



Quarterly Report on Conflict Related Human Rights Violations, Trends and Patterns in CAR July – August - September

2018

This report, published by the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Mission in Central African Republic (MINUSCA), describes conflict related human rights trends and patterns in the Central African Republic (CAR) between 1 July and 30 September 2018. The overview and analysis provided are based on human rights monitoring and investigations conducted by the Human Rights Division (HRD) of MINUSCA. The report presents the results of MINUSCA investigations into violations and abuses of International Human Rights Law (IHRL) and breaches of International Humanitarian Law (IHL) committed by the government security forces and armed groups, namely the Front populaire pour la renaissance de la Centrafrique (FPRC), anti-Balaka associated militias, the Rassemblement populaire pour le renouveau de la Centrafrique (RPRC), the “Mouvement Patriotique pour la Centrafrique” (MPC), the Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique (UPC), Mouvement National pour la Libération de la Centrafrique (MNL), Révolution et Justice (RJ), Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation (3R), SIRIRI armed group, armed Fulani, and other unidentified armed groups, including the PK5 armed gangs in Bangui.

MINUSCA conducted its investigation in accordance with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2387 of 15 November 2017, which mandates MINUSCA to “monitor, help investigate and report publicly to the Security Council on violations of international humanitarian law and on violations and abuses of human rights committed throughout CAR”.

During the reporting period, the violence in CAR took a negative toll on civilians. Armed groups carried out frequent attacks on the civilian population based either on their ethnic or religious affiliations, or in order to conquer territory. Investigations conducted by HRD have indicated that the continued violence has resulted in hundreds of civilians losing their lives or sustaining injuries, hundreds of houses either torched, destroyed or pillaged and thousands of persons forcibly displaced. The period in review also witnessed an upsurge in the manipulation of civilians and incitement to hatred and violence through different social media platforms.

The hotspots for the period under review included the prefectures of Haute-Kotto, Nana-Grébizi, Mbomou, Mambéré Kadéi, Ouham and Haut Mbomou. Fighting between rival armed groups such as the UPC and anti-Balaka in Mbomou and Ouaka prefectures, the UPC, and (MPC/FPRC coalition and anti-Balaka in Nana-Grébizi prefecture and the anti-Balaka and FPRC in Haute-Kotto prefecture as well as attacks on the civilian population by the MNL and SIRIRI armed group in Ouham-Pendé and Mambéré Kadéi prefectures, contributed to the continuous deterioration of the security situation in these areas leading to displacement of the civilians and increased need for humanitarian assistance. According to UNHCR statistics for September 2018, there was a record number of 642.842 IDPs in CAR due to ongoing violence and who are in dire need of humanitarian assistance.

In the same period, there was a fair increase in IDPs in Zemio, Mboki, Rafai, Bria, and Kaga Bandoro- which resulted from major armed clashes among the armed groups.

Within the context described above, HRD recorded 493 incidents of violations/abuses of international human rights law and breaches

of international humanitarian law affecting 925 victims, including 317 men, 119 women, 79 boys, 46 girls, 10 unknown minors, and 355 unidentified victims. Of the 925 victims, 201 civilians (100 men, 25 women, 13 boys, six girls, two unknown minors, and 55 unknown adults) thus 21.7 percent were killed and 84 others (31 men, six women, five boys, three girls, one unknown minor and 38 unknown adults) were either injured or maimed.

The human rights violations and abuses committed comprised mainly arbitrary killings, cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (ill-treatment), conflict-related sexual violence, arbitrary deprivation of liberty, destruction and confiscation of property, and serious violations and abuses against children, such as recruitment and use of children as soldiers.

Armed groups were responsible for 487 incidents (98.9% of the total number of incidents) and 916 victims (99% of the total number of victims) while State actors, including members of the Armed Forces (FACA) and Office central pour la répression du banditisme (OCRB), were responsible for six incidents (1.1 percent) affecting nine victims (1 percent) with cases of violations of the right to physical and mental integrity including torture.

Arbitrary detention remains a concern for the State Actors. In the reporting period, HRD considered only cases by State actors which were either directly related to the conflict or emblematic to the vetting process and for compliance with the Human Rights Due Diligence Policy (HRDDP). HRD will continue its technical and advisory support with concerned state institutions to address this challenge.

