



# Security Council

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## Central African Republic

### Report of the Secretary-General

#### I. Introduction

1. By its resolution [2709 \(2023\)](#), the Security Council extended the mandate of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) until 15 November 2024 and requested the Secretary-General to report on its implementation every four months. The present report provides an update on major developments in the Central African Republic since the previous report of 18 June 2024 ([S/2024/473](#)) and recommendations for the extension of the Mission's mandate.

#### II. Political situation

2. During the reporting period, the political situation was marked by the continued efforts by the Government to mobilize resources to organize the local elections, which were postponed to April 2025, owing to funding, operational and technical challenges. Divergent views of the Government and the Bloc républicain pour la défense de la Constitution regarding the inclusiveness of the elections continued, with the opposition maintaining its boycott to the local elections. Progress was made in the implementation the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in the Central African Republic and the joint road map for peace in the Central African Republic of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region, with the Government engaging armed groups which expressed willingness to return to the peace process. In addition, the Government continued to intensify diplomatic initiatives to sustain peace and stability in the Central African Republic.

##### Political developments

3. The Government restated its willingness to enhance the inclusiveness of the political process. On 2 August, during a press conference, the President of the Central African Republic, Faustin Touadéra, described the elections as an opportunity for all political parties to participate in local governance. On 25 June, the Union des forces démocratiques de l'opposition party announced it would participate in the local elections and, on 6 August, the Unité républicaine party called for its supporters to register for local elections. However, the opposition platform Bloc républicain pour la défense de la Constitution maintained its position to not participate in the electoral



process, unless the National Electoral Authority and the Constitutional Council were restructured, and continued criticizing nationality provisions in the 2023 Constitution.

### **Peace process**

4. On 11 July, the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, at its 1221st meeting, discussed the situation in the Central African Republic, calling for the strengthening of confidence-building measures to promote inclusive and credible local elections. The Council called upon armed groups, in particular the Coalition des patriotes pour le changement, to adhere to the peace process and encouraged regional security cooperation. On 10 September, the Chairperson of the African Union Peace and Security Council launched the 2024 Africa Amnesty Month initiative in Bangui to raise awareness on surrendering illicit small arms and light weapons.

5. Since early August, the Coalition des patriotes pour le changement has experienced internal fragmentation. The Chief of Staff and Military Coordinator of the Coalition and leader of the Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique, Ali Darassa, issued a communiqué dated 26 July affirming the willingness of the Coalition to dialogue with the Government. On 4 August, the former President and General Coordinator of the Coalition, François Bozizé, contested the authority of Darassa to make such decisions, while emphasizing the Coalition's openness to dialogue under certain conditions. On 6 August, Darassa reiterated the intent of the Coalition to cease hostilities, requesting the Government to provide security guarantees for ex-combatants. The Minister of State in charge of disarmament, demobilization, repatriation and reintegration and the follow-up to the Political Agreement requested Darassa to provide a list detailing the names of commanders and members of his armed group, the Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique, as well as their military assets, and to identify an assembly site for disarmament operations. On 14 and 16 August, the Minister met with an emissary of Darassa and representatives of the Mokom wing of the anti-balaka to discuss the way forward.

6. On 30 August, the Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique, the Mouvement de la révolution populaire anti-balaka, the Front patriotique pour la renaissance de la Centrafrique and the Front de défense pour les libertés publiques issued a joint communiqué informing of the establishment of the Coalition des patriotes pour le changement-Fondamentale. On 9 September, the Coalition des patriotes pour le changement issued a statement cautioning combatants and Central Africans of this new group and reaffirming its opposition to the Government of President Touadéra.

7. On 28 August, the Prime Minister, Félix Moloua, chaired the eighth coordination meeting on the political and peace process, which reviewed progress since the last meeting, held on 21 October 2023. At the meeting, the achievements of the prefectural implementing mechanisms of the Political Agreement were highlighted, with 68 per cent of activities in the national dashboard implemented, and it was recommended, inter alia, that more regular coordination meetings be held, that communication on achievements be increased and that each prefectural implementing mechanisms finalize its dashboard to secure further progress in the peace process at the local level.

8. The meeting also allowed participants to take stock of progress related to the initial implementation of the national border management policy, such as the launch on 8 August of the construction of a pilot mixed border post at Bembéré, Lim-Pendé Prefecture, on the border with Chad. This would be the first ever multi-service border post in the country to host internal security forces and relevant national agencies under the same roof with the aim of improving the management and control of the border area.

9. On 19 September, Mr. Touadéra chaired the tenth session of the strategic committee on disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation, security sector reform and national reconciliation, which was attended by the Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) and members of the diplomatic corps. Mr. Touadéra noted progress in the security situation and in the implementation of the Political Agreement, urging armed groups to cease hostilities and join the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation programme.

10. On 13 July, the Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reform, who is also the Minister Resident of Haut-Mbomou Prefecture, accompanied by the Special Representative and representatives of the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the World Food Programme, visited Bambouti and Obo, Haut-Mbomou Prefecture, to take stock of the progress made in improving security and living conditions. Approximately 2,000 refugees who had taken shelter in South Sudan returned to the area over a five-month period following the deployment of MINUSCA force in May, which enabled the extension of administrative and security authorities, as well as better access to basic social services.

