



REGISTRAR GENERAL'S DEPARTMENT NOTICE

To: All Legal Entities and Non-Profit Organisations ("NPOs")

Date: 13th July, 2023

**Re: Security Council renews Democratic Republic of Congo Sanctions regime,
unanimously adopting Resolution 2688 (2023)**

Pursuant to section 43 of the Anti-Terrorism Act, 2018 (No.27 of 2018) as amended by the Anti-Terrorism (Amendment) Act, 2019 (No. 29 of 2019) and section 3 of the International Obligations (Economic and Ancillary Measures) Act, Chapter 16 ("IOEAMA") as amended by section 3A of the International Obligations (Economic and Ancillary Measures) (Amendment) Act, 2019 (No. 27 of 2019), the National Identified Risk Framework Coordinator ("NIRFC") has requested that the Registrar General of The Bahamas circulate the following Notice:

On 27th June, 2023, the Security Council renewed the sanctions regime imposed on the Democratic Republic of Congo and extended the mandate of the Group of Experts overseeing its implementation until 1st August 2024.

The Security Council Committee by unanimously adopting resolution 2688 (2023) (to be issued as document S/RES/2688(2023)) and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Council decided to renew the measures set out in paragraphs 1 through 6 of resolution 2293 (2016) related to arms, transport, finance and travel until 1st July, 2024. Also, the Security Council Committee demanded that States ensure that all measures taken by them to implement the resolution comply with their obligations under international law.

The Security Council Committee reaffirmed the importance of ensuring the safety and security of the members of the Group of Experts and recalled the Secretary-General's commitment that the United Nations will do everything possible to ensure that the perpetrators of the killing of two of the Group's members and four Congolese nationals accompanying them are brought to justice.

The United Nations press release can also be found at the following web address:

<https://press.un.org/en/2023/sc15336.doc.htm>

All Legal Entities and Non-Profit Organisations (“NPOs”) are required to take the following steps:

- (i) immediately conduct a search of their database and register of beneficial owners to determine whether there is any information in relation to the individuals or entities on the United Nations Security Council Sanctions List that are associated with the Democratic Republic of the Congo and associated individuals, groups, undertakings and entities;
- (ii) immediately report any “Hits” to the Financial Intelligence Unit and National Identified Risk Framework Coordinator at the Office of the Attorney-General;
- (iii) advise the Registrar General of findings of Nil reports; and
- (iv) retain a copy of their “Hits” and Nil reports for record keeping purposes and evidence of reviews.

REGISTRAR GENERAL’S DEPARTMENT



MEETINGS COVERAGE

United Nations

9360TH MEETING (AM)

SC/15336

27 JUNE 2023

Security Council Renews Democratic Republic of Congo Sanctions Regime, Unanimously Adopting Resolution 2688 (2023)

Amid ongoing violence perpetrated by armed groups in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Security Council today renewed the sanctions regime imposed on that country and extended until 1 August 2024 the mandate of the Group of Experts overseeing its implementation.

Unanimously adopting resolution 2688 (2023) (to be issued as document [S/RES/2688\(2023\)](#)) and acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations, the Council decided to renew until 1 July 2024 the measures set out in paragraphs 1 through 6 of resolution 2293 (2016) related to arms, transport, finance and travel. It also demanded that States ensure that all measures taken by them to implement the resolution comply with their obligations under international law.

Among other provisions, the text reaffirmed the importance of ensuring the safety and security of the members of the Group of Experts and recalled the Secretary-General's commitment that the United Nations will do everything possible to ensure that the perpetrators of the killing of two of the Group's members — and four Congolese nationals accompanying them — are brought to justice.

Following the adoption, speakers voiced their support for the resolution and lauded the Council's December 2022 removal of the advance notification requirement set forth in resolution 1533 (2004).

Michel Xavier Biang (Gabon), noting a trend in efforts to improve the security landscape in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, said the resolution aims to tighten the noose around armed groups and offers Congolese authorities full capacity to effectively counter them. The complete lifting of the obligation to notify allows the Congolese armed forces to better defend the territorial integrity of their country, he added, welcoming the Government's submission of its confidential report. He called on the Council to maintain consensus on the situation in the country, also urging the international community to remain mobilized to end the chronic cycle of violence.

Vassily A. Nebenzia (Russian Federation), reaffirming his delegation's support for the draft text prepared by France, pointed out that sanctions must be reviewed and adjusted — up to their full lifting — when they impede national Governments in statebuilding and creating effective armed forces. In December 2022, the Council made such a decision and lifted the notification regime on the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He underscored that Moscow — as a matter of principle — opposes the implementation of a sanctions regime against that country through illegitimate unilateral measures.

Serge Ngoy Banza (Democratic Republic of the Congo) expressed hope that the renewed measures will break the financial and military spine of armed and criminal groups operating in the eastern region of his country. Those behind the tragedy playing out there must be exposed, he asserted, noting his Government's submission of its confidential report on the management of arms and munition stocks. Further, the Congolese judiciary is working closely with the United Nations Mechanism that continues its

inquiries into the killings of two United Nations experts. Finally, he thanked the Council for its historic lifting of the notification clause in 2022.

The meeting began at 10:17 a.m. and ended at 10:26 a.m.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

! For information media. Not an official record.
