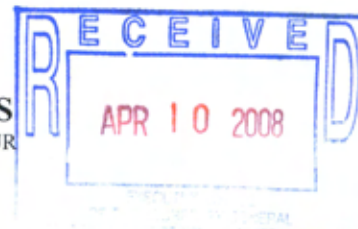


UNITED NATIONS  
INTEROFFICE MEMORANDUM



NATIONS UNIES  
MEMORANDUM INTERIEUR



TO: Mr. Vijay Nambiar  
A: Chef de Cabinet  
Executive Office of the Secretary-General

DATE: 9 April 2008

REFERENCE:

THROUGH:

S/C DE:

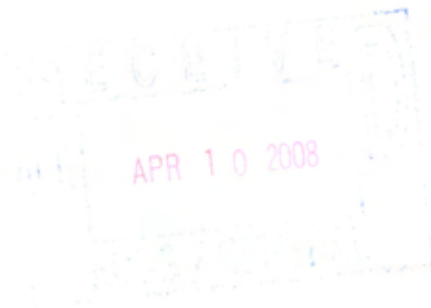
FROM: Horst Heitmann, Director  
DE: Security Council Affairs Division, DPA

SUBJECT: Security Council: Report on activities

OBJET:

Attached please find, for the attention of the Secretary-General, a note on the informal consultations of the Security Council on Wednesday, 9 April 2008.

cc: Mr. Pascoe (o/r)  
Mr. Menkerios



PROCEEDINGS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

Wednesday, 9 April 2008

INFORMAL CONSULTATIONS

**The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic  
and the subregion (S/2008/215)**

Council members received a briefing from Mr. Edmond Mulet, ASG for Peacekeeping Operations, who introduced the report of the Secretary-General (S/2008/215). Highlighting the efforts made to revitalize the political process in Chad, ASG Mulet noted efforts to mitigate the increased tensions between Chad and the Sudan. These efforts had culminated in the signing on 13 March of the Dakar Accord between President Déby and President Al-Bashir, which represented an opportunity for the two countries to ensure sustained dialogue and address the insecurity along their common border. Among other things, the parties had agreed to establish a contact group aimed at monitoring the implementation of the agreement and its first meeting would take place on 10 April in Libreville. Meanwhile, in the Central African Republic, the parties were preparing to hold an inclusive dialogue aimed at putting an end to the political and military crises.

ASG Mulet reported that the security situation in eastern Chad remained fragile and unpredictable. In this regard, he recalled that the P.R. of the Sudan, in a letter addressed to the President of the Council, had alleged that Chad had violated the Dakar Accord and previous agreements by sponsoring a meeting of Darfur rebel groups on 22 and 24 March. He also referred to the letter from the P.R. of Chad, in which the latter had alleged that his country had been attacked by Sudan-backed armed groups in Adé, in violation of the Dakar Accord.

Turning to the humanitarian situation, ASG Mulet indicated that thousands of IDPs and refugees in eastern Chad continued to be gravely affected by ongoing internal domestic and cross border hostilities and were in need of life-saving relief assistance throughout 2008.

On the status of the MINURCAT and EUFOR deployment, ASG Mulet reported that while timelines had been set back by the February hostilities in N'Djamena, efforts were underway to have support and personnel swiftly deployed. To date, DPKO had deployed to MINURCAT some 211 personnel, with a presence in N'Djamena and Abéché. For its part, EUFOR had announced its Initial Operating Capability on 15 March, thereby marking the beginning of its 12-



month mandate, and intended to achieve its full operating capability in June, before the start of the rainy season.

Elaborating on the establishment of the Police Tchadienne pour la Protection Humanitaire (PTPH), ASG Mulet said that the Government of Chad had requested to change its name to "Détachement Intégré de Sécurité" (DIS) to more accurately reflect the police and gendarme components of the unit. He reported that as soon as the commander-level training would be complete, MINURCAT would commence a one-month training course for the first batch of 220 PTPH/DIS officers. Touching on the Trust Fund to support the DIS, he reported that close to \$16 million in donor contributions had so far been received out of the estimated \$23 million required to support the PTPH in its first year of operations.

In conclusion, ASG Mulet stressed that addressing the internal conflict in Chad through political reforms and the normalization of bilateral relations between the governments of Chad and Sudan were the fundamental issues that had to be addressed in order to create lasting stability in Chad.

In the subsequent discussion, members of the Council expressed their concern over the humanitarian and security situation in eastern Chad and north-eastern Central African Republic (CAR), and on the border between Chad and Sudan.

Members welcomed the progress in the deployment of MINURCAT and EUFOR and called for its completion as soon as possible, before the rainy season. France, the United States and the United Kingdom noted in particular the announcement by EUFOR of its Initial Operating Capability on 15 March. Italy drew attention to the lack of balance between the military component, which operated reasonably well, and the police component which was lagging behind, suffering from the lack of officers. France similarly called on Member States, in particular French-speaking ones, to contribute qualified personnel. China and Viet Nam called on the missions to adhere strictly to their mandate. The Russian Federation noted that the EUFOR mandate was limited to one year, with implications for the UN PKO planning, and expressed the hope that the missions and governments would manage to improve the situation in one year.

A number of members (e.g. Belgium and Indonesia) expressed concern over rebel activities, with Burkina Faso noting the danger posed to the territorial integrity of both Chad and Sudan. While members universally welcomed the Dakar Agreement and called for its implementation, Belgium, Costa Rica, Panama and the United Kingdom doubted the commitment of the parties. Along with Indonesia, these members expressed dismay at the continuing

exchange of communications between the Permanent Missions of Chad and Sudan in New York, in which they accused each other of helping the rebels.