11. Prefectural implementing mechanisms, supported by MINUSCA, brought together local authorities, representatives of armed groups, religious leaders, civil society representatives and women organizations to promote peaceful transhumance and disarmament and address hate speech inciting intercommunal violence. Several prefectural implementing mechanisms participated in community radio broadcasts to sensitize communities on the dangers of disinformation and importance of social cohesion. In Bamingui-Bangoran Prefecture, following a dispute between herders and farmers on 4 June, the prefectural implementing mechanism initiated a mediation that de-escalated tensions and created conditions for the peaceful resolution of emerging disputes. The Prefects of Kemo, Nana-Gribizi and Ouham-Fafa continued to call on armed elements to disarm and join the peace process through these mechanisms.

12. As at 26 September, local peace and reconciliation committees, as well as local and religious authorities contributed to address community conflicts linked to transhumance, land issues and chieftaincy, resolving eight cases during the reporting period with the support of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women), and financed by the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund. Since 2021, the work of local peace and reconciliation committees has contributed to a 40 per cent reduction in community violence in the northwest and southeast regions. Civil society actors, with MINUSCA support, have established 11 "peace circles" to support the work of women leaders in community reconciliation.

13. The Government continued to implement the national disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation programme for combatants from armed groups that have remained within the Political Agreement framework, as well as dissidents from the Coalition des patriotes pour le changement who have expressed willingness to disarm and be demobilized. Following outreach, Government mobile teams, with MINUSCA support, conducted a series of disarmament and demobilization operations between 21 June and 13 July in Bangui, as well as in Haut-Mbomou, Ouham and Vakaga Prefectures for 136 eligible combatants; weapons of war, ammunition and rockets were collected.

14. Most combatants yet to join the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation programme are presumed to be active combatants in armed groups affiliated with the Coalition des patriotes pour le changement. MINUSCA continued to receive reports of disarmament operations outside the national programme, led by

national defence forces and other security personnel. Combatants who surrender their weapons outside the national programme are not eligible for socioeconomic reintegration benefits. MINUSCA continues to bring to the attention of the Government the resulting associated risks to the integrity of the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation programme and initiatives in security sector reform. The Government has pursued efforts to retrieve weapons surrendered during those operations to enable eligible combatants to participate in the national programme.

15. MINUSCA continued to implement community violence reduction projects involving cash-for-work activities, income-generating initiatives and vocational training in various communities in remote locations across 10 prefectures.

### **Electoral process**

16. On 22 August, the National Electoral Authority announced the revised electoral calendar, developed with the support of MINUSCA, rescheduling the local elections from 13 October 2024 to 6 April 2025 owing to operational delays stemming from insufficient funding. The postponement was consulted with stakeholders in the strategic committee for elections. Only \$4.8 million out of a budget of \$14.8 million had been contributed to the UNDP-managed basket fund as at 1 October. The Prime Minister established a working group, chaired by the Minister of Finance to address persistent operational and financial challenges at the level of the National Electoral Authority.

17. On 12 September, Mr. Touadéra signed a decree which sets out the procedures for preparing the voters' list, with the process scheduled to take place from 23 September to 30 December. However, the start of the operations was delayed owing to challenges procuring voter registration kits and updating the voter registration software and tablets. These issues are being addressed by the Government with support from MINUSCA and UNDP. MINUSCA and UN-Women intensified outreach and civic education efforts to encourage participation in the voter registration process – particularly among women, youth, internally displaced persons and returnees – and to enhance understanding of the new electoral code promulgated by the President on 2 July. UNDP continued to provide technical assistance to the electoral process. The national defence and security forces and MINUSCA have completed and validated operational plans to secure the voter registration process in line with the integrated elections security plan.

18. The Government, in collaboration with MINUSCA, continued to support 33 platforms of politically engaged women in Bangui and in 15 prefectures. As at 1 October, MINUSCA, UNDP and UN-Women, funded by the Secretary-General's Peacebuilding Fund, had facilitated the issuance of 28,000 birth certificates for women, youth, displaced persons and other vulnerable groups in order to enable their participation in the local elections.

### **Regional and international engagement**

19. The Government continued strengthening its strategic partnerships with international and regional actors. On 26 and 27 June, in Bangui, the Governments of Cameroon and the Central African Republic held the sixth session of the ad hoc commission on borders and the third session of the joint permanent commission on cross-border security, with MINUSCA support. The Prime Minister of the Central African Republic called for improved bilateral cooperation on cross-border issues in line with the national policy on border management. Recommendations from the sessions included joint efforts to formally demarcate the border and regular meetings between respective local authorities to address transborder challenges.

20. In early June, Mr. Touadéra showcased investment opportunities in the Central African Republic at the Korea-Africa Summit held in Seoul, while the Prime Minister participated in the twenty-fourth Saint Petersburg International Economic Forum and also Rwanda to explore further cooperation in security and development. On 2 July, in Moscow, an agreement was signed in the presence of the Central African Minister of State in charge of Justice and the Public Prosecutor of the Russian Federation to train Central African lawyers at the Russian Academy of Justice. Since June, multiple meetings have taken place between the President of the Central African Republic and President of France, Emmanuel Macron, with a view to strengthening bilateral relations.

