

Urged the parties to take concrete steps to implement immediately and without preconditions the delimitation decision

of the Boundary Commission, taking into account the parties' commitments regarding the Temporary Security Zone;

Called upon the parties to refrain from using force and to settle their disagreements by peaceful means;

Confirmed the parties' primary responsibility to resolve the border issue and their other differences, and expressed its readiness to endorse the commitments made by both parties;

Commended and fully supported the continuing operations of UNMEE, underscored the importance for the parties to provide UNMEE with the necessary access, assistance, support and protection required for the implementation of its mandate and welcomed the ongoing efforts by the Secretary-General towards the earliest appointment of a Special Representative.

12. The situation in Guinea-Bissau

Decision of 18 June 2004 (4992nd meeting): statement by the President

At its 4992nd meeting, on 18 June 2004, the Security Council included in its agenda the report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau.¹ In his report, the Secretary-General observed the important progress made towards restoring constitutional order in Guinea-Bissau, with the conduct of credible legislative elections and the installation of a new National Popular Assembly and a new Government, as well as with the holding of elections for the President and the Vice-President of the Supreme Court of Justice. With these achievements and with the transfer of power from the National Transition Council to the newly elected Assembly, the first phase of the transition period that had been agreed upon by the military and the Government in a Political Transition Charter signed on 28 September 2003, following the military coup d'état, had been completed. He welcomed the new priorities set by the Government, namely to consolidate national reconciliation; ensure the return to constitutional order; fortify the rule of law and the respect of human rights; develop stable relations with neighbouring countries and international partners and create necessary institutional capacity for good governance, accountable and transparent financial management and the improvement of socioeconomic conditions. He also noted the instrumental contribution of the United Nations Peacebuilding Support Office in

Guinea-Bissau (UNOGBIS) to the protection of human rights in Guinea-Bissau and to the ongoing constructive political dialogue between the Government, the Assembly and international partners. He welcomed the progress made in the demobilization, reinsertion and reintegration programme. However, he expressed concern at the difficult economic situation and noted the shortfall in the multi-donor Emergency Economic Management Fund for Guinea-Bissau, which prevented the full payment of all salary arrears. He concluded that despite the progress the democratization process in Guinea-Bissau remained fragile and that the support of the international community remained paramount.

The Council extended an invitation to the representative of Guinea-Bissau to participate in the discussion. The President (Philippines) then made a statement on behalf of the Council,² by which the Council, *inter alia*:

Expressed its satisfaction regarding progress made by national authorities towards restoring constitutional order, in accordance with the Transition Charter provisions and calendar;

Encouraged all parties, and the new Government established on 12 May 2004, to faithfully adhere to the provisions of the Transition Charter in order to achieve and consolidate national reconciliation and to ensure the full restoration of constitutional order;

Expressed, nonetheless, its concern with the fragility of the democratization process in Guinea-Bissau, due mainly to the country's deep-rooted structural problems, including the

¹ S/2004/456, submitted pursuant to resolution 1233 (1999).

² S/PRST/2004/20.

weakness of State institutions and structures, as well as persistent economic and social crisis;

Further expressed its concern about the need to improve the situation of the military, in particular the payment of salary arrears, which continued to be seen as a potentially destabilizing factor;

Underlined the importance it attached to the organization of a round table which it considered of utmost relevance to addressing some of the most urgent needs of Guinea-Bissau.

**Decision of 2 November 2004 (5069th meeting):
statement by the President**

At its 5069th meeting, on 2 November 2004, the Council extended an invitation to the representative of Guinea-Bissau. The President (United States) then made a statement on behalf of the Council,³ by which the Council, inter alia:

Expressed its deep concern at developments in Guinea-Bissau that led to the killings, on 6 October 2004, of the Chief of General Staff of the Armed Forces and of the Chief of Human Resources;

Condemned in the strongest terms such use of force to settle differences or address grievances;

Took note of the signature of a memorandum of understanding, in Bissau, on 10 October 2004, and of the establishment of a commission to monitor its implementation;

Urged all political parties to continue working, in good faith, with national authorities to complete the implementation of the Political Transition Charter before the holding of presidential elections by April 2005;

Stressed the need for urgent measures by the international community to assist the Government of Guinea-Bissau to overcome the present crisis, in particular to reinforce the capacity of legitimate authorities to maintain political stability and to determine sound solutions to the country's most urgent and fundamental challenges;

Reiterated its call on the international community to maintain its confidence in the process of democratic consolidation in Guinea-Bissau and to uphold its commitments to development in that country.

