



ARSENE GBAGUIDI

Head of Civil Affairs

Arsene Gbaguidi has 26 years' experience working in West and Central Africa, assuming leadership roles in the formulation of strategic advice to UN Senior Officials and Heads of UN peace operations with regards to the overall implementation of successive UN Security Council resolutions. Mr. Gbaguidi led successful teams across a range of UN peace and security activities, including peace and political processes, national elections, and democratic governance.

For the past 9 years, Mr. Gbaguidi has supported MINUSCA's senior leadership in achieving several critical milestones in the Central African Republic's political and electoral processes, including holding CAR's largest national consultative political forum (2016 Bangui Forum), the signing of the 2019 Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation, and the 2020-21 presidential and legislative elections. Throughout these core mandated processes, he advised senior leadership with pointed analysis for strategic decision-making, the effective deployment of good offices, and with the identification of novel initiatives that drove MINUSCA's mandate forward. Throughout the years, he forged strong and collaborative relationships with different presidential and ministerial-level offices in CAR, key political actors, bilateral and multilateral partners, and provided advice on the Mission's engagement with regional and sub-regional actors and organizations.

He has also gained strong managerial experience, having served as the Head of MINUSCA's Electoral Assistance since 2020, and leading the UN's integrated electoral assistance for presidential, legislative, and local elections. As the Director, he oversaw a division of over 70 international staff, and the establishment and operations of 17 electoral field offices across CAR. During this time, he established clear reporting procedures and issued clear guidance on operational aspects of the electoral process.

Before joining MINUSCA, Arsene Gbaguidi was the Resident Director and Director of Programs respectively for the National Democratic Institute (NDI) in the Central African Republic and Guinea. He has also worked as a consultant on issues of development, democracy, governance, and training for organizations such as the European Union, the World Bank, UNDP, GTZ and Danida.