### **III. Security situation, protection of civilians and extension of State authority**

21. The security situation remained volatile, in particular in the northwest and east, with the number of violations of the Political Agreement increasing during the reporting period (annex I, figure I). Sensitization and political efforts, including the national high-level conference on transhumance in May, and the start of the rainy season contributed to reduce incidents relating to transhumance. However, the security situation deteriorated in the western and eastern regions owing to recurrent armed clashes over access to mining sites and influence over main road axes (annex I, figure II). In those areas, armed groups engaged in criminal activities against civilians, while national defence forces and other security personnel intensified targeted operations against armed group positions. National defence forces also conducted robust patrols in coordination with MINUSCA, focusing on protecting civilians in hotspots and areas comprising transhumance corridors.

22. In the northwest of the Central African Republic, the situation deteriorated in parts of the Yade region as Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation (3R) combatants intensified attacks on positions of national defence forces. On 2 July, these combatants attacked the post of the national defence forces in Ngoutéré, Ouham-Pendé Prefecture and ambushed military reinforcements, killing at least two soldiers and injuring several others. The following day, three civilians were killed by an explosive ordnance device placed by unidentified armed elements on the same axis. On 11 September, Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation combatants attacked a national defence post in Ngoutere, Ouham-Pendé Prefecture, killing two soldiers and one civilian, burning dozens of houses and causing the displacement of civilians. On 13 September, the village chief was killed in a counteroffensive by the national defence forces.

23. Armed groups attacked several mining sites to gain control over them, thereby fuelling insecurity. Following the granting of exploitation rights by the Government to a mining company, on 22 June, suspected Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation combatants attacked the Kadanga mining site, Ouham Prefecture, killing five civilians. National defence forces and other security personnel dispersed the combatants. On 22 July, Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation combatants killed four civilians, who had been abducted near a gold mining site in Korom-Poko, Ouham Prefecture.

24. In Nana-Mambéré Prefecture, armed groups attempted to recover their former strongholds around the Abba and Dagbaya mining sites. On 15 July, at the Dagbaya mining site, suspected anti-balaka combatants killed one civilian. On 2 August, suspected Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation combatants killed two soldiers near the border post of Gamboula, Mambéré-Kadéï Prefecture.

25. Armed groups continued kidnapping foreign nationals for ransom in Nana-Mambéré Prefecture. On 8 July, unidentified armed elements kidnapped two foreign nationals in Alim and Douagouzou, releasing them on 1 August. On 9 July, unidentified armed men kidnapped eight foreign construction workers around Zotoua, releasing them on 24 August.

26. On 23 July, the bodies of anti-balaka leader José Befio and his bodyguard were found decapitated following a military operation by national defence and security forces and other security personnel in Bouca, Ouham-Fafa Prefecture, prompting minority Fulani community members to seek refuge at the local gendarmerie owing to fear of reprisals. On 28 July, MINUSCA dispatched a long-range patrol to Bouca and established two temporary operating bases in and around Bouca, enabling the return of displaced persons. On 2 and 3 August, a MINUSCA joint protection team engaged with communities in Batangafo and Bouca to de-escalate tensions and facilitate humanitarian access and supported the deployment of the new sub-prefect.

27. In the northeast, insecurity increased in the Ouadda, Ouanda Djalle and Sam-Ouandja triangle owing to retaliatory attacks by the Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique against national defence forces and a local self-defence group established with the support of local authorities in Ouadda, Haute-Kotto Prefecture. In the same Prefecture, on 20 July, armed elements killed five civilians near Délé. National defence and security forces conducted joint patrols with MINUSCA to contain the situation.

28. On 4 July, in Mbangana, Haute-Kotto Prefecture, operations by the national defence and security forces and other security personnel pushed armed groups back northwest towards Bamingui-Bangoran and Vakaga Prefectures. The retreating armed groups increased attacks on civilians prompting the latter's displacement.

29. In the southeast, the Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reform and the Special Representative visited Bambouti on 13 July to launch the construction of the Bambouti town hall, a potable water infrastructure project and a road rehabilitation project. These are 3 of 12 projects planned by MINUSCA and the United Nations country team to further stabilize the Haut-Mbomou Prefecture, made possible by MINUSCA deployment to Bambouti in May 2024 creating a conducive security environment. Following repair works undertaken by MINUSCA, the Obo–Bambouti axis road reopened. This last segment of the main supply road linking Bangui to South Sudan had been impassable for the last 30 years.

30. Tensions escalated in Zemio sub-prefecture owing to the activities of the Azande Ani Kpi Gbe, with some of its members reportedly recruited into or deployed alongside the national defence and security forces under the name Wagner Ti Azande (WTA). On 19 June, national defence forces supported by Wagner Ti Azande combatants clashed with the Unité pour la paix en Centrafrique at Banangui. National defence forces supported by Wagner Ti Azande also searched houses of the Muslim minority and the premises of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for “enemy combatants”. On 17 September, 100 civilians fled from Zemio to Bangassou, Mbomou Prefecture. In response, MINUSCA dispatched a joint protection team mission from 24 to 26 September.

31. In the Plateaux region, armed elements shifted their focus from transhumance corridors to key supply roads, with four attacks by unidentified armed elements along the main supply roads. On 26 June, in Liby village, Ombella-Mpoko Prefecture, armed combatants attacked a convoy targeting a member of parliament, killing two civilians and one soldier. National defence forces, in coordination with MINUSCA, increased patrols along the main supply routes to deter armed group activities.

