these factors.<sup>174</sup>

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<sup>167</sup> See resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (iii).

<sup>168</sup> See resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 5 (l).

<sup>169</sup> In connection with UNSOM, see resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 5 (l); and, in connection with UNITAMS, see resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (iv).

<sup>170</sup> See [S/2020/85](#), Functions 1.4 and 2.3.

<sup>171</sup> In connection with UNSOM, see resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 5 (a); and, in connection with UNITAMS, see resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 8; and, in connection with UNAMI, see resolution [2522 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (e).

<sup>172</sup> See resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), para. 8.

<sup>173</sup> In connection UNOWAS, see [S/2020/85](#), Function 1.4; in connection with UNSOM, see resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 5 (d); in connection with UNAMA, see resolution [2543 \(2020\)](#), para. 6 (f); and, in connection with UNITAMS, see resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (ii).

<sup>174</sup> See [S/2020/85](#), Function 2.4.

With respect to protection and human rights mandates, UNITAMS was mandated to provide support to national and local authorities on civilian protection and the strengthening of the protection of human rights.<sup>175</sup> UNSMIL and UNSOM were requested to include the protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence in their human rights monitoring, reporting and capacity-building mandates, with UNSMIL also encouraged to deploy women and child protection advisors.<sup>176</sup> UNAMA, meanwhile, was requested to strengthen its capacity to report on violations and abuses against children and to support national efforts to strengthen the protection of children.<sup>177</sup>

With several special political missions undergoing transitions, the Council either outlined or provided additional details to existing modalities to guide these processes. In the context of the drawdown and closure of UNIOGBIS, the Secretary-General was requested to conduct capacity mapping of the United Nations country team and other partners to which the Mission would transfer its tasks and develop a vision and plan for the future United Nations footprint in Guinea-Bissau.<sup>178</sup> UNIOGBIS was further tasked with reducing the impact of its closure on the host country environment.<sup>179</sup> Moreover, the Council requested UNOWAS to continue its preparation for the assumption of some of the former tasks of UNIOGBIS and, as part of its monitoring and good offices role, to support countries in which United Nations presences were undergoing reconfiguration or transition through conflict prevention and peace consolidation efforts.<sup>180</sup> With the expected closure of UNAMID, the Council requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the transition to UNITAMS was phased, sequenced and efficient, and requested the two Missions to establish a coordination mechanism to determine the modalities and timelines for the transition of responsibilities.<sup>181</sup> The Council tasked UNSOM to provide additional support to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) on combat mentoring to the Somali National Army in accordance with the plans for the transition of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the national forces.<sup>182</sup>

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<sup>175</sup> See resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (iii).

<sup>176</sup> In connection with UNSMIL, see resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), para. 1 (ix); and, in connection with UNSOM, see resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 5 (h).

<sup>177</sup> See resolution [2543 \(2020\)](#), para. 6 (g).

<sup>178</sup> See resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#), para. 6.

<sup>179</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 7.

<sup>180</sup> See [S/2020/85](#), Function 1.3 and [S/PRST/2020/7](#), sixteenth paragraph.

<sup>181</sup> See resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 14.

<sup>182</sup> See resolution [2520 \(2020\)](#), para. 8.



Tables 4 and 5 provide an overview of the mandates of special political missions in 2020, showing the range of tasks mandated by the Council. The mandates reflected in the tables include: (a) tasks mandated by the Council in decisions adopted during the reporting period; (b) tasks mandated in previous periods and specifically reiterated by the Council during the period under review; and (c) tasks of missions with open-ended or multi-year mandates adopted in previous periods. The tables are provided for information purposes only and do not reflect any position or view of the Council with regard to the status of the mandates of the field missions concerned.

Table 4  
**Mandates of special political missions, 2020: Africa**

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>UNIOGBIS<sup>a</sup></i>	<i>UNOCA</i>	<i>UNSMIL</i>	<i>UNSOM</i>	<i>UNOWAS</i>	<i>UNITAMS</i>
Chapter VII						
Ceasefire monitoring			X			X
Civil-military coordination						
Demilitarization and arms management		X	X	X		X
Electoral assistance	X	X	X	X	X	X
Human rights-related <sup>b</sup>	X	X	X	X	X	X
Humanitarian support			X		X	X
International cooperation and coordination	X	X	X	X	X	X
Maritime security		X		X	X	
Mission impact assessment	X					
Political process	X	X	X	X	X	X
Protection of civilians						X
Public information					X	X
Rule of law/judicial matters	X		X	X	X	X
Security sector reform		X		X	X	X
Support to military				X		
Support to police				X		X
Support to sanctions regimes			X			X
Support to State institutions	X		X	X		X

*Abbreviations:* UNIOGBIS, United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau; UNOCA, United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa; UNSMIL, United Nations Support Mission in Libya; UNSOM, United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia; UNOWAS, United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel; UNITAMS, United Nations Integrated Technical Assistance Mission.

<sup>a</sup> By resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of UNIOGBIS, as set out in the table, for a final period until 31 December 2020.

<sup>b</sup> Includes tasks related to human rights; children and armed conflict; women and peace and security; and youth, peace and security.

**Table 5**  
**Mandates of special political missions, 2020: Americas, Asia and Middle East**

<i>Mandate</i>	<i>United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia</i>	<i>BINUH</i>	<i>UNAMA</i>	<i>UNRCCA</i>	<i>UNAMI</i>	<i>UNSCOL</i>	<i>UNMHA</i>
Chapter VII							
Ceasefire monitoring	X						X
Civilian-military coordination			X				
Demilitarization and arms management	X	X			X		X
Electoral assistance		X	X		X		
Human rights-related <sup>a</sup>		X	X		X		
Humanitarian support			X		X		
International cooperation and coordination	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Political process	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Protection of civilians			X				
Public information							
Rule of law/judicial matters		X	X		X		
Security monitoring – patrolling – deterrence							X
Security sector reform					X		
Support to police		X					
Support to sanctions regimes							
Support to State institutions			X		X		

*Abbreviations:* BINUH, United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti; UNAMA, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan; UNRCCA, United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia; UNAMI, United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq; UNSCOL, Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon; UNMHA, United Nations Mission to support the Hudaydah Agreement.

<sup>a</sup> Includes tasks related to human rights; children and armed conflict; women and peace and security; and youth, peace and security.

