



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE  
TO THE UNITED NATIONS



**Security Council Briefing on the situation in Central Africa and the  
activities of UNOCA**

**9 June 2025**

Greece's Statement delivered

by HE Ambassador Evangelos Sekeris,

Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations, New York

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Thank you Madame President.

I would like to thank the SRSG for Central Africa and Head of UNOCA Mr. Abarry, as well as the President of ECCAS, Mr. Verissimo, for briefing us today.

Madame President,

Allow me to emphasize the following points:

First, Greece commends the efforts of the Special Representative in the region and UNOCA's commitment to the promotion of inclusive political dialogue, regional preventive diplomacy and sustainable development. We welcome UNOCA's work in supporting the states of the Central Africa sub-region in preventing and fighting against unconstitutional changes of governments and election-related risks and its advocacy for consensual and

inclusive elections, free from any restrictions on freedom of expression and from any hate speech or calls for violence, as the SRSG has stressed on several occasions.

The fruits of pursuing such political processes are now more obvious than ever. In fact, as the Secretary General's report showcases, the completion of the political transition in Chad along with its new national Demobilization, Disarmament and Reintegration (DDR) strategy, the progress of Gabon towards the full restoration of constitutional order and democracy, as well as the steps taken by other countries towards a greater regional integration through several bilateral agreements, testify also the good offices of UNOCA in the region. In this context we urge the SRSG to continue his engagement with women civil society leaders and his efforts to strengthen the role and to ensure the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women and youth in all political processes.

Second, the security and humanitarian situation in parts of the region remains alarming. The SG, in his report, notices that the persisting insecurity in parts of the region, caused by violent attacks of armed and terrorist groups and by continuous conflicts, has lead to millions of refugees, asylum seekers and IDPs in the 11 countries of the Central Africa sub-region.

We express our deep concern and we strongly condemn all forms of human rights violations, abuses, violence against civilians, peacekeeping, humanitarian, and medical personnel, sex and gender based violence, human trafficking, violations and abuses committed against children, particularly recruitment and use of children, committed by armed groups in some parts of the sub-region.

On maritime security, we take note with great concern the various cases of piracy and abductions in the Gulf of Guinea and we welcome all regional efforts promoting maritime safety and security, notably the steps taken for the assessment of the Yaoundé Architecture.

Third, the sub-region of Central Africa continues to experience the impacts of climate change with wide-ranging implications for regional stability. Extreme climate phenomena, resulting in deadly and destructive floods, drought, desertification and land degradation, food and water insecurity, exacerbate the social and economic challenges and impact the security and stability of the sub-region, whilst women and girls are paying the heaviest price of both the conflicts and the natural disasters.

Madame President,

In concluding, let me stress that the Central Africa sub-region is facing challenges that can only be addressed through cross-border cooperation, as stated at the SG report. We welcome the demonstrated political will to overcome their differences peacefully by the Central African states. We reiterate our strong commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of all States in the region.

Finally, we encourage the SRSG and UNOCA to continue the collaboration with AU, ECCAS, ECOWAS, Lake Chad Basin Commission, Gulf of Guinea Commission and other relevant stakeholders in order to effectively address challenges to peace and security.

I thank you.