**Decision of 22 December 2004 (5107th meeting):
resolution 1580 (2004):**

At its 5107th meeting, on 22 December 2004, the Council included in its agenda the report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau.⁴

In his report, the Secretary-General observed that the situation in Guinea-Bissau had been further complicated by the military mutiny of 6 October, led by a group of officers motivated by grievances over salaries, poor living conditions and corruption within the military hierarchy. Those responsible insisted the mutiny had not been a coup d'état aimed at changing the political status quo, yet they subsequently obtained from the authorities the appointment of their nominee as new Chief of General Staff. In reaction to that, many political and civil society actors voiced deep misgivings about impunity following the commitment by the Government in the memorandum of understanding, signed with the military, to a possible blanket amnesty for all those involved in military interventions since 1980. Qualified optimism was replaced by growing scepticism and an enhanced perception that the military posed the greatest obstacle to the consolidation of democracy and peace. The Secretary-General underlined the critical economic and social situation and reported that the humanitarian situation was worrying following the mutiny. He also noted the pressing need for the reform of the police force and the elimination of mine-related risks. In addition, he recommended that the mandate of UNOGBIS be revised to take into account new tasks and the importance of strengthening the capacity of national stakeholders. The revised mandate would integrate development and peace and security activities with a view to defining a cohesive peacebuilding strategy in the immediate, medium and long term. It would also contribute to institutional capacity-building; to the prevention of national and regional proliferation of small arms and to military reform. The Secretary-General recommended that a special fund be set up to facilitate the planning and implementation of the military reform process.

The President (Algeria) drew the attention of the Council to a draft resolution;⁵ it was then put to the vote and adopted unanimously and without debate as resolution 1580 (2004), by which the Council, inter alia:

Decided to extend the mandate of UNOGBIS for one year;

Decided also to revise the mandate of UNOGBIS; called upon the National Assembly of Guinea-Bissau, while addressing the issue of granting amnesty for all those involved in military

³ S/PRST/2004/41.

⁴ S/2004/969.

⁵ S/2004/986.

interventions since 1980, to take account of principles of justice and fight against impunity;

Strongly urged the Government, together with military authorities and other concerned parties to agree on a national plan for reform of the security sector, in particular military reform; appealed to the international community to continue to provide assistance to help Guinea-Bissau to meet its immediate needs as well as its structural challenges.

**Decision of 31 March 2005 (5157th meeting):
statement by the President**

At its 5157th meeting, on 31 March 2005, the Council included in its agenda the report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau.⁶ In his report, the Secretary-General noted that the country had improved noticeably despite recurrent challenges. He noted that the forthcoming presidential elections would put a formal end to the transition set in motion by the Political Transition Charter and would mark the full restoration of constitutional order in the country, provided that they were properly prepared and managed. He also noted the beginning of the new session of the National Popular Assembly. He observed that the economic situation in Guinea-Bissau had improved slightly but that the Government remained unable to pay all salary arrears. He also observed that while the primary responsibility for completing the political transition, managing conflict, reforming the institutions and relaunching the economy of the country rested with the Government and the people of Guinea-Bissau, the international community should remain active and generous in its support. The Secretary-General underlined the need for a cohesive peacebuilding strategy among all actors. Based on the conclusions of the United Nations multidisciplinary review mission sent to Guinea-Bissau from 12 to 17 February 2005, he recommended that, within the framework of its revised mandate, UNOGBIS focus on promoting political dialogue; developing stable civil-military relations; promoting implementation of the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects and advancing a comprehensive and integrated United Nations peacebuilding strategy. He also recommended that its capacities be adjusted to meet the requirements of its revised mandate.

⁶ S/2005/174.