## Africa

### United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau

The United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in Guinea-Bissau (UNIOGBIS) was established by the Council by resolution [1876 \(2009\)](#) of 26 June 2009 to succeed the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in Guinea-Bissau. UNIOGBIS was mandated to, inter alia, assist the work of the Peacebuilding Commission in Guinea-Bissau, strengthen the capacities of national institutions to maintain constitutional order, public security and the full respect for the rule of law, support an inclusive political dialogue and national reconciliation process, provide strategic and technical support in security sector reform, undertake human rights promotion, protection and monitoring, and enhance cooperation with regional and subregional organizations.<sup>183</sup>

In 2020, by resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#) of 28 February 2020, the Council extended the mandate of UNIOGBIS for a final period of ten months until 31 December 2020.<sup>184</sup>

By resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#), following the peaceful holding of legislative and presidential elections in Guinea-Bissau in 2019, the Council proceeded with the planned reconfiguration and closure of UNIOGBIS and modified the Mission's final mandate.<sup>185</sup> The Council commended the successful completion of the first electoral phase in the reconfiguration of UNIOGBIS and the closure of all of the Mission's regional offices, based on the recommendations of the Secretary-General and as provided in resolution [2458 \(2019\)](#).<sup>186</sup> The Council further endorsed the reprioritization of the Mission's tasks and planning for its phased drawdown outlined in the report of the Secretary-General, including through the implementation of joint programmatic activities with national partners and the United Nations country team, supported by the Peacebuilding Fund, and adjusted the phases for the Mission's reconfiguration.<sup>187</sup>

During phase II (post-electoral phase), the Council requested UNIOGBIS to focus on continuing to perform its good offices function, in coordination with international partners,

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<sup>183</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNIOGBIS, see previous supplements covering the period 2008-2019.

<sup>184</sup> Resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>185</sup> For more information on the situation in Guinea-Bissau, see part I, sect. 6.

<sup>186</sup> Resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#), para. 2. See also resolution [2458 \(2019\)](#), paras. 2 (a) and (b). See also the report of the Secretary-General on the strategic assessment of UNIOGBIS ([S/2018/1086](#)).

<sup>187</sup> See resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#), para. 2.

including the Group of Five, to support the Bissau-Guinean authorities in bringing the electoral dispute to a peaceful, stable and democratic conclusion.<sup>188</sup> The Council further requested UNIOGBIS to focus on establishing the conditions conducive to the implementation of the reform agenda, as per the Conakry Agreement and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Six-Point Roadmap, including through the United Nations transition plan, encapsulated in the new United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework (2021-2025).<sup>189</sup> Furthermore, as part of phase III (transition phase), UNIOGBIS was requested to continue to implement its transition plan for the gradual drawing down and transfer of tasks to the United Nations country team, the United Nations Office for West Africa and Sahel (UNOWAS), and other regional and international partners, towards mandate completion by 31 December 2020.<sup>190</sup>

In terms of the mandate tasks, the Council reiterated the two existing priorities of UNIOGBIS with some modifications. As the first priority, the Council noted that the Mission's support for the full implementation of the Conakry Agreement and the ECOWAS Six-Point Roadmap, particularly with regard to strengthening democratic governance, would include the reform of the Constitution, the electoral law, and the framework law on political parties.<sup>191</sup> The Council reiterated the priority to provide support, including technical assistance, to the national authorities to expedite and complete the review of the Constitution and, with the completion of the electoral cycle, removed the Mission's priority to provide good offices support to the electoral process.<sup>192</sup> Beyond the priority tasks, resolution [2512 \(2020\)](#) provided that UNIOGBIS would continue to support the Government of Guinea-Bissau in strengthening democratic institutions, promoting and protecting human rights, combating drug trafficking and transnational organized crime, incorporating a gender perspective into peacebuilding, and mobilizing international assistance for the implementation of the reforms.<sup>193</sup> By this resolution, the Council decided that UNIOGBIS would continue its efforts to reduce the impact of its closure on the host

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<sup>188</sup> Ibid., para. 2 (a).

<sup>189</sup> Ibid.

<sup>190</sup> Ibid., para. 2 (b).

<sup>191</sup> Ibid., para. 4 (a).

<sup>192</sup> Ibid., para. 4 (b).

<sup>193</sup> Ibid., para. 5.

country environment, ensuring that an environmental assessment was carried out of the sites remaining to be closed.<sup>194</sup>

In connection with the reconfiguration and closure of UNIOGBIS, the Council requested the Secretary-General to conduct comprehensive capacity mapping of the United Nations country team and other partners to which the Mission would transfer tasks and develop a complementary inclusive vision and plan for the United Nations country team footprint.<sup>195</sup> The Secretary-General was also requested to ensure that the transition process was consistently gender-responsive.<sup>196</sup> Finally, the Council requested the Secretary-General to start the liquidation of UNIOGBIS immediately following the mandate completion date of 31 December 2020, once all substantive staff had left the Mission, and end the liquidation process no later than 28 February 2021.<sup>197</sup>

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<sup>194</sup> Ibid., para. 7.

<sup>195</sup> Ibid., para. 6.

<sup>196</sup> Ibid., para. 18.

<sup>197</sup> Ibid., para. 8.

## **United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa**

The United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) was established by an exchange of letters dated 11 December 2009 and 30 August 2010 between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council.<sup>198</sup> The functions of UNOCA included cooperating with the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and other regional partners in the promotion of peace and stability in the broader subregion, to carry out good offices roles in the areas of conflict prevention and peacebuilding, to strengthen the capacity of the Department of Political Affairs to advise the Secretary-General on matters relating to peace and security in the region, to promote an integrated subregional approach and facilitate coordination and information exchange among United Nations organizations and partners in the subregion, and to report to Headquarters on developments of subregional significance. UNOCA was subsequently further mandated to promote efforts to address emerging security and cross-border threats, incorporate gender perspectives in the implementation of its mandate, and to take into consideration in its activities climate and ecological change and natural disasters on the stability of the Central African region.<sup>199</sup>

In 2020, the Council did not adopt any decisions concerning UNOCA, including with respect to its mandate which had been renewed from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2021 by an exchange of letters between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council.<sup>200</sup>

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<sup>198</sup> See [S/2009/697](#) and [S/2010/457](#).

<sup>199</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNOCA, see previous supplements covering the period 2008-2019.

<sup>200</sup> See [S/2018/789](#) and [S/2018/790](#). For more information on the situation in the Central African region, see part I. sect. 7.