32. The crime rate in Bangui increased by 18 per cent compared with the previous period. In the fifth district of the capital, 3 out of the 11 former self-defence group members arrested on 29 April by internal security forces and other security personnel were released on 25 July.

33. Since April 2023, over 29,000 Sudanese refugees have arrived in the Central African Republic, 14,500 are sheltered at Korsi camp at the outskirts of Birao, Vakaga Prefecture, a number almost equivalent to the local population, exerting pressure on scarce resources and increasing the risk of intercommunal tensions. MINUSCA responded by supporting mediation and local conflict resolution mechanisms. At the border with Sudan, MINUSCA used its temporary operating base in Am-Dafock to conduct joint patrols with national defence and security forces to deter movement of combatants and support the control of border areas.

34. Explosive ordnance threats persisted in the northwest (see annex I, figure III). Between 2 June to 1 October, the number of such incidents decreased, and the number of casualties decreased compared with the previous reporting period. MINUSCA conducted explosive ordnance risk education sessions for the local population in the Bangui, Bouar and Kaga-Bandoro regions. On 2 August, MINUSCA successfully completed a level 3 explosive ordnance disposal training session for the national defence forces.

35. MINUSCA continued efforts to extend State authority, including through the rehabilitation of roads, ferries, administrative buildings and town halls, as well as facilities of internal security forces on key axes, such as Birao-Am Dafock, Dilapoko-Noufou, Sam Ouandja-Ouadda and Zemio-Mboki. MINUSCA assisted in the delivery of basic social services by upgrading health centres, schools and markets, and by funding income-generating activities for women and young people. These initiatives helped the Government access remote locations and facilitated the deployment of national defence and security forces, as well as civil administration.

36. In July, the Ministry of Territorial Administration, Decentralization and Local Development and MINUSCA organized pre-deployment training for local authorities appointed by the President, who subsequently deployed to their posts with MINUSCA airlift support to remote areas, mainly in the Haut-Oubangui and Fertit regions (annex I, figure IV).

37. Challenging conditions of service, including recurrent non-payment of subsistence allowance, for national defence and security forces resulted in several cases of desertions during the reporting period. Desertions of soldiers and police officers were reported in Nzacko and Yalinga, Mbomou Prefecture throughout July and August. On 18 July, in Bangassou, Mbomou Prefecture, four police officers were arrested by national defence forces and given a 21-day detention, following their desertion from Nzacko. On 23 August, in Bakouma, Mbomou Prefecture, national defence and security forces temporarily abducted the mayor, demanding their rotation and the payment of 16 months of unpaid subsistence allowance. On 19 July, in Vakaga Prefecture, 26 soldiers stationed in Am-Dafock threatened to abandon their post if they were not paid the subsistence allowance; they were rotated on 19 September.

38. The Inspectorate General of the National Army and the Ministry of Defence conducted field missions to Birao and Bouar, supported by MINUSCA. These visits aimed at assisting national defence force leadership to take appropriate corrective measures to improve the command and control of national defence forces and to ensure the payment of allowances. On 5 August, MINUSCA completed the renovation of the building used by the Permanent Military Court of Bouar. On 27 September, the new national defence policy 2024–2040 was validated by the Minister of Defence after a two-year review process with support from MINUSCA.

## IV. Human rights and the rule of law

### Human rights

39. Human rights violations and abuses increased by 73 per cent during the reporting period, while the number of victims increased by 83 per cent (annex I, figure VI). Attacks by armed groups against civilians; military operations by the national defence and security forces with the support of other security personnel against armed groups in the Mbomou and Ouham-Pendé Prefectures; and instability in border areas continued to negatively impact the human rights situation. MINUSCA conducted field and remote human rights investigations, as well as established and reinforced early warning networks comprising Central African human rights focal points in four locations across the country.

40. On 27 August, the Ministry of Justice created a commission to investigate human rights violations and abuses in Haut-Mbomou Prefecture, notably in Mboki, Obo and Zemio. Presided over by the General Prosecutor of Bambari and comprised of eight members of the judiciary, the Ministry of Justice and representatives of the gendarmerie, the Commission was placed under the direct authority of the Minister of Justice and has 45 days to provide its report.

41. On 18 July, the Ministry of Justice and MINUSCA organized a dialogue on the implementation of the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Treatment of Prisoners (the Nelson Mandela Rules) in the Central African Republic. The event also served to publicize a joint report on the deprivation of liberty in the Central African Republic by MINUSCA and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. The dialogue resulted in several recommendations to support the Government in improving detention conditions and enhance access to justice for persons in detention.

42. As part of its support for the national action plan against hate speech, the High Council on Communication and the Consortium Against Hate Speech, composed of five civil society organizations, established an early warning network of focal points, including women, in 10 localities in the western part of the country in collaboration with MINUSCA.