Welcoming the efforts of Libya and Congo, in particular the formation of the Contact Group chaired by the two countries, members looked forward to the first meeting of the group in Libreville on 10 April. While most members noted the regional aspect of the issue at hand and the role of neighbouring countries, Burkina Faso, Belgium, Costa Rica and South Africa were especially vocal in stressing the importance of the regional approach and interconnectedness of the conflicts in the region. Ambassador Kumalo pointed out that the people the Council was aiming to protect in Chad were the same ones who had fled Sudan. He expressed frustration with the "a la carte" approach to discussing the situations in Chad, Sudan and CAR, when in fact they constituted a single issue. Burkina Faso, Belgium, Italy and Panama also called for all forces and missions in the region to coordinate their activities.

Members urged the Chadian authorities to continue political dialogue with the opposition in accordance with the agreement of 13 August 2007. France stressed that in order to take part in this dialogue, the armed opposition groups had to renounce violence and attempts to seize power. Belgium, echoed by Panama, welcomed the formation of the Commission of Inquiry into the February events, and in particular the fact that civil society and opposition groups were among its members. France, Italy and Panama called for the lifting of the state of emergency. Members also stressed the need for continuing the inclusive political dialogue in the CAR.

Looking forward to MINURCAT's mandate review in September, Belgium suggested the need for the SRSG to be more involved in the political process. Ambassador Verbeke, echoed by Costa Rica, noted the Secretary-General's admission that under their current mandates MINURCAT and EUFOR could address neither the root causes of the internal conflicts nor the regional aspects.

France introduced a draft press statement, which was adopted after a series of changes and a brief discussion before the adjournment of the meeting (Attachment).

In response to the question from Belgium about the level of cooperation between MINURCAT and the Chadian authorities on the deployment of the force, ASG Mulet said that the cooperation was excellent and that the delay was due to the February hostilities in N'Djamena. On a question by Ambassador Verbeke regarding the accuracy of reports in the media about the possible preparation of



renewed rebel attacks in N'Djamena, while recalling that MINURCAT did not have the mandate to address political issues related to the rebels, ASG Mulet strongly believed that the deployment of MINUCART/EUFOR and the establishment of the contact group would minimize the risk of such rebel attacks. Stressing that he was taking the reports of possible attacks very seriously, ASG Mulet recalled that MINURCAT did not have the capacity of monitoring cross-border movement of rebel groups and was relying on the information provided by the government itself. He noted that such information had been accurate in the past.

Asked by Italy about the efficiency of the cooperation between MINURCAT, EUFOR, UNMIS and the UN country teams in the region, ASG Mulet indicated that MINURCAT and EUFOR were meeting on a weekly basis, and that MINURCAT had sent a mission to UNAMID with a view to establishing a station in Abéché and Al Fasher. In this connection, he recalled that Special Representatives Angelo and Adada would be participating in the first meeting of the contact group on 10 April in Libreville. Asked by Ambassador Mantovani how MINURCAT and EUFOR were perceived by the population, ASG Mulet recalled that MINURCAT was still in a training phase and therefore the impact of its presence could not yet be assessed.

Addressing a query by Costa Rica, ASG Mulet recalled that MINURCAT, together with OCHA and UNICEF, was currently developing a concept paper on the establishment of mechanisms for the protection of women and children in eastern Chad. In this regard, he noted that every MINURCAT station would include a focal point for women and children.

Mélanie Bouvard/Nikolai Galkin  
SCSB/SCAD/9 April 2008

Attachment**Press Statement by the President of the Security Council  
(SC/9295)**

The members of the Security Council heard a briefing by Assistant Secretary-General Edmond Mulet on the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion, and the deployment of the United Nations Missions in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT) and EUFOR Chad/CAR.

The members of the Security Council reiterated their concern at the situation in eastern Chad and the north-eastern Central African Republic, in particular on the humanitarian level, whilst the number of refugees and internally displaced persons continues to increase. They expressed their concern about the threat which insecurity poses to the conduct of humanitarian operations.

The members of the Security Council welcomed the progress in the deployment of MINURCAT and EUFOR Chad/CAR, and encouraged Member States to support those deployments, particularly through appropriate contributions in personnel and assets. They stressed that the full deployment of MINURCAT and EUFOR Chad/CAR will contribute to the protection of vulnerable civilian populations and to facilitate the delivery of humanitarian assistance, pursuant to resolution 1778 (2007).

The members of the Security Council commended President Wade of Senegal for his mediation efforts, which enabled the signing of the Dakar Agreement between Sudan and Chad on 13 March 2008. They strongly urged Sudan and Chad to meet these and prior reciprocal commitments, welcomed the formation of the Contact Group, chaired by Libya and Congo and due to hold its first meeting in Libreville, and encouraged the countries of the region to get actively involved in the follow-up of this agreement.

The members of the Security Council condemned the continuing armed activity of rebel groups in Chad, in particular the attack on Adé on 1 April 2008. They urged all concerned parties to respect the Syrte Agreement of 25 October 2007.

The members of the Security Council encouraged the Chadian authorities to persevere in promoting political dialogue as initiated by the agreement of 13 August 2007. They also encouraged the Government of the Central African Republic to continue its efforts to promote an inclusive political dialogue in the country.

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