## United Nations Support Mission in Libya

By resolution [2009 \(2011\)](#) of 16 September 2011, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council established the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) with a mandate to support Libyan national efforts to restore public security and order and promote the rule of law, undertake inclusive political dialogue and promote national reconciliation, extend State authority, promote and protect human rights and support transitional justice, initiate economic recovery, and coordinate international support.<sup>201</sup>

In 2020, the Council adopted resolutions [2509 \(2020\)](#) of 11 February 2020 and [2542 \(2020\)](#) of 15 September 2020 in connection with the mandate of UNSMIL. By resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of UNSMIL for one year until 15 September 2021.<sup>202</sup>

By resolution [2509 \(2020\)](#), acting under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council reiterated the mandate of UNSMIL to cooperate fully with the Committee established pursuant to resolution [1970 \(2011\)](#) concerning Libya and its Panel of Experts.<sup>203</sup>

By resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), the Council reiterated the existing mandate of UNSMIL as defined by resolution [2486 \(2019\)](#) and removed the distinction between tasks the Mission was to undertake “within operational and security constraints” and those for which no such limitation was indicated.<sup>204</sup> The Council also made some adjustments to tasks related to ceasefire monitoring, international and regional coordination, facilitation of humanitarian assistance, and human rights. Underscoring the importance of the central role of the United Nations in facilitating a Libyan-led and Libyan-owned inclusive political process and in achieving a lasting ceasefire, the Council provided that UNSMIL would exercise mediation and through its good offices further an inclusive political process and security and economic dialogue; further the continued implementation of the Libyan Political Agreement; help consolidate the governance, security and economic arrangements of the Government of National Accord; and support subsequent phases of the Libyan transition process. Furthermore, the Council added the task to

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<sup>201</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNSMIL, see previous supplements covering the period 2010-2019. For more information on the situation in Libya, see part I, sect. 11.

<sup>202</sup> Resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>203</sup> Resolution [2509 \(2020\)](#), para. 13.

<sup>204</sup> See resolution [2486 \(2019\)](#), para. 2 as compared with resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.



help achieve a ceasefire and, once it was agreed by the Libyan parties, provide appropriate support for its implementation.<sup>205</sup>

The Council further modified the mandate of UNSMIL by requesting the Mission to coordinate and engage closely with international actors including neighbouring and regional organizations; specified that the Mission's provision of essential services and humanitarian assistance would include the response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Council also decided that UNSMIL would monitor and report abuses and violations of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, including sexual violence in conflict, notably through the effective deployment of women and child protection advisers.<sup>206</sup> The Council also reiterated the tasks related to supporting key Libyan institutions; supporting the securing of uncontrolled arms and related materiel and countering their proliferation; and coordinating international assistance, and the provision of advice to the Government of National Accord-led efforts to stabilize post-conflict zones, including those liberated from Da'esh.<sup>207</sup>

The Council reiterated its request for UNSMIL to take fully into account a gender perspective throughout its mandate and to assist the Government of National Accord in ensuring the full, effective and meaningful participation of women in the democratic transition, reconciliation efforts, the security sector and in national institutions, as well as the protection of women and girls from sexual and gender-based violence, in line with resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#), and requested enhanced reporting by UNSMIL on those issues.<sup>208</sup>

The Council modified the structure of UNSMIL and decided that the Mission would be led by a Special Envoy of the Secretary-General who would exercise overall leadership of the Mission with a particular focus on good offices and mediation with Libyan and international actors to end the conflict. Furthermore, under the authority of the Special Envoy, an UNSMIL Coordinator would be in charge of the Mission's management and day-to-day operations.<sup>209</sup>

The Council requested the Secretary-General to assess the steps required to reach a lasting ceasefire, the possible role of UNSMIL in providing scalable ceasefire support alongside his interim report on the proposals for effective ceasefire monitoring under the auspices of the

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<sup>205</sup> Resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), fifth preambular paragraph and para. 1 (i)-(v).

<sup>206</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 1 (vi), (viii) and (ix).

<sup>207</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 1 (vii), (x) and (xi).

<sup>208</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 8.

<sup>209</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 2.

United Nations and his recommendations to the Council on the options reflected in the operationalization paper, as requested in resolution [2510 \(2020\)](#),<sup>210</sup> as well as the steps required to advance the political process from its current trajectory, to be submitted no later than 60 days from the adoption of the resolution.<sup>211</sup> The Secretary-General was also requested to include a report on progress towards those objectives in his regular reporting.<sup>212</sup> The Council further requested the Secretary-General to conduct and provide an independent strategic review of UNSMIL, including an assessment and recommendations for improving the efficiency of the Mission structure, prioritization of tasks and capacity and effectiveness of staffing, as well as a further assessment of the options for effective ceasefire monitoring under the auspices of the United Nations.<sup>213</sup> In addition, the Council requested the Secretary-General to include in his regular reporting the efforts of the United Nations to address the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact of the pandemic on the ability of UNSMIL to deliver its mandated tasks.<sup>214</sup>

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<sup>210</sup> Ibid., para. 4. See also the letter dated 22 January 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Germany addressed to the President of the Security Council ([S/2020/63](#), Annex II), in which he transmitted the operationalization paper. In its resolution [2510 \(2020\)](#), the Council had requested the Secretary-General to make recommendations on the options reflected in the operationalization paper.

<sup>211</sup> See resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), para. 4. See also the letter dated 13 November 2020 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Council ([S/2020/1124](#)), in which he transmitted the assessment and requested an extension of the deadline for the submission of the interim report until 30 December 2020; the response letter dated 18 November 2020 from the President of the Council addressed to the Secretary-General ([S/2020/1125](#)), in which he granted the request; and the letter dated 29 December 2020 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Council ([S/2020/1309](#)), in which he transmitted the interim report on the proposed ceasefire monitoring arrangements in Libya.

<sup>212</sup> See resolution [2542 \(2020\)](#), para. 4.

<sup>213</sup> Ibid., para. 5.

<sup>214</sup> Ibid., para. 6.

## United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia

By resolution [2102 \(2013\)](#) of 2 May 2013, the Council established the United Nations Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM), with the mandate, inter alia, to provide good offices functions to support the Federal Government of Somalia in the peace and reconciliation process and to provide strategic policy advice on peacebuilding and state building; to assist in the coordination of international donor support, in particular on security sector assistance and maritime security; to help build the capacity of the Federal Government to promote respect for human rights, women's empowerment, child protection and the prevention of conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence and the strengthening of justice institutions; and to monitor, help to investigate and report on abuses or violations of human rights.<sup>215</sup>

In 2020, the Council adopted resolutions [2516 \(2020\)](#) of 30 March 2020, [2520 \(2020\)](#) of 29 May 2020, [2527 \(2020\)](#) of 22 June 2020 and [2540 \(2020\)](#) of 28 August 2020 concerning UNSOM. By resolutions [2516 \(2020\)](#) and [2527 \(2020\)](#), the Council provided for technical roll-overs of the mandate of UNSOM for periods of three and two months, respectively.<sup>216</sup> By resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), the Council extended the mandate of UNSOM for a period of one year until 31 August 2021.<sup>217</sup>

By resolution [2520 \(2020\)](#), while extending its authorization for the deployment of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) under Chapter VII of the Charter, the Council underlined the necessity of taking a coordinated and cohesive approach to Somali-led political and security reforms and reiterated its call on AMISOM, UNSOM, the United Nations Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS), the Federal Government of Somalia and federal member states to increase coordination and collaboration at all levels.<sup>218</sup> The Council further requested the African Union and UNSOM to provide additional support to AMISOM in its provision of combat mentoring support to the Somali National Army, and underlined the importance of deploying these forces for delivery of the tasks set out in the updated Somali-led Transition Plan for the

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<sup>215</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNSOM, see previous supplements covering the period 2013-2019. For more information on the situation in Somalia, see part I, sect. 2.