43. Serious violations of children's rights continued during the reporting period (see annex I, figure VIII). MINUSCA initiated child protection dialogue with the Azande Ani Kpi Gbe in Bambouti and 73 children were released from the militia in Obo and Bambouti, Haut-Mbomou Prefecture. On 30 September, the Government and the United Nations signed a handover protocol for the protection and transfer of children associated with armed groups and forces to civilian authorities. On 11 June, the Bambari governmental vocational training centre became fully operational with MINUSCA support, enabling the attendance of 100 boys and girls vulnerable to recruitment and use, sexual violence, exploitation and trafficking.

44. Conflict-related sexual violence persisted throughout the country but was most prevalent in Lim-Pendé Prefecture, reportedly perpetrated primarily by Retour, réclamation et réhabilitation (see annex I, figure VII). Rape and gang rape continue to be the most documented forms of conflict-related sexual violence in the country. The strategic committee on the fight against gender-based violence linked to conflicts in Central Africa Republic, with the support of MINUSCA and the United Nations Team of Experts on the Rule of Law and Sexual Violence in Conflict, finalized the revised national action plan on sexual violence in conflict (2024–2028), which was presented to partners by Mr. Touadéra during a ceremony held on 25 June.



45. In line with the human rights due diligence policy MINUSCA trained 23 members of internal security forces and 24 national defence forces, including eight women, on their roles and responsibilities in enhancing respect for human rights.

### **Rule of law**

46. As at 1 October, 20 of the 25 courts outside of Bangui were operational. The new facilities of the Bambari Court of Appeal were inaugurated on 16 September.

47. From 22 July to 20 August, the Bangui Court of Appeal held its first criminal session of 2024 with the support of MINUSCA. Of the 62 cases on the docket, 52 were tried; the cases involved 82 defendants. Nine individuals were acquitted, while 73 were sentenced to imprisonment. One individual accused of the murder of a peacekeeper from Senegal in March 2017 was acquitted owing to insufficient evidence. With the support of MINUSCA, 17 out of the 27 cases on the docket concerning sexual violence were tried, involving 17 defendants. Three individuals were acquitted and 14 were sentenced to imprisonment.

48. During the reporting period, the Special Criminal Court, in coordination with law enforcement personnel, arrested and indicted 6 individuals for war crimes and crimes against humanity, including for the attack on Bangui's Notre Dame de Fatima Church on 28 May 2014. On 16 September, the Special Criminal Court handed down its first-ever reparations in the Central African Republic, disbursing some \$32,000 to victims of the Lemouna and Koundjili attacks on 21 May 2019.

49. The number of operational prisons increased from 15 to 16, including seven with access to healthcare, while the number of penitentiary personnel increased (see annex I, figure IV). The penitentiary system continued to suffer from overcrowding and food shortages, resulting in the death of prisoners and escapes.

### **Socioeconomic and humanitarian situation**

50. In June, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) published a country report on the Central African Republic, which projected an increase of real gross domestic product by 1.4 per cent in 2024 if reforms of the fuel market and stronger governance accelerated. The fuel supply chain in the country has been unstable since early June.

51. On 24 June, IMF completed the second review under the extended credit facility arrangement for the Central African Republic, enabling an immediate disbursement of \$25 million to address the fiscal shortfall and sustain essential public services. IMF highlighted the need to overhaul the fuel market for economic stability and growth. On 17 July, in Bangui, Mr. Touadéra met with IMF representatives to discuss cash flow, oil taxation and petroleum imports, resulting in the commitment of national authorities to step-up the implementation of the economic and financial reforms recommended by IMF.

52. The draft national development plan for 2024–2028 was validated during a national workshop from 13 to 15 September, chaired by Mr. Touadéra. The plan is budgeted at \$12 billion and is structured around five strategic pillars: strengthening peace and security, promoting economic development in key productive sectors, including physical infrastructure, investing in human capital and social services, strengthening governance and public institutions, and promoting environmental sustainability. The priorities of the plan are reflected in the United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework and the Mission Plan for MINUSCA.

53. From 9 to 15 September, a Kimberley Process monitoring team visited the Central African Republic to assess the security situation and control mechanisms in the non-compliant zones with the Kimberley Process framework, following the

request from the Government on 4 November 2023 to the Review Committee on the Kimberley Process Certification to lift the suspension of diamond exports from the Central African Republic.

54. Delivery of humanitarian assistance was hampered owing to persisting access challenges and the activities of armed groups, as well as the considerable funding shortfalls in the humanitarian response plan (see annex I, figure IX), which aims to help 1.9 million vulnerable people.

55. Since January 2024, 117,936 out of 455,533 registered internally displaced persons returned to their homes (see annex I, figure X). During the reporting period, the number of Central African refugees in neighbouring countries decreased, while 44,361 refugees and 8,221 asylum-seekers are hosted in the Central African Republic. On 26 July, the Prime Minister and the Secretary-General's Special Adviser on Solutions to Internal Displacement launched the national strategy for durable solutions for internally displaced persons and returnees in the Central African Republic 2024–2028.

56. On 20 July, the Ministry of Health and Population declared an outbreak of mpox, with 324 suspected cases, 55 confirmed ones, and one death as at 22 September. The Ministry of Health is implementing a joint response plan to control the outbreak with the World Health Organization and the United Nations Children's Fund.