The Council extended an invitation to the representative of Guinea-Bissau. The President (Brazil) then made a statement on behalf of the Council,⁷ by which the Council, *inter alia*:

Recognized some progress made in some areas in Guinea-Bissau, including the electoral process;

Strongly condemned any attempts to incite violence and to impede ongoing efforts towards peace, stability and social and economic development; expressed growing concern at recent political developments in Guinea-Bissau, in particular the decision by the Partido da Renovação Social to select ex-President Koumba Yalá as its presidential candidate;

Also expressed its deep concern at the fact that peace efforts had not yet generated sufficient social and economic benefits for the population that could discourage the use of force;

Stressed the urgent need for international support to the electoral process;

Called upon Guinea-Bissau's international development partners to cooperate with the Government of Guinea-Bissau, which had been fully engaged in the implementation of the Political Transition Charter;

Welcomed initial measures taken by the Chief of General Staff regarding the reform of the Armed Forces;

Encouraged full inclusiveness and renewed commitment to reconciliation in the Armed Forces, and development of constructive civilian-military relations based on the Armed Forces as an institution subordinated to the elected civilian authorities; and reaffirmed the role of UNOGBIS in encouraging and supporting national efforts to reform the security sector.

**Decision of 19 August 2005 (5248th meeting):
statement by the President**

At its 5248th meeting, on 19 August 2005, the Council included in its agenda the report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau.⁸ In his report, the Secretary-General referred to the highly polarized atmosphere as Guinea-Bissau was preparing the holding of presidential elections. He also noted the threat of former President Yala to take power by force if prevented from running in the elections, despite the provision of the Transitional Charter banning his participation in political activities for five years. The Secretary-General observed, however, that, according to the electoral needs assessment mission he had dispatched the necessary technical conditions were in place for the first round of elections. He reported that, since tensions remained high in the country, he had

⁷ S/PRST/2005/14.

⁸ S/2005/380.

decided to appoint a Special Envoy for Guinea-Bissau to facilitate the holding of peaceful and credible elections and help bring the transition to a successful conclusion. He welcomed the process of reconciliation within the armed forces and the reaffirmation by the military leadership of its subordination to civilian authority. In other developments, he also expressed concern over the increase in organized crime operators. He noted the increased awareness of international human rights standards and the improvements regarding civil and political rights. He emphasized the need for a reform of the public administrative and security sector. In addition, the fact-finding mission on small arms dispatched to Guinea-Bissau had developed a project proposal for the establishment of a national small arms commission and for the execution of a small arms collection and destruction programme in the city of Bissau.

The Council extended an invitation to the representative of Guinea-Bissau to participate in the discussion. The President (Japan) then made a statement on behalf of the Council,⁹ by which the Council, *inter alia*:

Took note of the appeal filed with the Supreme Court of Justice by one of the contenders and strongly encouraged all parties to honour their commitments and accept the final ruling of the Court;

Urged them to refrain from any actions that could jeopardize the efforts towards peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau;

Underlined the importance of their timely diplomatic efforts aimed at promoting national dialogue and respect for the rule of law;

Welcomed the decision taken by the Economic and Social Council on 26 July 2005 to extend the mandate of the Ad Hoc Advisory Group on Guinea-Bissau; invited the Secretary-General to present recommendations in his next report regarding the updating of the mandate and role of UNOGBIS in the consolidation of peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau in the post-transition period.

**Decision of 19 October 2007 (5762nd meeting):
statement by the President**

At its 5762nd meeting, on 19 October 2007, the Council included in its agenda the report of the Secretary-General on developments in Guinea-Bissau.¹⁰ In his report, the Secretary-General expressed concern over the continuing division and rivalry for

power among political parties and over the use of Guinea-Bissau as a transit point for illegal drugs coming from Latin America and bound for Europe. He called for the protection of public servants investigating drug trafficking in Guinea-Bissau, welcomed the joint project undertaken by the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and UNOGBIS and welcomed the efforts for a collective and integrated response to the issue. He also reported concerns by civil society organizations regarding what they saw as pressures relating to freedom of the press and freedom of expression in connection with their report on drug trafficking, which marked a reversal in the positive trend of the previous three years, during which Guinea-Bissau was not cited among countries with a poor record of respect for freedom of the press. He underlined that unless those challenges were addressed, the important achievements made towards consolidating the country's nascent democratic and constitutional order could be jeopardized. He observed that the economic and financial situation had remained stable but fragile as the new Government had not managed to clear all salary arrears inherited from the previous government, thus entailing a series of strikes by municipal workers. He also reported that the Prime Minister of Guinea-Bissau had requested that his country be placed on the agenda of the Peacebuilding Commission.¹¹