<sup>216</sup> Resolutions [2516 \(2020\)](#), para. 1 and [2527 \(2020\)](#), para. 1

<sup>217</sup> Resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>218</sup> Resolution [2520 \(2020\)](#), paras. 6 (a) and 9. For more information on the African Union Mission in Somalia, see part VIII, sect. III.

progressive transfer of security responsibilities from AMISOM to the Somali security institutions.<sup>219</sup>

By resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), the Council reiterated the mandate of UNSOM as defined by resolution [2461 \(2019\)](#) and added several new tasks and additional elements to existing ones. Specifically, resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#) provided that the support of UNSOM to inter-clan and intra-clan reconciliation should also include efforts in Galmudug and Jubaland and that the Mission should support efforts to strengthen the dialogue between the Federal Government and “Somaliland”.<sup>220</sup> Furthermore, the Council decided that the technical advice and capacity-building support of UNSOM to the Federal Government for the participation of all Somalis in reconciliation efforts, conflict resolution, peacebuilding and elections, would also include support for the participation of minority clans.<sup>221</sup> The overall support of UNSOM to the Federal Government and the federal member states to accelerate Government-led, inclusive politics, and reach a political agreement, would focus on delivering shared political and security commitments.<sup>222</sup> The Mission would also support Somali commitments to ensure that women filled at least 30 percent of the seats in both houses of Parliament, and increasing participation and empowerment of women, minority communities and other marginalized groups at all decision-making levels.<sup>223</sup>

While welcoming the commitments by Somalia stakeholders to deepen federalism and conduct elections in 2020/2021 and the enactment in February 2020 of the Electoral Law, the Council expanded the Mission’s electoral support mandate.<sup>224</sup> Specifically, UNSOM was requested, through the exercise of its good offices and through technical, operational and logistical assistance to the Federal Government, the Somali Parliament and the National Independent Electoral Commission, to provide support for the delivery of elections which were free, fair, timely, peaceful, transparent, credible and inclusive, incorporating a direct voting component enabling as many citizens as possible to vote in 2020/2021. UNSOM would further continue to support efforts to make progress towards the objective of universal elections and

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<sup>219</sup> Resolution [2520 \(2020\)](#), para. 8.

<sup>220</sup> Resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#), para. 5 (b).

<sup>221</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5 (d).

<sup>222</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5 (a).

<sup>223</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5 (d).

<sup>224</sup> *Ibid.*, ninth and eleventh preambular paragraphs.

support strengthened coordination of international electoral support to Somalia.<sup>225</sup>

Regarding the Somali security sector, resolution [2540 \(2020\)](#) provided that UNSOM would support the Federal Government and the federal member states to accelerate implementation of key reforms, in conjunction with international partners, AMISOM and UNSOS, including a coherent National Security Architecture with a military and civilian component, the delivery of the Somali-led Transition Plan, agreement on a federal justice and corrections model, and the establishment and strengthening of effective, accountable and constitutional rule of law institutions.<sup>226</sup> The Council decided that UNSOM would provide coordination and strategic advice to improve the operation of the Comprehensive Approach to Security and collaboration between the Federal Government and international partners.<sup>227</sup> Moreover, the support of UNSOM to the implementation of Somalia's National Strategy and Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, would now also include efforts to strengthen the country's capacity to address conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism and support for its efforts to become a State party to the international counter-terrorism conventions and protocols.<sup>228</sup>

The Council added a new task for UNSOM to provide support, within its mandate and existing resources, to the Federal Government in the implementation of the 2019 Mutual Accountability Framework.<sup>229</sup> The Council further elaborated upon the peacebuilding aspect of the work of UNSOM and requested the Mission to support Somalia's efforts to advance the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Specifically, working closely with the United Nations country team, UNSOM would provide strategic advice to institutional capacity building, collaborate with the international financial institutions to support the mobilization of economic and development assistance, and ensure effective and integrated cooperation of the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and promote cooperation with relevant partners, with a view to making maximum use of development financing in Somalia, including in response to flooding, locusts and the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>230</sup> UNSOM was also tasked with helping the Federal Government to establish frameworks for managing resources and power sharing, in order

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<sup>225</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (c).

<sup>226</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (e).

<sup>227</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (f).

<sup>228</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (j).

<sup>229</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (i).

<sup>230</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (l).

to enable Somalia to strengthen revenue mobilization, resource allocation, budget execution, and anti-corruption measures.<sup>231</sup>

In connection with the human rights mandate of UNSOM, the Council requested the Mission to provide support to United Nations entities to ensure system-wide implementation of the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy across all United Nations support to AMISOM and the Somali security sector, to include a strong focus on strengthening engagement with the Government, including on implementation of mitigation, compliance and accountability measures.<sup>232</sup> Furthermore, UNSOM was requested to focus its human rights-related technical advice and capacity-building support on protecting women and girls from sexual and gender based violence, promoting accountability for human rights violations and abuses, including through working with civil society, reinforcing and aligning human rights across the security-related and humanitarian agendas, and monitoring and including information on the human rights situation in the reporting of the Secretary-General.<sup>233</sup>

Finally, recalling its request in resolution [2520 \(2020\)](#) that the Secretary-General conduct an independent assessment, by 10 January 2021, and present options on international support to the whole security environment in Somalia post-2021, the Council reiterated that the independent assessment should provide options on the role of UNSOM in this regard.<sup>234</sup>

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<sup>231</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (k).

<sup>232</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (g).

<sup>233</sup> Ibid., para. 5 (h).

<sup>234</sup> Ibid., para. 14.