## **V. United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic**

### **Performance optimization**

57. MINUSCA continued to provide multifaceted support to advance the peace process, guided by its five-year political strategy. MINUSCA supported the Government's efforts to extend State authority in areas such as Bambouti, Haut-Mbomou Prefecture and Bembere, Lim-Pendé Prefecture, while extending its presence in the country by adjusting the areas of responsibility of uniformed personnel in the southeast and deploying temporary operating bases in hot-spots, such as Bouca, Ouham-Fafa Prefecture. These measures contributed to de-escalate intercommunal violence and provide security and access for MINUSCA civilian personnel, humanitarian partners, local authorities and the local population. MINUSCA also rehabilitated 6 bridges during the reporting period to enable better access for operations and to support the population.

58. During the reporting period, MINUSCA navigated significant resource constraints, including as a result of a disruption of its fuel supply chain owing to a change in the Government's fuel import policy effective 1 December 2023. MINUSCA had to tap into its strategic reserves in July, while implementing conservation measures to mitigate operational risks to the implementation of its mandate.

59. MINUSCA has implemented cost saving measures considering the liquidity situation of the United Nations. The Mission has suspended most external visits, suspended non-critical external travel or training, delayed acquisition of goods and services, as well as the use of consultants. To minimize the impact on its mandate, MINUSCA has established a financing schedule to prioritize the financing of the Mission's strategic projects, ensuring agility in cash availability.

60. The Mission terminated its contract for an unmanned aerial system on 15 July, in response to Government restrictions on their use since December 2023; impounded equipment of this system was released on 14 August.

61. A military aviation transport unit (C-130) was deployed to MINUSCA on 6 August to support operations, including resupply and movement of personnel, while the Bell AB-205 helicopters of one military aviation unit were replaced by Black Hawks on 27 September to increase air mobility and reduce gaps in air support coverage.

62. MINUSCA increased its renewable energy supply and consumption by installing three additional solar power systems, two in Bangui, one in Sibut, with a total of 10 now operational. MINUSCA has improved waste management by installing solid waste collection points and reinforcing waste segregation at MINUSCA camps. MINUSCA distributed 22 portable barrel incinerators to reduce the risk of disposal of solid and biomedical waste at remote bases.

63. During the reporting period, MINUSCA trained 214 uniformed personnel, including 16 women, in explosive ordnance threat mitigation and delivered explosive risk awareness sessions for 536 United Nations personnel and humanitarian workers, including 132 women.

64. As at 1 October, the MINUSCA military component had deployed 14,174 troops (7.72 per cent women) out of an authorized strength of 14,400 personnel, including 418 staff officers (105 women) and 153 military observers (52 women). The MINUSCA police component had deployed 3,010 personnel (16.78 per cent women) out of an authorized strength of 3,020 personnel, comprising 593 individual police officers (178 women) and 2,417 personnel (327 women) in 14 formed police units and one protection support unit. A total of 1,567 civilian personnel (31 per cent women), comprising 697 international staff members, 590 national staff members and 280 United Nations Volunteers, as well as 107 government-provided corrections personnel, were serving with MINUSCA, representing 86 per cent of the 1,823 approved positions.

#### **Safety and security of United Nations personnel**

65. From 2 June to 1 October, security incidents involving United Nations personnel decreased (annex I, figure XII). In total, 4 personnel died due to illness and 19 were injured in a total of 37 road traffic accidents.

66. From 2 June to 1 October, MINUSCA recorded three violations of the status-of-forces agreement, compared with four incidents during the previous reporting period. MINUSCA continued to raise these violations with national authorities.

#### **Serious misconduct, including sexual exploitation and abuse**

67. From 2 June to 1 October, MINUSCA documented 15 allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse involving 26 female victims, including four children. The alleged perpetrators include four civilian personnel and 26 uniformed personnel. Two allegations reportedly occurred in 2024, 13 between 2014 and 2023. Two troop-contributing countries appointed national investigators; the United Nations continues to investigate allegations not assigned to national investigators, as well as those involving police and civilian personnel.

68. MINUSCA referred 33 victims of sexual exploitation and abuse to humanitarian partners for assistance and supported four victims directly based on urgent specific needs. MINUSCA continued capacity-building activities for members of the 42 operational local community networks to support sexual exploitation and abuse prevention efforts.

## **VI. Electoral needs assessment mission**

69. Further to the letter addressed to the Secretary-General by the Prime Minister of the Central African Republic on 28 February 2024, seeking United Nations support to the local and general elections in 2025–2026, the Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs deployed a needs assessment mission to Bangui from 4 to 14 June 2024.

70. The needs assessment mission met with a wide range of stakeholders which indicated the determination of the Government to organize upcoming elections, despite chronic lack of resources which limits its capacity to carry out electoral operations. The needs assessment mission found that the security situation has improved but remains volatile, with some interlocutors raising concerns about safe participation in the electoral process. Armed groups appeared to be more fragmented than during the general elections in 2020–2021, but it was assessed that these groups still had the capacity to disrupt elections in areas where they are present. The needs assessment mission noted progress in the efforts of the Government to establish institutions in line with the 2023 Constitution. The mission observed that political actors should engage in a constructive dialogue and that the inclusion of internally displaced persons and refugees in the electoral process remains a challenge. The needs assessment mission further noted that all stakeholders found the United Nations to be a credible and impartial partner.