The lack of recourse to justice in the regions where armed groups are active has amplified the number of abuses with impunity. HRD will persist in its engagement with armed group leaders and remind them of their obligations to respect IHRL/IHL.

These gross human rights abuses and breaches of IHL could constitute war crimes. They also indicate armed groups’ failure to respect local agreements reached among themselves and to uphold commitments undertaken in numerous cessation of hostilities agreements, most recently the Rome Agreement of 20 June 2017 signed by FPRC, RPRC, UPC and anti-Balaka representatives. The situations described in this report demonstrate the continued vulnerability of civilians targeted by armed groups who act with complete impunity. They also underscore the absence and/or weakness of State institutions, including the lack of mechanisms to protect civilians and hold alleged perpetrators accountable for their actions. More efforts are needed by all parties to increase respect for international human rights law and international humanitarian law.

HRD has been able to confirm cases of human rights violations at the OCRB unit and at the Bimbo prison. During the quarter, HRD continued to engage with the Central African authorities, notably the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights to advocate for judicial investigations into allegations of human rights violations and to ensure that the perpetrators are held accountable. Moreover, these cases have been brought to the attention of the Head of State by the Special Representative of the Secretary General in CAR (SRSG).

The judicial authorities have initiated investigations into some of these cases.

The report provides key recommendations, including the need for the Government, with the support of MINUSCA, to fight against impunity, adopt robust measures to protect civilians and humanitar-

ian actors, restore State authority and the rule of law, and rebuild legitimate security forces and law enforcement authorities, particularly in areas outside Bangui. The report also calls on armed groups to cease indiscriminate attacks on civilians, including humanitarians, and take positive measures to ensure full respect for international human rights and humanitarian law.

