

14. The situation in Chad and the Sudan

Overview

During the period 2008-2009, the Security Council held one meeting in connection with the humanitarian situation in Chad and the Sudan.²⁰⁶

3 December 2008: humanitarian situation in Chad and the Sudan

On 3 December 2008, the Council was briefed by the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator on the humanitarian situation in Chad and the Sudan. He reported that the situation in Chad had remained fragile owing to worsening criminality, lingering tensions from long years of internal conflict and the spillover from Darfur. In that connection, he stated that the politicization and militarization of the refugee camps and some internally displaced person sites in Chad were major and growing concerns, adding that recruitment by armed groups, including of children, notably by the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), was threatening the civilian and humanitarian nature of the camps. He also noted that a speedy and effective deployment of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT II), as well as the deployment of the newly trained Chadian gendarme force were essential in enhancing security in the camps. In reference to the Sudan, the Under-Secretary-General stated that the situation in Darfur remained a huge political and humanitarian challenge for which both the

Government and the rebel movements shared responsibility. He stressed the importance of maintaining the current mandate and capacities of the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) to improve the physical protection of civilians and humanitarians, and to reduce tensions overall.²⁰⁷

The representative of Chad expressed the hope that MINURCAT II would effectively meet the expectations of its civilian beneficiaries and assist in demilitarizing the camps where recruitment was carried out by Sudanese groups. He also stated that claims that Chad was supporting the Sudanese rebels were unfounded, arguing that his country did not have weapons to provide to rebels from another country. Welcoming the normalization of the relations between his country and the Sudan, the representative of Chad affirmed that his country would work positively towards the consolidation of friendly relations and good-neighbourliness with the Sudan. He feared, however, that as long as the situation in Darfur was not settled, relations with the Sudan would run the risk of being negatively affected.²⁰⁸

Council members welcomed the restoration of diplomatic relations between Chad and the Sudan and expressed concern at the deterioration of the humanitarian situation due to continued acts of violence. At the same time, they called for an end to recruitment and politicization in the refugee camps and for an immediate end to all attacks against humanitarian workers.

²⁰⁶ For more information, see the present part, sect. 16, with regard to the situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion and sect. 13 with regard to reports of the Secretary-General on the Sudan.

²⁰⁷ S/PV.6029, pp. 2-5.

²⁰⁸ *Ibid.*, pp. 5-6.

Meetings: the situation in Chad and the Sudan

<i>Meeting and date</i>	<i>Sub-item</i>	<i>Other documents</i>	<i>Invitations</i>	<i>Speakers</i>	<i>Decision and vote (for-against-abstaining)</i>
6029th 3 December 2008			Rule 37 Chad	All council members and all invitees	
			Rule 39 Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator		