

forces in accordance with its mandate, and to regularly report on actions taken in that regard, including factual data and trend analyses of the problem.

9. The situation in the Central African Republic

Decision of 28 October 2004 (5067th meeting): statement by the President

At its 5067th meeting, on 28 October 2004, the Security Council invited the representative of the Central African Republic to participate in the discussion. The President (United Kingdom) then made a statement on behalf of the Council,¹ by which the Council, *inter alia*:

Welcomed the spirit of consensus which the Central African parties have shown and which attests to their determination to continue the transition process to the end;

Encouraged the Central Africans to continue their efforts to ensure the success of the constitutional referendum in November and the satisfactory organization of free, transparent and democratic presidential and legislative elections in January 2005;

Welcomed the assistance provided by the international community to the stabilization and recovery of the Central African Republic;

Called upon international donors and the international financial institutions to continue to provide resolute support to the Central African Republic;

Expressed its concern at the deterioration of the State's finances and of the public sector, and called on the Central African authorities to act with determination in order to address this situation;

Encouraged the Central African authorities to continue to combat with determination human rights violations.

Decision of 22 July 2005 (5232nd meeting): statement by the President

At its 5232nd meeting, on 22 July 2005, the Council included in its agenda the report of the Secretary-General on the situation in the Central African Republic and the activities of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in the Central African Republic (BONUCA).² In his report, the Secretary-General observed that, following two rounds

of elections, held on 13 March and 8 May 2005 respectively, General François Bozizé had been elected as the next President of the Central African Republic. Despite a few shortcomings, the electoral process had been deemed to be free, reliable, fair and transparent. Noting that concerns remained regarding the security situation, the Secretary-General reported that the authorities of the Central African Republic were concerned that armed gangs, which continued their attacks throughout the country, could be used for political destabilization of the new regime. He added that efforts by BONUCA to restructure the country's armed forces and to complete the reintegration of former combatants were continuing. On the economic situation, the Secretary-General stated that the country's finances remained in crisis and deeply dependent on external budget support, but added that growth was expected to resume in most sectors in 2005. He indicated that serious human rights abuses had taken place throughout the country, including by law enforcement agencies, and stated that BONUCA continued its sensitization and training programmes.

The Council invited the representative of the Central African Republic to participate in the discussion. The President (Greece) then made a statement on behalf of the Council,³ by which the Council, *inter alia*:

Stated that it was deeply gratified by the successful holding of the presidential and legislative elections, welcomed the establishment of the newly elected institutions whose stability was necessary to ensure lasting peace in the Central African Republic;

Commended the Multinational Force of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community, France, the European Union, China and Germany for providing decisive support to them;

Called upon international donors and the international financial institutions to continue to assist the Central African Republic generously;

Requested the Secretary-General to explore the possibility of setting up a follow-up committee or enlarging the Committee

¹ S/PRST/2004/39.

² S/2005/414, submitted pursuant to the statement by the President of 26 September 2001 (S/PRST/2001/25).

³ S/PRST/2005/35.

of Foreign Partners to Follow Up on the Electoral Process in order to support the reconstruction efforts initiated by the Central Africans;

Expressed its concern at the insecurity reigning in the north and the west of the country and invites relevant States to consult with subregional and regional organizations and with the United Nations Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic on the action required to respond collectively to the threat posed by those armed groups to the stability of the Central African Republic and certain countries of the subregion.

Decision of 22 November 2006 (5572nd meeting): statement by the President

At its 5572nd meeting,⁴ on 22 November 2006, the Council invited the representative of the Central African Republic to

⁴ At its 5558th meeting, held in private on 30 October 2006, the Council had a discussion with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of BONUCA and the Prime Minister of the Central African Republic.

participate in the discussion. The President (Peru) then made a statement on behalf of the Council,⁵ by which the Council, *inter alia*:

Reiterated its full support for BONUCA;

Welcomed the courageous efforts of the Government to implement the reforms advocated by the bilateral partners and international financial institutions aimed at improving the management of the national treasury, ensuring transparency in economic activities and good governance;

Expressed serious concern that instability along the border areas of Chad, the Sudan and the Central African Republic represented a threat to security and stability in the Central African Republic and its neighbours;

Reaffirmed its commitment to the territorial integrity of the Central African Republic;

Requested the Secretary-General to reinforce cooperation between the United Nations and member States of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community;

Decided to renew the mandate of BONUCA for a period of one year, until 31 December 2007.

⁵ S/PRST/2006/47.

10. Items relating to peace and security in Africa

A. The situation in Africa

Deliberations of 24 September 2004 (5043rd meeting)

At its 5043rd meeting, on 24 September 2004, the Security Council included in its agenda, under the item entitled "The situation in Africa", a briefing by the President of Nigeria and current Chairman of the African Union. Statements were made by all Council members, the Secretary-General and the President of Nigeria.¹

The President of the Council (Spain) drew the attention of the Council to a letter dated 22 September 2004 from the representative of Nigeria, transmitting a communiqué issued by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union regarding the situation in the Darfur region of the Sudan and the situation in Somalia.² He then provided some introductory remarks

¹ Germany and Spain were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

² S/2004/755.

in his national capacity, recalling his recent visit to the Sudan the previous week. While expressing the view that the humanitarian situation in Darfur was beginning to slowly improve, he also noted that attacks on the civilian population had not stopped entirely and that it was therefore essential that all the parties respected the ceasefire agreement. Underlining the importance of the African Union's role in Darfur by, *inter alia*, sponsoring the Abuja peace negotiations, he recalled that the international community expected all the parties to negotiate in good faith to reach an agreement that could be implemented as soon as possible. Finally, in connection with the situation in the south of the Sudan, he advocated an early conclusion of the Naivasha negotiations, which could have very positive effects on the situation in Darfur.³

In his statement, the Secretary-General deemed the tragedy in Darfur to be one of the greatest challenges the international community faced, with the

³ S/PV.5043, pp. 2-3.