## **United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel**

The United Nations Office for West Africa and the Sahel (UNOWAS) was established by an exchange of letters dated 14 and 28 January 2016 between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council, merging the Office of the Special Envoy for the Sahel with the United Nations Office for West Africa. The Council mandated UNOWAS to, inter alia, monitor political developments in West Africa and the Sahel and carry out good offices on behalf of the Secretary-General to assist in peacebuilding, sustaining peace efforts and enhancing subregional capacities for conflict prevention and mediation; enhance subregional capacities to address cross-border and cross-cutting threats to peace and security; support the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel and the coordination of international and regional engagements; and promote good governance, respect for the rule of law, and human rights and gender mainstreaming into conflict prevention and management initiatives. UNOWAS was subsequently mandated to take into account in its activities the adverse effects of climate and ecological change and natural disasters on the stability of West Africa and the Sahel region.<sup>235</sup>

In 2020, by an exchange of letters dated 19 December 2019 and 31 January 2020 between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council, the mandate of UNOWAS was extended for a period of three years from 1 February 2020 to 31 January 2023.<sup>236</sup> The Council also issued two presidential statements concerning UNOWAS, on 11 February and 28 July 2020.<sup>237</sup>

While maintaining the overall structure of the UNOWAS mandate, the Council made several modifications to the Mission's four objectives. Specifically, UNOWAS was mandated to, inter alia, monitor political developments in West Africa and the Sahel and carry out good offices and special assignments on behalf of the Secretary-General to support conflict prevention, peacebuilding, sustaining peace and mediation efforts in the subregion, in partnership with regional and subregional entities and other national and international actors, with specific attention to countries in which the United Nations presences were undergoing reconfiguration or transition, while mindful of the sustainable development context in the region; enhance regional

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<sup>235</sup> For more information on the mandate of UNOWAS, see previous supplements covering the period 2016-2019. For more information on peace consolidation in West Africa, see part I, sect. 9.

<sup>236</sup> See [S/2019/1009](#) and [S/2020/85](#). See also the letter dated 27 December 2019 from the President of the Council addressed to the Secretary-General ([S/2019/1010](#)), by which the Council provided for a one-month technical rollover of the existing mandate of UNOWAS until 31 January 2020.

<sup>237</sup> See [S/PRST/2020/2](#) and [S/PRST/2020/7](#).

and subregional partnerships to address cross-border and cross-cutting threats to peace and security in West Africa and the Sahel, in particular with regional and subregional entities; support, through political advocacy and convening, the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel, and in line with United Nations reforms, enhance collaboration across the United Nations system and promote coherence in the international and regional response to the root causes and impact of the conflict in the Sahel; and promote good governance, respect for the rule of law, human rights and the mainstreaming of gender in conflict prevention, management and resolution initiatives in West Africa and the Sahel.<sup>238</sup>

Within the framework of these objectives, the Council also modified and added several new tasks. As part of the Mission's first objective to monitor developments in West Africa and the Sahel and to carry out good offices, the Council requested UNOWAS to support countries in which the United Nations presences were undergoing reconfiguration or transition through conflict prevention and peace consolidation efforts.<sup>239</sup> The Mission's monitoring and analysis work would further include updates on the humanitarian situation and humanitarian access.<sup>240</sup> In addition, UNOWAS was requested to perform its good offices role in West African countries in order to prevent conflict and election-related tensions, promote the youth and peace and security agenda and, in coordination with international donors, promote conditions for sustainable peace and development.<sup>241</sup>

Regarding cross-border and cross-cutting threats to peace and security, UNOWAS was requested to collate, analyze and/or, where appropriate, conduct regional research and analysis on transnational issues relevant to peace and security and the links to humanitarian action and sustainable development, in collaboration with the Regional United Nations Sustainable Development Group, resident coordinators, humanitarian coordinators, United Nations country teams and other United Nations entities, as well as with international partners, regional and subregional organizations, think tanks and civil society.<sup>242</sup> Furthermore, UNOWAS would be required to take into consideration the adverse implications of climate change, energy poverty, ecological changes and natural disasters, among other factors, including by assisting the

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<sup>238</sup> See [S/2020/85](#), Objective 1.

<sup>239</sup> *Ibid.*, Function 1.3.

<sup>240</sup> *Ibid.*, Function 1.1.

<sup>241</sup> *Ibid.*, Functions 1.2 and 1.4.

<sup>242</sup> *Ibid.*, Function 2.3.



governments of the region and the United Nations system in undertaking risk assessments and risk management strategies relating to these factors.<sup>243</sup> The Council added that the Mission's awareness-raising and promotion of integrated and holistic responses would be conducted in collaboration with sustainable development efforts in West Africa and the Sahel and UNOCA in the Lake Chad basin region and the development of networks of practitioners and subregional frameworks and mechanisms to address challenges in the subregion should also focus on conflict between farmers and herders.<sup>244</sup>

In connection with the promotion of good governance, UNOWAS was requested to focus on social cohesion and inclusive political dialogue by providing support for the building of local and national capacities to foster peace, strengthening the rule of law institutions and promote good governance, promoting dialogue and mediation at the community, local and national levels, facilitating full, effective and meaningful participation of women, youth and other relevant stakeholders and improving electoral processes.<sup>245</sup> Finally, the Council also made adjustments to the tasks of UNOWAS on the implementation of the United Nations integrated strategy for the Sahel and the mainstreaming of a gender perspective in conflict prevention and management initiatives.<sup>246</sup>

In its presidential statement of 11 February 2020 concerning peace consolidation in West Africa, the Council reiterated its call upon UNOWAS to encourage all political stakeholders to use dialogue to resolve their differences with respect to the process of amendment or revision of their constitution.<sup>247</sup> Furthermore, the Council called on UNOWAS, working with all elements of the United Nations system in headquarters, in West Africa and the Sahel, in particular the Regional United Nations Sustainable Development Group, to strengthen integrated responses to the challenges facing the region in order to ensure better coordination and efficiency of the international response to the needs of the people and communities of the Sahel region, and encouraged joint annual reporting to the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission on the work to strengthen the United Nations integrated efforts in this regard, particularly as related to the implementation of the United Nations Integrated Strategy for the Sahel.<sup>248</sup>

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<sup>243</sup> Ibid., Function 2.4.

<sup>244</sup> Ibid., Functions 2.1 and 2.2.

<sup>245</sup> Ibid., Function 4.1.

<sup>246</sup> Ibid., Functions 3.1-3.4 and 4.3.

<sup>247</sup> See [S/PRST/2020/2](#), thirteenth paragraph.

<sup>248</sup> Ibid., nineteenth paragraph.

Finally, in its presidential statement dated 28 July 2020, calling once again on all political stakeholders in Guinea to resume dialogue without delay with the view to ensuring that electoral processes as well as political reforms were conducted with broad consensus, the Council encouraged the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOWAS to continue carrying out good offices in this regard.<sup>249</sup> As the end of the mandate of UNIOGBIS approached, the Council encouraged UNOWAS to continue its preparations for the assumption of some of the former Mission's functions.<sup>250</sup>

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<sup>249</sup> See [S/PRST/2020/7](#), fifteenth paragraph.

<sup>250</sup> *Ibid.*, nineteenth paragraph.