REPORTED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN CAR OCTOBER 2018

Figure 1

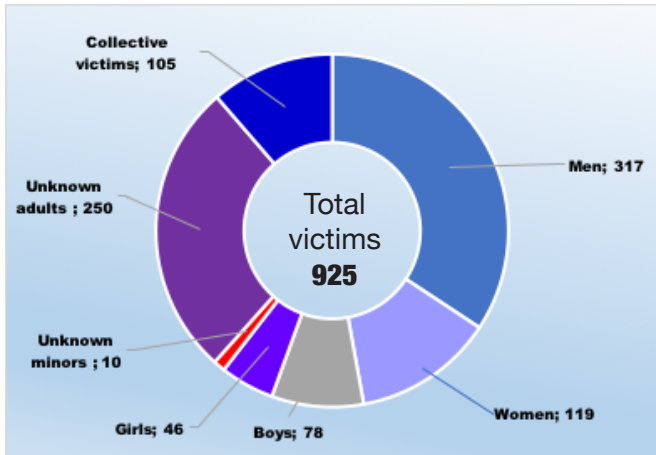


Figure 3

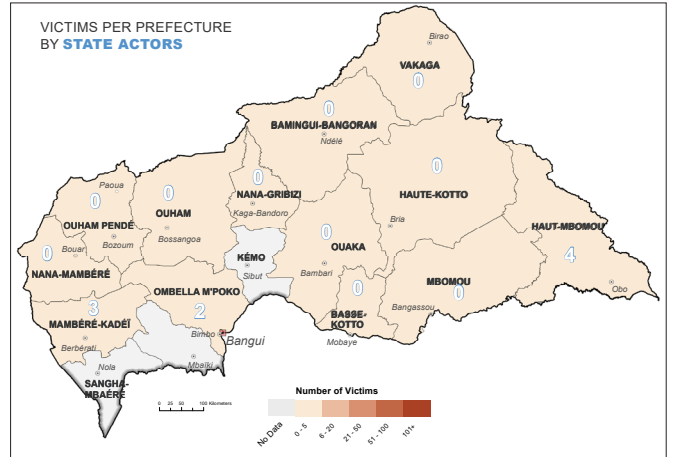


Figure 2

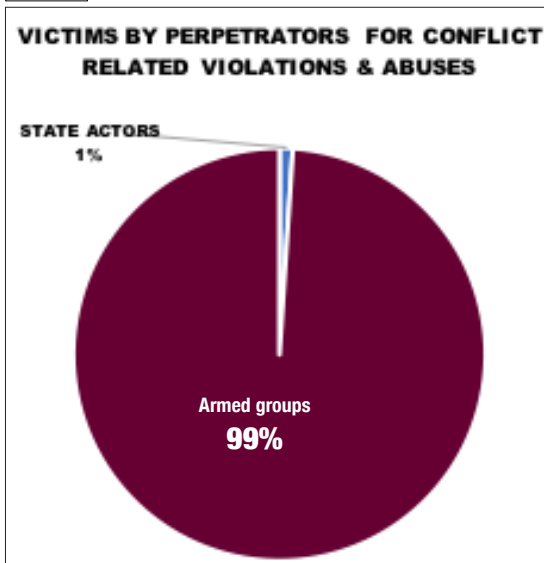


Figure 4

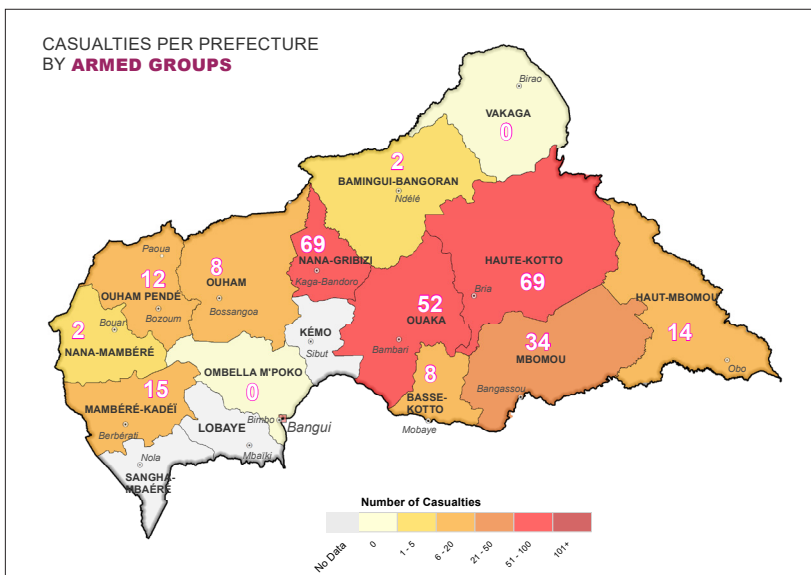
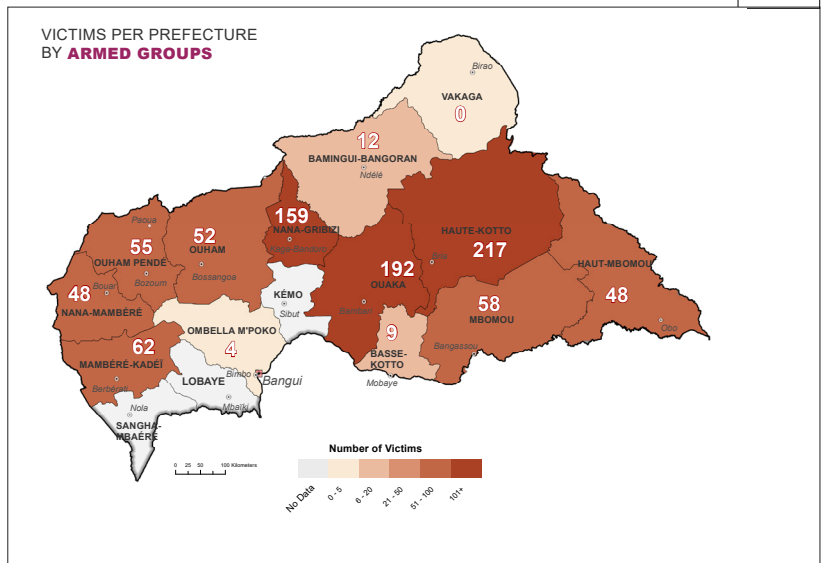