71. Noting that the coming year will be increasingly dominated by electoral dynamics, the needs assessment mission concluded that the United Nations should continue its engagement with the Central African Republic in support of the local elections and the 2025–2026 presidential and legislative elections, including through the good offices of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for the Central African Republic. The needs assessment mission also recommended that the United Nations should continue to provide security, technical and logistical assistance to the national authority for these elections, along with capacity support to the Constitutional Council, the High Council of Communication and the national defence and security forces, as well as gender mainstreaming and specific support to women's full, equal and meaningful participation as voters and candidates. The needs assessment mission noted that the coordination between national defence and security forces and MINUSCA remains vital to deter potential security threats that may pose risks to the safe conduct of the elections and to protect civilians.

## **VII. Financial considerations**

72. The General Assembly, by its resolution [78/298](#) of 28 June 2024, appropriated the amount of \$1,171.6 million for the maintenance of the Mission for the period from 1 July 2024 to 30 June 2025. As at 18 September 2024, unpaid assessed contributions to the special account for MINUSCA amounted to \$328.9 million. The total outstanding assessed contributions for all peacekeeping operations as at that date amounted to \$2,654.6 million. Reimbursement of the costs of troop and formed police personnel, as well as of contingent-owned equipment has been made for the period up to 30 June 2024.

## **VIII. Observations**

73. I welcome the continued progress in the implementation of the peace and political processes and encourage the Government to remain resolute in moving it forward, in particular by continuing progress towards decentralization. This is critical

to fostering social cohesion and reconciliation within local communities. I call upon international partners to support these efforts and for the Government to continue its ownership and commitment to the implementation of the Political Agreement and joint road map so that the people and communities of the Central African Republic could enjoy peace dividends.

74. The progress in the peace process must now transform into lasting security on the ground. I take note of the outreach by the Government to armed groups expressing willingness to cease hostilities and disarm, which is essential for the country's future stability and development. I welcome the launch of the Africa Amnesty Month by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and call upon all armed groups to stop the violence and lay down weapons. I also urge all those with influence over these groups to use their power to promote lasting peace in the Central African Republic.

75. I commend the progress in the national disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation programme and the community violence reduction programmes. However, any disarmament and recruitment into the security forces outside national frameworks could undermine the integrity of the disarmament, demobilization, reintegration and repatriation process and detrimentally affects security, stabilization and the integrity of the country's defence and security forces. The United Nations stands ready to work closely with the Government to ensure the full coherence and coordination of all disarmament and recruitment processes into the security forces is in line with existing national programmes, policies and processes.

76. I encourage all Central Africans to use the postponement of local elections until April 2025 to lay the groundwork for an inclusive and credible process. This must include registering all eligible citizens, regardless of their current location, for these polls and for the general elections scheduled for 2025 and 2026. I call upon the Government to seize this moment to deepen dialogue with the opposition for the holding of peaceful, inclusive and transparent elections. I urge all political actors to set partisan and divisive agendas aside and aim for political dialogue in the absence of which development and security initiatives will falter. Inclusive elections, with participation of women, internally displaced persons and refugees, will be crucial to stabilize the political and security landscape. I welcome recent financial contributions supporting preparations of these important polls and call upon the continued and deepened support of the United Nations and the Central African Republic international partners.

77. I remain deeply concerned about the instability that continues to grip parts of the country, particularly in the northwest and east, fuelled by armed clashes and criminal activity, particularly over competition for natural resources. The use of explosive ordnance in the Central African Republic also remains concerning, and I urge all parties to abide by international law. The non-regular payment of allowances to national defence forces resulting in cases of desertion and ill-discipline could undermine efforts to stabilize the country, promote social cohesion and build professional national defence and security forces. Despite these challenges, I welcome the Government's commitment to improving the oversight of the security sector and encourage further efforts to standardize verified recruitment and enhance management and democratic control of security institutions.

78. The porosity of the borders of the Central African Republic have been a cause for concern for many years, facilitating the uninhibited movement of armed groups in border areas and illicit arms trafficking. The Government's recent efforts to strengthen security cooperation with neighbouring countries, including the revitalization of border commissions, are promising steps forward. Furthermore, tangible implementation of the National Policy on Border Management, as

epitomized by the ongoing construction of a multi-services border post in Bembéré, is an encouraging sign. Promoting trade and adopting a multi-stakeholder approach in border areas to strengthen the economic resilience of the local communities contribute to transforming border areas into zones of cooperation and prosperity. I call upon the Government and regional states to sustain this momentum and to deepen efforts to find lasting solutions in managing their common borders.

79. I welcome the ongoing efforts by the Government to extend State authority, as evidenced by the deployment of newly appointed local authorities to their posts. This marks a crucial step towards addressing the drivers of conflict in the Central African Republic. These efforts must be reinforced with initiatives to provide basic services and security to the population in remote areas, ensuring that the reach of the State translates into tangible benefits for all communities.

80. The validation of the national development plan is an important step towards moving the country from recovery assistance to sustainable development and I commend the Government for this achievement. It is vital that the plan's promised benefits for local communities are fully realized. I welcome the collaboration between the Government, the United Nations and multilateral partners, including the World Bank and the African Development Bank, to foster the strategic alignment around the peacebuilding priorities of the plan and call for the enhancement of these partnerships to strengthen long-term socioeconomic development and economic recovery.