## United Nations Integrated Technical Mission in Sudan

By resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#) of 3 June 2020, the Council established the United Nations Integrated Technical Mission in Sudan (UNITAMS) for an initial period of 12 months, in the context of the drawdown and exit of UNAMID.<sup>251</sup> The Council decided that UNITAMS, as part of an integrated and unified United Nations structure in Sudan, would have four strategic objectives, namely to assist the political transition in Sudan, progress towards democratic governance, in the protection and promotion of human rights, and sustainable peace; support peace processes and the implementation of future peace agreements; assist peacebuilding, civilian protection and rule of law, in particular in Darfur and Blue Nile and South Kordofan (Two Areas); and support the mobilization of economic and development assistance and coordination of humanitarian assistance.<sup>252</sup>

Within the framework of the four strategic objectives, UNITAMS was requested to undertake several specific mandate tasks. As part of the Mission's support to the political transition in Sudan, UNITAMS was requested to support the realization of the objectives of the Constitutional Document of 17 August 2019, provide technical assistance to the constitution drafting process, population census and preparation for elections, and support the implementation of the human rights, equality, accountability and rule of law provisions of the Document, in particular those that guaranteed women's rights.<sup>253</sup> Regarding the ongoing peace processes in Sudan, UNITAMS would provide good offices and support the negotiations, including the meaningful participation of civil society, women, youth, refugees and internally displaced persons and members of marginalized groups. UNITAMS would also, if so requested by the parties to the negotiations, support the implementation of any future peace agreements, including in specific areas such as accountability and transitional justice, disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, as well as the monitoring and verification of possible ceasefires with particular focus on the Two Areas and Darfur.<sup>254</sup>

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<sup>251</sup> Resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 1. For more information on the mandate of UNAMID, see sect. I. For more information on the item entitled "Reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan and South Sudan", see part I, sect. 8.

<sup>252</sup> Resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), paras. 2 (i)-(iv).

<sup>253</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 2 (i).

<sup>254</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 2 (ii).

Under the third strategic objective, UNITAMS was tasked with supporting Sudanese-led peacebuilding, in particular conflict prevention, mitigation and reconciliation, community violence reduction, mine action, collection of arms and small weapons, and durable solutions for internally displaced persons and refugees, and their safe, voluntary, and dignified return, reintegration and relocation with host populations as appropriate. Furthermore, UNITAMS would assist, advise and support the Government of Sudan's capacity to extend state presence and inclusive civilian governance, provide effective support to national and local authorities on civilian protection, including the implementation of the National Plan for Civilian Protection, and support the strengthening of the protection of human rights.<sup>255</sup> UNITAMS was further tasked with collaborating with international financial institutions in the mobilization of international economic and development assistance, supporting the delivery of humanitarian assistance, and ensuring effective and integrated cooperation of United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and promoting cooperation with relevant partners, with a view to making maximum use of existing and forthcoming bilateral and multilateral assistance in Sudan, including in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>256</sup>

Beyond the strategic objectives and their corresponding tasks, the Council requested UNITAMS and its integrated United Nations country team partners to establish an appropriate mechanism for joint and coordinated peacebuilding support, based on the lessons learned from the State Liaison Functions established under the mandate of UNAMID.<sup>257</sup> UNITAMS was tasked with integrating gender considerations as a cross-cutting issue throughout its mandate and assisting the Government in ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation of women at all levels of peace and political processes, and in all social and economic aspects of life.<sup>258</sup> The Council requested UNITAMS to ensure that any support to non-United Nations security forces was provided in strict compliance with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy, and to cooperate with the Panel of Experts on the Sudan established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#) in order to facilitate the Panel's work.<sup>259</sup>

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<sup>255</sup> Ibid., para. 2 (iii).

<sup>256</sup> Ibid., para. 2 (iv).

<sup>257</sup> Ibid., para. 7.

<sup>258</sup> Ibid., para. 8.

<sup>259</sup> Ibid., paras. 9 and 11. For more information on the Committee and Panel of Experts on the Sudan established pursuant to resolution [1591 \(2005\)](#), see part IX, sect. 1.

In the context of the drawdown and closure of UNAMID, the Council requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the eventual transition to UNITAMS was phased, sequenced and efficient and further requested the two missions to establish a coordination mechanism to determine the modalities and timelines for the transition of responsibilities where they had common strategic objectives and priorities in Darfur.<sup>260</sup> More generally, the Council also urged the close coordination of UNITAMS with United Nations missions in the region, including UNAMID, UNISFA, UNMISS, UNSMIL, MINUSCA and the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for the Horn of Africa.<sup>261</sup> By resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#), which provided for the termination of UNAMID, the Council reiterated its request for UNAMID and UNITAMS to continue closely cooperating via the established coordination mechanism.<sup>262</sup>

In terms of the structure of UNITAMS, by resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), the Council requested the Secretary-General to appoint expeditiously a Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Sudan and Head of UNITAMS who would assume overall authority and provide strategic direction for all activities of the Mission and the United Nations agencies, funds and programmes in the country and would perform a good offices, advisory and advocacy role at the political level and coordinate efforts of the international community in support of the strategic objectives of the mandate.<sup>263</sup> A Deputy Special Representative of the Secretary-General would also be appointed to support the Special Representative and serve as United Nations Resident Coordinator and Humanitarian Coordinator.<sup>264</sup> The Council requested the Secretary-General to swiftly initiate the planning for and establishment of UNITAMS, with a view to reaching full operational capacity as soon as possible and in order to ensure the Mission was able to start delivering against all its strategic objectives no later than 1 January 2021. The Council further requested the Secretary-General to provide the Council, for its information, with a suggested structure and geographical deployment of the Mission, within 60 days of the adoption of the resolution.<sup>265</sup>

Going forward, the Council requested the Secretary-General to report on clear and measurable core and contextual benchmarks and indicators, to be provided to the Council in his

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<sup>260</sup> Resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 14.

<sup>261</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 12.

<sup>262</sup> Resolution [2559 \(2020\)](#), para. 8.

<sup>263</sup> Resolution [2524 \(2020\)](#), para. 3.

<sup>264</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 4.

<sup>265</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 5.

first 90-day report on UNITAMS, to track the Mission's progress against its strategic objectives and to enable early planning for a future reconfiguration of the United Nations presence in Sudan.<sup>266</sup>

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<sup>266</sup> Ibid., para. 16. See also the report of the Secretary-General on UNITAMS ([S/2020/912](#), annex II). The report of the Secretary-General and the suggested structure and geographical deployment of UNITAMS were submitted further to two extensions of the timeframe for their submission, respectively, for periods of one month and two weeks (see [S/2020/749](#), [S/2020/750](#), [S/2020/868](#) and [S/2020/869](#)). The benchmarks and indicators requested by the Council were not submitted during the period under review.