Figure 5

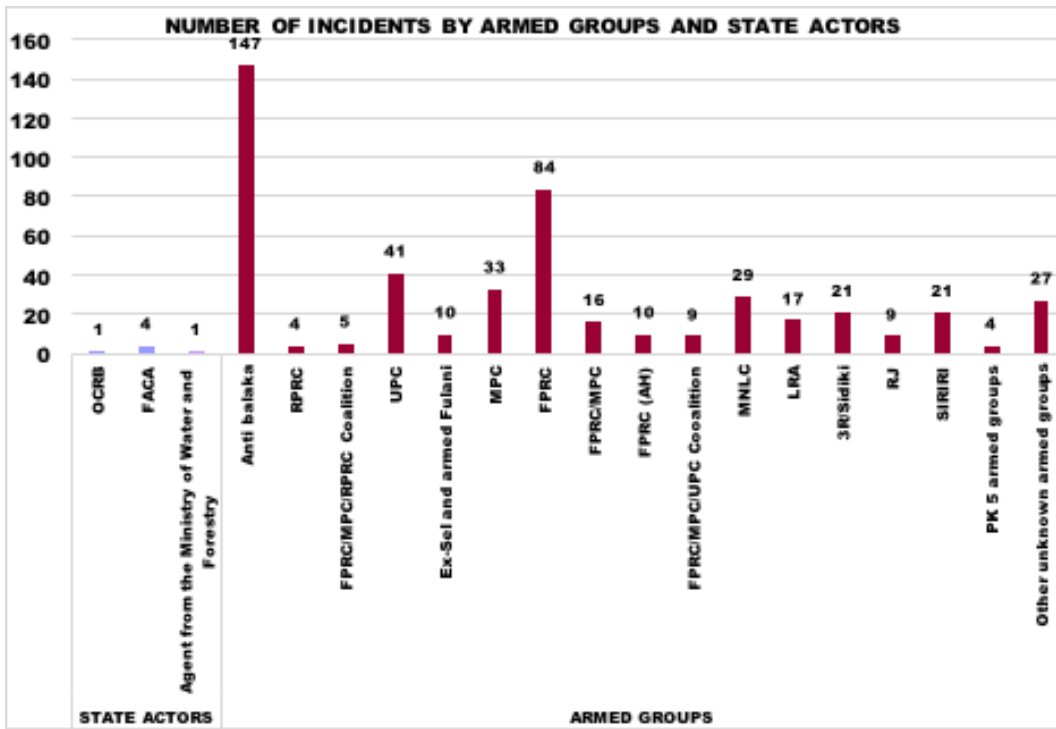


Figure 6

EVOLUTION OF DOCUMENTED HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS/ABUSES/VICTIMS PER MONTH

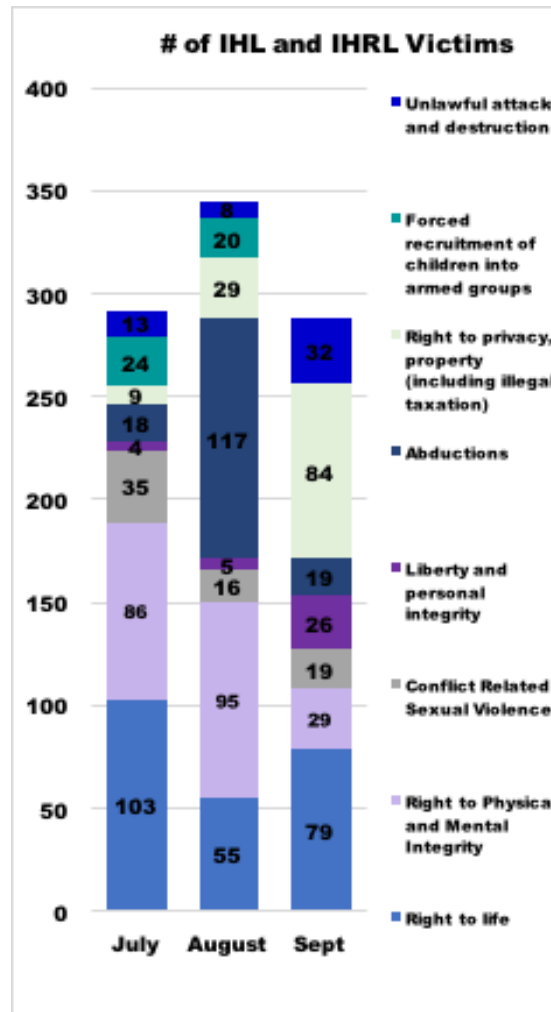
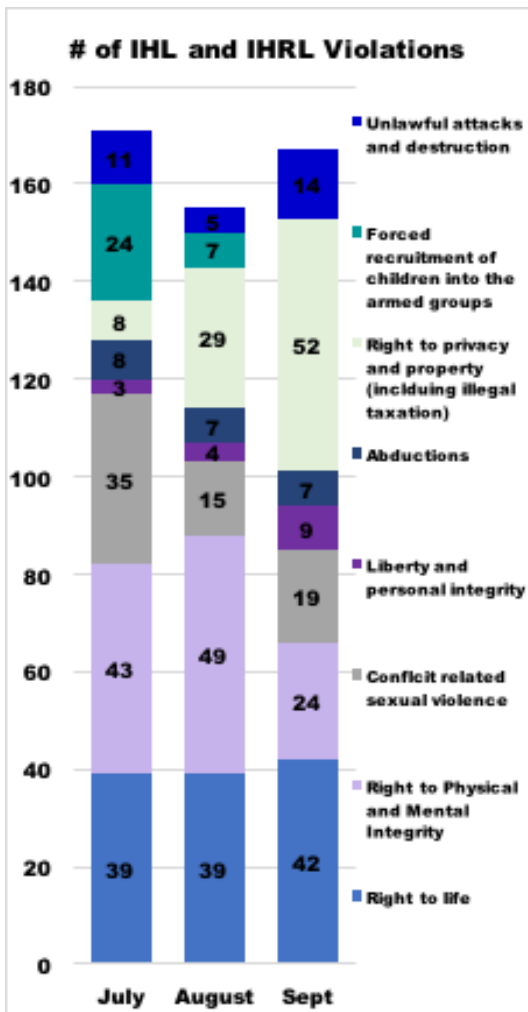