The Council extended an invitation to the representative of Guinea-Bissau. The President (Ghana) then made a statement on behalf of the Council,¹² by which the Council, *inter alia*:

Reaffirmed its support for the continuing efforts to consolidate peace in Guinea-Bissau;

Noted with deep concern the threat posed by drug and human trafficking which would undermine the important gains made with respect to rule of law, democratic and transparent governance;

Called upon the Government to take concerted action to safeguard the safety and security of those officials who are involved in combating these activities;

Welcomed the decision by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to convene later in the year a regional conference on combating drug trafficking;

⁹ S/PRST/2005/39.

¹⁰ S/2007/576.

¹¹ For more information on the Peacebuilding Commission, see chapter V.

¹² S/PRST/2007/38.

Called for urgent consideration of how the United Nations system might improve its support for Guinea-Bissau's fight against international drug trafficking and organized crime;

Recognized in particular the important role of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

Welcomed the initiative to hold an international conference in Lisbon, on drug trafficking on Guinea-Bissau in December 2007;

Expressed its concern with the fragility of the democratization process in Guinea-Bissau as well as persistent economic and social crisis;

Welcomed the scheduled convening of legislative elections in 2008;

Welcomed the improved dialogue between the Government of Guinea-Bissau and the Bretton Woods institutions and urged the Government to continue to implement its commitments in the areas of fiscal responsibility, reforms of the justice sector and good governance;

Encouraged the authorities of Guinea-Bissau to carry out their commitment concerning security sector reform;

Reaffirmed that peace and stability in Guinea-Bissau were critical for peace and security in the West African subregion, and welcomed the role being played by the African Union, ECOWAS and the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries, in the peacebuilding process in Guinea-Bissau.

13. The situation in Côte d'Ivoire

Decision of 4 February 2004 (4909th meeting): resolution 1527 (2004)

In his report on the United Nations Mission in Côte d'Ivoire (MINUCI) dated 6 January 2004,¹ the Secretary-General noted with concern the prolonged political impasse in Côte d'Ivoire, which could have taken a turn for the worse with the attempt by the Young Patriots and elements of the Forces armées nationales de Côte d'Ivoire (FANCI) to cross the ceasefire line and launch attacks on the Forces nouvelles. He welcomed the initiatives by the President, Laurent Gbagbo, and the Prime Minister, Seydou Diarra, to meet with the Forces nouvelles as well as the return of the Forces nouvelles to the Government of National Reconciliation. While asserting that such positive developments had given fresh impetus to the peace process, the Secretary-General emphasized that fundamental issues underlying the Ivorian crisis had to be addressed to ensure the irreversibility of the process. Should the Ivorian parties make sufficient progress in that regard by 4 February 2004, when the mandates of MINUCI, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Mission in Côte d'Ivoire and the French forces would expire, the Secretary-General recommended that the Council consider authorizing the deployment of a multidimensional United Nations

peacekeeping operation to support the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire. The peacekeeping operation would comprise a military component with a troop strength of 6,240, including 200 military observers and 120 staff officers, and a civilian component consisting of enhanced disarmament, demobilization and reintegration, electoral, human rights, public information, civil affairs, political, civilian police and judicial components. In that connection, the Secretary-General stressed that if the Council were to approve his recommendation on the establishment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Côte d'Ivoire, the Council and troop-contributing countries must ensure that the requisite resources were available and not at the expense of other missions.

At its 4909th meeting,² on 4 February 2004, the Council included the above-mentioned report in its agenda and extended an invitation to the representative of Côte d'Ivoire to participate in the discussion. The President (China) drew the attention of the Council to a

² During this period, in addition to the meetings covered in this section, the Council held a number of meetings in private with the troop-contributing countries to the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), pursuant to resolution 1353 (2001), annex II, sections A and B. The meetings were held on 24 March 2005 (5150th), 19 January 2006 (5349th), 12 December 2006 (5585th) and 11 July 2007 (5715th), respectively.

¹ S/2004/3, submitted pursuant to resolution 1514 (2003).