## Americas

### United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia

The Council established the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia by resolution [2366 \(2017\)](#) of 10 July 2017 after the completion of the mandate of the United Nations Mission in Colombia. The Verification Mission was mandated to, inter alia, verify the implementation of the process of political, economic and social reincorporation of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia-People's Army (FARC-EP) and of the personal and collective security guarantees provided under the Final Agreement for Ending the Conflict and Building a Stable and Lasting Peace between the Government of Colombia and FARC-EP of 24 November 2016.<sup>267</sup>

By resolution [2545 \(2020\)](#) of 25 September 2020, acknowledging the request from the President of Colombia in this regard, the Council extended the existing mandate of the Verification Mission for a period of one year until 25 September 2021.<sup>268</sup> The Council recalled that the Final Agreement envisaged a role for the Verification Mission in verifying compliance with the sentences of the Special Jurisdiction for Peace and expressed its readiness to consider the addition of this task to the mandate, based on the outcome of the ongoing consultation process coordinated by the Government of Colombia.<sup>269</sup> The Council further reiterated its willingness to work with the Government to further extend the mandate of the Mission on the basis of agreement between the parties.<sup>270</sup>

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<sup>267</sup> For more information on the mandate of the United Nations Verification Mission in Colombia, see previous supplements covering the period 2016-2019.

<sup>268</sup> Resolution [2545 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>269</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 3.

<sup>270</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 2. For more information on the item entitled "Identical letters dated 19 January 2016 from the Permanent Representative of Colombia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council ([S/2016/53](#))", see part I, sect. 14.

## United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti

By resolution [2476 \(2019\)](#) of 25 June 2019, the Council established the United Nations Integrated Office in Haiti (BINUH), subsequent to the closure of the United Nations Mission for Justice Support in Haiti (MINUJUSTH). BINUH was mandated to advise the Government of Haiti in promoting and strengthening political stability and good governance, including the rule of law; preserving and advancing a peaceful and stable environment, including through supporting an inclusive inter-Haitian national dialogue; and promoting and protecting human rights. BINUH was further tasked with assisting the Government in planning and executing free, fair and transparent elections; reinforcing the capacity of the Haitian National Police; developing an inclusive approach to reduce community violence; addressing human rights abuses and violations and complying with international human rights obligations; improving penitentiary administration management and oversight of prison facilities; and strengthening the justice sector.<sup>271</sup>

By resolution [2547 \(2020\)](#) of 15 October 2020, the Council extended the existing mandate of BINUH as defined in resolution [2476 \(2019\)](#) for a period of one year until 15 October 2021 without any modifications.<sup>272</sup> The resolution was adopted with 13 votes in favour and two abstentions.<sup>273</sup>

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<sup>271</sup> For more information on the mandate of BINUH, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2019*.

<sup>272</sup> Resolution [2547 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>273</sup> China and the Russian Federation abstained in the vote on the draft resolution. The representatives of China and the Russian Federation noted, inter alia, that the draft did not reflect the serious situation in Haiti related to human rights, the protection of civilians, the need to implement good governance, combat corruption and conduct free, fair and credible presidential elections. While voting in favour of the resolution, the Dominican Republic underlined that BINUH needed the mandate to continue efforts to support democratic institutions, strengthen the rule of law, promote stability and protect human rights (see [S/PV.8768](#)). For more information on the question concerning Haiti, see part I, sect. 13.



## Asia

### United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan

The United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA) was established by the Council by resolution [1401 \(2002\)](#) of 28 March 2002 with the core mandate to fulfil the tasks and responsibilities, including those related to human rights, the rule of law and gender issues, entrusted to the United Nations in the Agreement on Provisional Arrangements in Afghanistan Pending the Re-establishment of Permanent Government Institutions, signed in Bonn on 5 December 2001; as well as to promote national reconciliation and rapprochement through its good offices; and manage all United Nations humanitarian relief, recovery and reconstruction activities.<sup>274</sup>

In 2020, by resolution [2543 \(2020\)](#) of 15 September 2020, the Council extended the mandate of UNAMA for one year until 17 September 2021.<sup>275</sup>

By resolution [2543 \(2020\)](#), the Council reiterated the priorities of UNAMA to provide outreach and good offices to support the Afghan-led and Afghan-owned peace process, particularly in view of the intra-Afghan negotiations which had started in Doha on 12 September 2020; support the organization of future timely, credible, transparent and inclusive Afghan elections; promote coherent support by the international community to the development and governance priorities of the Government of Afghanistan; support regional cooperation, with a view to promoting stability and peace; cooperate with and strengthen the capacity of Afghan institutions and civil society in the protection and promotion of human rights; support the importance of gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls, as well as to ensure the protection of civilians, especially women, children, displaced persons and, in this instance, adding minorities; support the Government's efforts to fulfill its commitments to improve governance and the rule of law; and promote enhanced cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.<sup>276</sup>

In terms of modifications to other priorities, resolution [2543 \(2020\)](#) requested UNAMA to strengthen capacity to report on violations and abuses against children and to support efforts to

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<sup>274</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNAMA, see previous supplements covering the period 2000-2019. For more information on the situation in Afghanistan, see part I, sect. 16.

<sup>275</sup> Resolution [2543 \(2020\)](#), para. 5.

<sup>276</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 6 (a)-(f) and (h) and (j).

strengthen the protection of children, including through engagement with all parties to the conflict to undertake specific commitments and measures to end and prevent violations and abuses against children and sustained dialogue with the Government on the swift and full implementation of the Action Plan and Road Map to End and Prevent Child Recruitment.<sup>277</sup> In addition, the Mission's priority to coordinate and facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance efforts was expanded to include working towards improving the accessibility of humanitarian assistance, as well as the return of internally displaced persons and refugee populations to their homes or local integration or resettlement.<sup>278</sup>

Beyond the outlined priorities, the Council reiterated its call on UNAMA and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Afghanistan and Head of UNAMA to further increase efforts to achieve greater coherence, coordination and efficiency among relevant United Nations agencies, funds and programmes and to continue to lead international civilian efforts aimed at reinforcing the role of Afghan institutions to perform their responsibilities, on this occasion also underscoring the importance of the Government's full cooperation in this regard.<sup>279</sup>

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<sup>277</sup> Ibid., para. 6 (g).

<sup>278</sup> Ibid., para. 6 (i).

<sup>279</sup> Ibid., para. 8.

### **United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia**

The United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia was authorized by the Council through an exchange of letters dated 7 and 15 May 2007 between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council,<sup>280</sup> at the initiative of the Governments of the region. With a view to strengthening the United Nations capacity for conflict prevention in Central Asia, the Centre was assigned a number of tasks, including liaising with the Governments of the region on issues relevant to preventive diplomacy; monitoring and analysing the situation on the ground; and maintaining contact with regional organizations such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization. The Centre was established with an open-ended mandate. During the period under review, the Council made no changes to its mandate.<sup>281</sup>

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<sup>280</sup> See [S/2007/279](#) and [S/2007/280](#).