Figure 7

Figure 8

TOTAL REPORTED VIOLATIONS/ABUSES & VICTIMS PER MONTH:

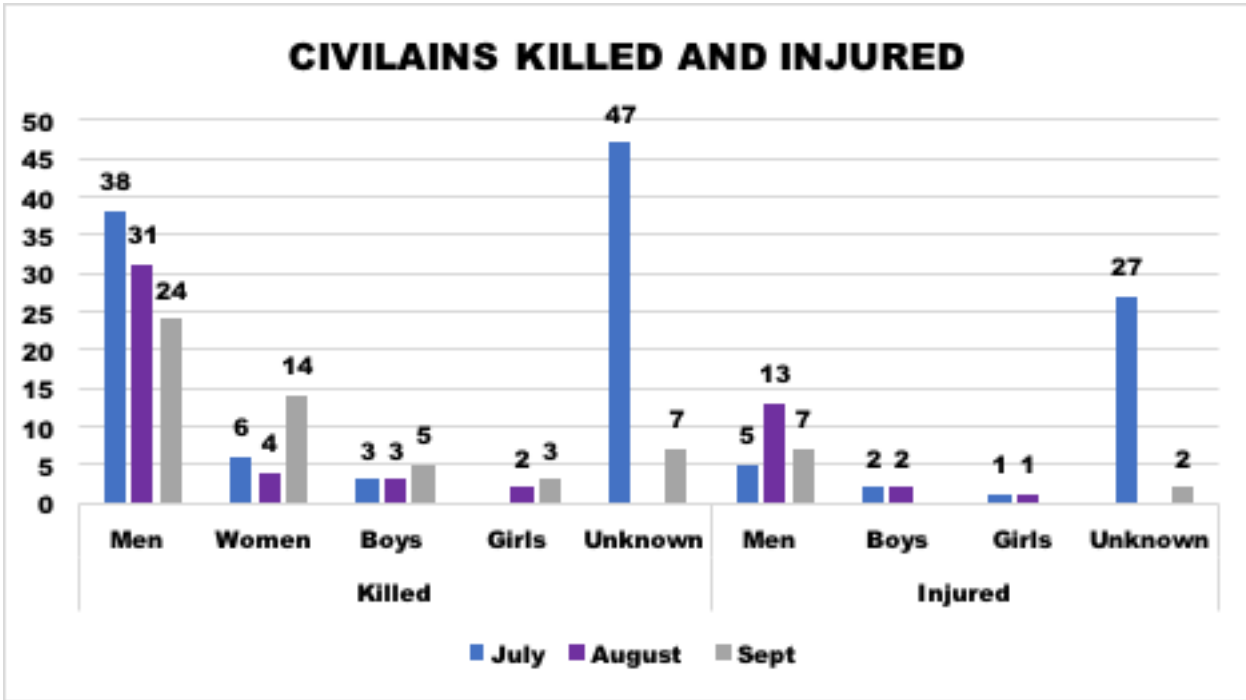
171 & 292
JULY 2018

155 & 345
AUGUST 2018

167 & 288
SEPTEMBER 2018

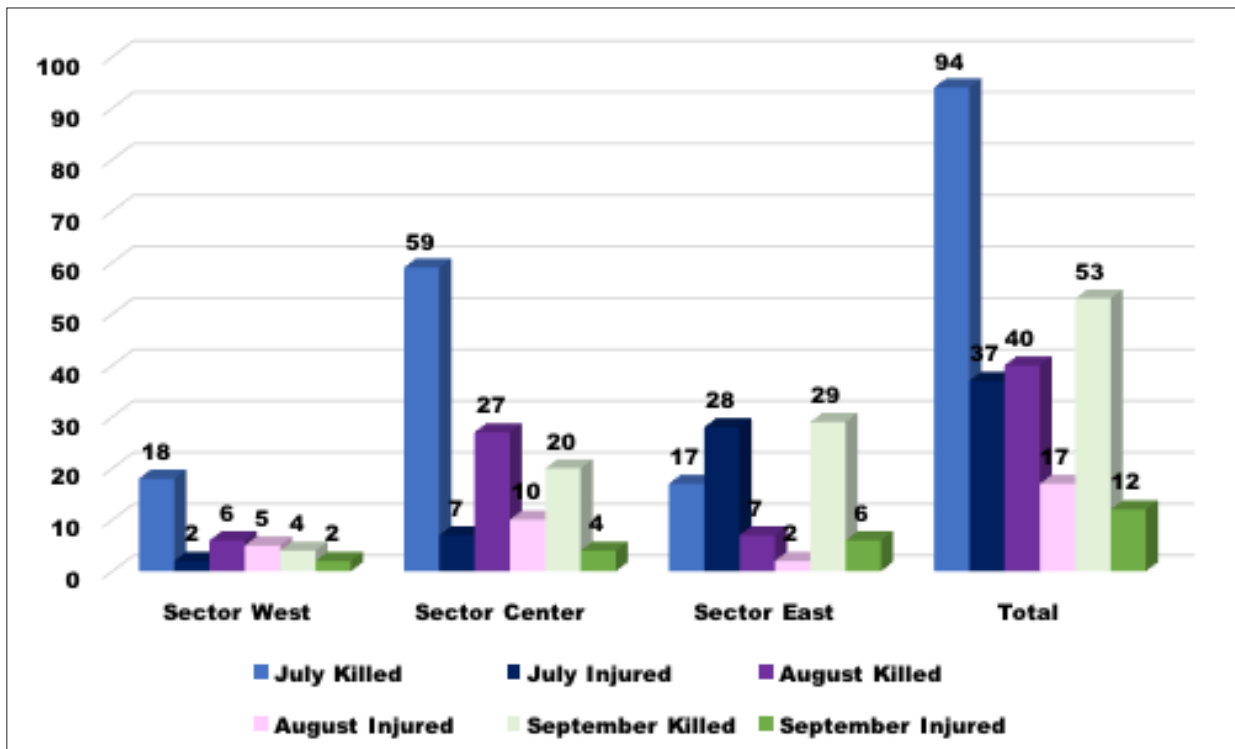
EVOLUTION OF DOCUMENTED CASUALTIES IN JULY, AUGUST & SEPTEMBER 2018

Figure 9



CASUALTIES BY SECTORS

Figure 10



The figures mentioned in this fact sheet do not reflect a complete overview of the human rights violations and abuses in July – August – September 2018, but only relate to cases documented by the HRD, through OHCHR methodology and standards. It is worth noting that these figures may include human rights violations committed during previous months but brought to the attention of the MINUSCA's HRD in July – August – September 2018. Statistics on the number of violations/abuses reported may increase or decrease over a given period due to numerous factors outside the control and/or knowledge of the HRD and must therefore be used with caution.