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Human Rights Council

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Agenda item 10

Technical assistance and capacity-building

Ethiopia (on behalf of the Group of African States): draft resolution

27/...

Technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic

The Human Rights Council,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Guided also by the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Recalling other relevant international human rights instruments,

Recalling also General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and Human Rights Council resolutions 5/1 and 5/2 of 18 June 2007, 23/18 of 13 June 2013, 24/34 of 27 September 2013 and S-20/1 of 20 January 2014,

Recalling further Security Council resolutions 2088 (2013) of 24 January 2013, 2121 (2013) of 10 October 2013, 2127 (2013) of 5 December 2013, 2134 (2014) of 28 January 2014 and 2149 (2014) of 10 April 2014,

Bearing in mind the situation in the Central African Republic since 24 March 2013,

Reaffirming that all States have an obligation to promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms set forth in the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the international covenants on human rights and other relevant human rights instruments to which they are parties,

Bearing in mind the Bamako Declaration, adopted on 3 November 2000 by the French-speaking States and Governments at the International Symposium on the Practices of Democracy, Rights and Freedoms in the French-speaking Community, which condemns all coups d'état and any seizure of power through violence, arms or other illegal means,

Recognizing also the final communiqué of the special meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of Central African States, held in N'Djamena on 21 December 2012, the political agreement signed in Libreville on 11 January 2013 and the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement signed in Brazzaville on 23 July 2013,

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Reaffirming its support for the efforts undertaken by States members of the Economic Community of Central African States, including those of the Chairperson of the Follow-up Committee of the Economic Community of Central African States on the situation in the Central African Republic,

Reaffirming also its commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Central African Republic,

Concerned about the political and security situation in the Central African Republic and the dire humanitarian situation that continues to prevail, especially the plight of internally displaced persons and refugees and the risk of confrontation between armed groups and religious communities,

Deeply concerned about the human rights violations and acts of violence perpetrated against the civilian population, including summary executions, rape and other forms of sexual abuse, torture, looting, illegal destruction of property and other serious violations of international human rights law,

Taking note of the mobilization of the international community to provide humanitarian assistance to the Central African population affected by the crisis, and of the holding of a high-level meeting on humanitarian action in the Central African Republic, in Brussels on 20 January 2014 and the donor conference in Addis Ababa from 1 February 2014,

Welcoming the efforts of the International Support Mission in the Central African Republic, the European Union mission to the Central African Republic, the French-led Operation Sangaris and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic to protect civilians and disarm militias,

Taking note of the pledge by the authorities of the Central African Republic to restore the rule of law, to end impunity, to bring to justice the perpetrators of crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, to which the Central African Republic is a party, and taking note of the decision of the Prosecutor of the Court, on 7 February 2014, to conduct a preliminary review of the situation in the Central African Republic,

Taking note also of the efforts of the International Commission of Inquiry to investigate reports of violations of international humanitarian law, international human rights law and abuses of human rights in the Central African Republic by all parties since 1 January 2013,

1. *Strongly condemns* the continued and widespread violations and abuses of human rights perpetrated by all actors, and underscores that the perpetrators of such violations and abuses should be held accountable and brought to justice;

2. *Demands* an immediate halt to all human rights violations and abuses and acts of unlawful violence by all parties, and the strict observance of all human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as the restoration of rule of law in the country, and in this regard reminds all parties of their responsibilities under international human rights law;

3. *Notes with satisfaction* the preliminary report of the Independent Expert on human rights in the Central African Republic and the recommendations contained therein;¹

4. *Urges* all parties in the Central African Republic to protect all civilians, in particular women and children, from sexual and gender-based violence;

¹ A/HRC/26/53.

5. *Calls on* the authorities of the Central African Republic to ensure respect for the rights and fundamental freedoms of all the population and to take all necessary measures to put an end to impunity for the perpetrators of crimes, acts of violence and all other human rights violations, including by strengthening the judiciary and national accountability mechanisms;

6. *Takes note* of the decision of the Central African authorities to request the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court to open an investigation into serious and systematic human rights violations committed in the Central African Republic and supports the work of the International Commission of Inquiry to investigate reports of violations of international humanitarian law and international human rights law in the Central African Republic by all parties;

7. *Supports* the efforts of the Mediator of the Economic Community of Central African States and those of the African Union and all other partners of the Central African Republic to resolve the crisis and to bring about a definitive return to constitutional order, peace and security in accordance with the political agreement signed in Libreville on 11 January 2013, the N'Djamena Declaration of 18 April 2013 and the Constitutional Charter for the Transition of 18 July 2013;

8. *Welcomes* the appointment of a new Government to lead the political transition in the Central African Republic and calls upon it to expedite efforts to promote national reconciliation through an inclusive process, involving women in the dialogue process with all parties, and to hold free, fair, open and transparent elections, within a reasonable period of time;

9. *Welcomes* the improvement in the security situation in the Central African Republic and calls on all parties to respect the terms of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement of 23 July 2014 as an important step towards resolution of the crisis;

10. *Invites* the Central African authorities to take all necessary measures to strengthen the security situation in the country through the establishment of a disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programme;

11. *Remains* gravely concerned at the conditions in which displaced persons and refugees are living and encourages the international community to support the national authorities and host countries in order to ensure that appropriate protection and assistance is available to victims of violence, in particular women, children and persons with disabilities;

12. *Invites* all stakeholders and the international community to remain mobilized to respond to the emergencies and priorities identified by the Central African Republic, including financial and technical assistance and post-traumatic psychological care for persons affected by the crisis;

13. *Calls upon* all parties to facilitate access by victims to humanitarian assistance and by humanitarian actors to the entire national territory, by securing roads;

14. *Encourages* States Members of the United Nations, within the framework of international cooperation activities, the relevant United Nations agencies, international financial institutions and all other relevant international organizations, as well as donors, to provide the Central African Republic with technical and capacity-building assistance, with a view to promoting respect for human rights and reforming the judicial and security sectors;

15. *Decides* to renew for one year the mandate of the Independent Expert to monitor, verify and report on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic with a view to making recommendations concerning technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights;

16. *Calls upon* all parties to cooperate fully with the Independent Expert in carrying out her mandate;

17. *Requests* the Independent Expert to work closely with all entities of the United Nations, the African Union and the Economic Community of Central African States, and with all other international organizations concerned, with Central African civil society and with all relevant human rights mechanisms;

18. *Also requests* the Independent Expert to provide an oral update on her report on technical assistance and capacity-building in the field of human rights in the Central African Republic at its twenty-eighth session and to submit a written report to the Council at its thirtieth session;

19. *Decides* to hold an interactive dialogue at its twenty-ninth session, in the presence of the Independent Expert, to assess developments in the human rights situation on the ground;

20. *Requests* the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to continue to provide the Independent Expert with all the financial and human resources necessary for her to carry out her mandate fully;

21. *Decides* to remain seized of this matter.