<sup>281</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of the United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, see previous supplements covering the period 2007-2019.

## Middle East

### United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq

The Council established the United Nations Assistance Mission for Iraq (UNAMI) on 14 August 2003 by resolution [1500 \(2003\)](#) to support the Secretary-General in the fulfilment of his mandate under resolution [1483 \(2003\)](#), in accordance with the structure and responsibilities set out in his report of 17 July 2003.<sup>282</sup> Those responsibilities included coordinating activities of the United Nations in post-conflict processes in Iraq and humanitarian and reconstruction assistance; promoting the return of refugees and displaced persons, economic reconstruction and the conditions for sustainable development; and supporting efforts to restore and establish national and local institutions.<sup>283</sup>

In 2020, by resolution [2522 \(2020\)](#) of 29 May 2020, the Council extended the mandate of UNAMI for one year until 31 May 2021.<sup>284</sup>

By resolution [2522 \(2020\)](#), taking into account the views of the Government of Iraq,<sup>285</sup> the Council reiterated the priority of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Iraq and UNAMI to provide advice, support, and assistance to the Government and the people of Iraq on advancing inclusive, political dialogue and national and community-level reconciliation.<sup>286</sup> The Council further reiterated the remaining tasks of UNAMI with several additions. Commending the Government's efforts to plan and execute free and fair Iraqi-led, Iraqi-owned elections that would be inclusive, credible and participatory, and welcoming the Government's request for further United Nations support in this regard, the Council requested UNAMI to advise, support and assist the Government and the Independent High Electoral Commission on elections and referenda, including through regular technical reviews and detailed reporting on electoral preparations and processes, as part of the of the regular reporting cycle of the Secretary-

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<sup>282</sup> See [S/2003/715](#).

<sup>283</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of UNAMI, see previous supplements covering the period 2003-2019. For more information on the situation concerning Iraq, see part I, sect. 22.

<sup>284</sup> Resolution [2522 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>285</sup> See [S/2020/448](#).

<sup>286</sup> Resolution [2522 \(2020\)](#), para. 2 (a). See also the letter dated 20 November 2020 from the Permanent Representative of Iraq addressed to the President of the Council ([S/2020/1130](#)), in which the Government of Iraq requested that the role of UNAMI be strengthened to provide more advice, support, technical assistance on elections and electoral observations.

General.<sup>287</sup> UNAMI was also requested to advise, support and assist the Government on facilitating regional dialogue and cooperation on issues of infrastructure and public health, in addition to border security, energy, trade, environment, water, and refugees.<sup>288</sup>

Resolution [2522 \(2020\)](#) added the improvement of governance as one of the objectives of the Mission's mandate to promote accountability and the protection of human rights and also requested it to mainstream gender throughout the mandate and to assist the Government in ensuring the full, equal and meaningful participation, involvement and representation of women at all levels.<sup>289</sup> Finally, the Council expressed its intention to review the mandate and reporting cycle of UNAMI by 31 May 2021, or sooner, if requested by the Government of Iraq.<sup>290</sup>

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<sup>287</sup> Resolution 2522 (2020), para. 2 (b) (i).

<sup>288</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 2 (b) (iv).

<sup>289</sup> *Ibid.*, paras. 2 (d) and (e).

<sup>290</sup> *Ibid.*, para. 4.

## **Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon**

The establishment of the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon was authorized by the Council by means of an exchange of letters dated 8 and 13 February 2007 between the Secretary-General and the President of the Council.<sup>291</sup> The Office was established with an open-ended mandate. The position of Special Coordinator was created to replace the position of Personal Representative of the Secretary-General for Southern Lebanon, which had been created in 2000.<sup>292</sup> The Special Coordinator was tasked with coordinating the work of the United Nations in the country and representing the Secretary-General on all political aspects of the Organization's work. The Special Coordinator was also responsible to ensure that the activities of the United Nations country team in Lebanon were well coordinated with the Government of Lebanon, donors and international financial institutions. During the period under review, the Council made no changes to the mandate of the Office.<sup>293</sup>

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<sup>291</sup> See [S/2007/85](#) and [S/2007/86](#).

<sup>292</sup> See [S/2000/718](#).

<sup>293</sup> For more information on the history of the mandate of the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for Lebanon, see previous supplements covering the period 2004-2019. For more information on the situation in the Middle East, see part I, sect. 20. For more information on the situation in the Middle East, including the Palestinian question, see part I., sect. 21.

### **United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement**

The Council established the United Nations Mission to Support the Hudaydah Agreement (UNMHA) by resolution [2452 \(2019\)](#) of 16 January 2019, to support the implementation of the Agreement on the City of Hudaydah and the Ports of Hudaydah, Salif and Ra's Isa as set out in the Stockholm Agreement. UNMHA succeeded the work of an advance team which was established by resolution [2451 \(2018\)](#) of 21 December 2018 and deployed to begin monitoring and to support and facilitate the immediate implementation of the Stockholm Agreement.<sup>294</sup> UNMHA was mandated to oversee the governorate-wide ceasefire, redeployment of forces and mine action operations; to monitor the compliance of the parties to the ceasefire and the mutual redeployment of forces; to work with the parties so that security was assured by local security forces; and to facilitate and coordinate United Nations support to assist the parties in fully implementing the Hudaydah Agreement.<sup>295</sup>

In 2020, by resolutions [2505 \(2020\)](#) of 13 January 2020 and [2534 \(2020\)](#) of 14 July 2020, the Council extended the mandate of UNMHA for periods of six months and one year, respectively, the latter time until 15 July 2021.<sup>296</sup>

By the resolutions, the Council reiterated the existing mandate of UNMHA without modifications. By resolution [2534 \(2020\)](#), while reiterating its request to the Secretary-General to fully deploy UNMHA expeditiously, the Council also requested him to take into account the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic.<sup>297</sup> By resolutions [2505 \(2020\)](#) and [2534 \(2020\)](#), the Council further requested the Secretary-General to present a further review of UNMHA, at least one month before the Mission's mandate was due to expire.<sup>298</sup>

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<sup>294</sup> See resolution [2452 \(2019\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>295</sup> For more information on the mandate of UNMHA, see *Repertoire, Supplement 2019*. For more information on the situation in the Middle East, see part I, sect. 20.

<sup>296</sup> Resolutions [2505 \(2020\)](#), para. 1 and [2534 \(2020\)](#), para. 1.

<sup>297</sup> Resolution [2534 \(2020\)](#), para. 5.

<sup>298</sup> See resolutions [2505 \(2020\)](#), para. 8 and [2534 \(2020\)](#), para. 8. See also the letter dated 15 June 2020 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Council ([S/2020/524](#)) on the review of UNMHA.