81. Violations of international humanitarian law and violations and abuses of human rights, including conflict-related sexual violence are unacceptable and must stop immediately. Preventing these violations is a top priority and the primary responsibility of the Government. I commend the establishment by the Government of the commission investigating human rights violations and abuses in Haut Mbomou and call for diligent action on its findings. The advances made by the national judiciary, including the Special Criminal Court, in holding perpetrators accountable and fighting impunity is noteworthy, and I urge continued support for an independent judiciary. Urgent action is also needed to address prolonged pre-trial detention and reduce prison overcrowding.

82. The humanitarian situation in the Central African Republic remains deeply concerning, including as a result of the influx of refugees from Sudan. The delivery of humanitarian assistance continues to be hindered by limited infrastructure, access constraints and the activities of armed groups. The safety and security of humanitarian personnel are paramount. I call on all partners and donors to increase their support for the Central African Republic's Humanitarian Response Plan to address the most urgent needs of the population in distress.

83. By facilitating conditions conducive to peace and reconciliation, protecting civilians, enabling humanitarian access, and supporting the extension of State authority, MINUSCA remains a key pillar in the country's stabilization efforts. However, effective mandate implementation requires timely availability of approved peacekeeping budgets, and I further stress the importance of timely assessed contributions from Member States. Should the required resources not materialize, MINUSCA will be required to prioritize mandate implementation based upon available funds. It is crucial to emphasize that a mismatch between mandated tasks and timely available resources creates unrealistic expectations regarding the Mission's capabilities, severely limiting its ability to bring about meaningful change on the ground.

84. The gains made since the deployment of MINUSCA are commendable but remain vulnerable to reversal, particularly in the face of persistent insecurity in certain areas of the country. I take note of the Independent Strategic Review of MINUSCA (S/2024/615) and recommend that the Security Council extend the

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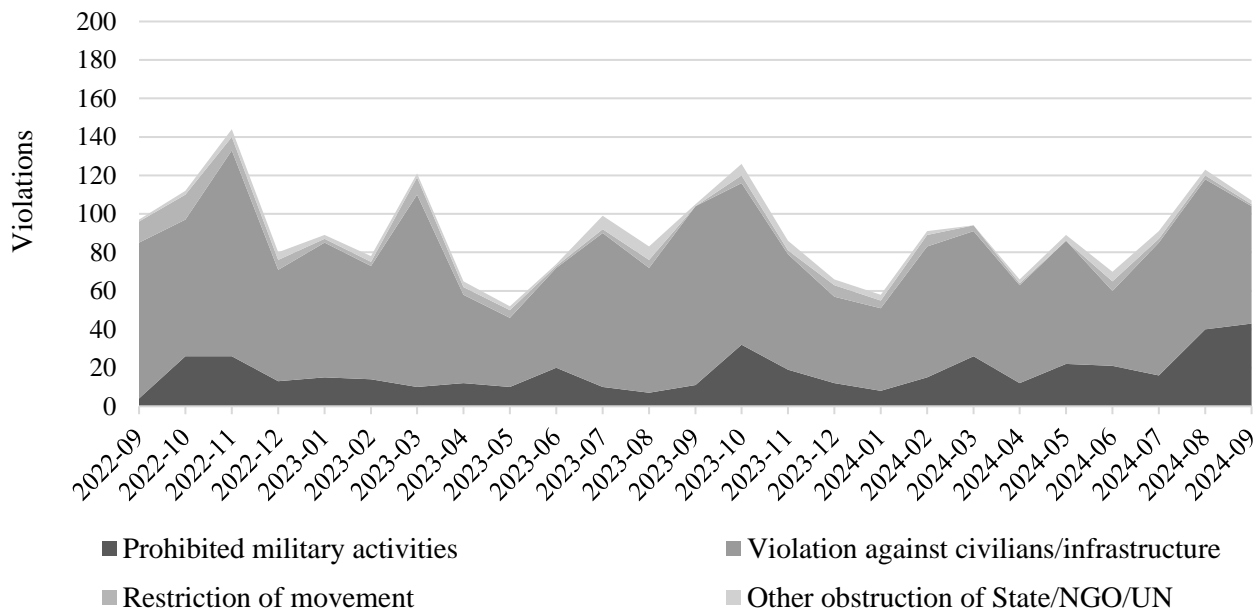
mandate of MINUSCA for an additional year, until 15 November 2025, at its current authorized military, police and corrections strength and with its current mandate, including electoral assistance for the local elections while also mandating its support for the upcoming general elections, as recommended in paragraph 71 above. Any consideration of additional mandated tasks and priorities should be accompanied by commensurate financial resources.

85. I wish to express my gratitude to the Special Representative for the Central African Republic and Head of MINUSCA, Valentine Rugwabiza, for her proactive and effective leadership. I remain grateful for the dedication of civilian and uniformed personnel of MINUSCA and the United Nations country team in performing their mandate, often in a difficult context, and I highly appreciate the Mission's troop- and police-contributing countries. Finally, I wish to thank regional multilateral and non-governmental organizations and all other partners, including donor countries, for their invaluable contributions to peace in the Central African Republic.

## Annex I

### I. Security situation, protection of civilians and extension of State authority

Figure I  
Violations of the Political Agreement

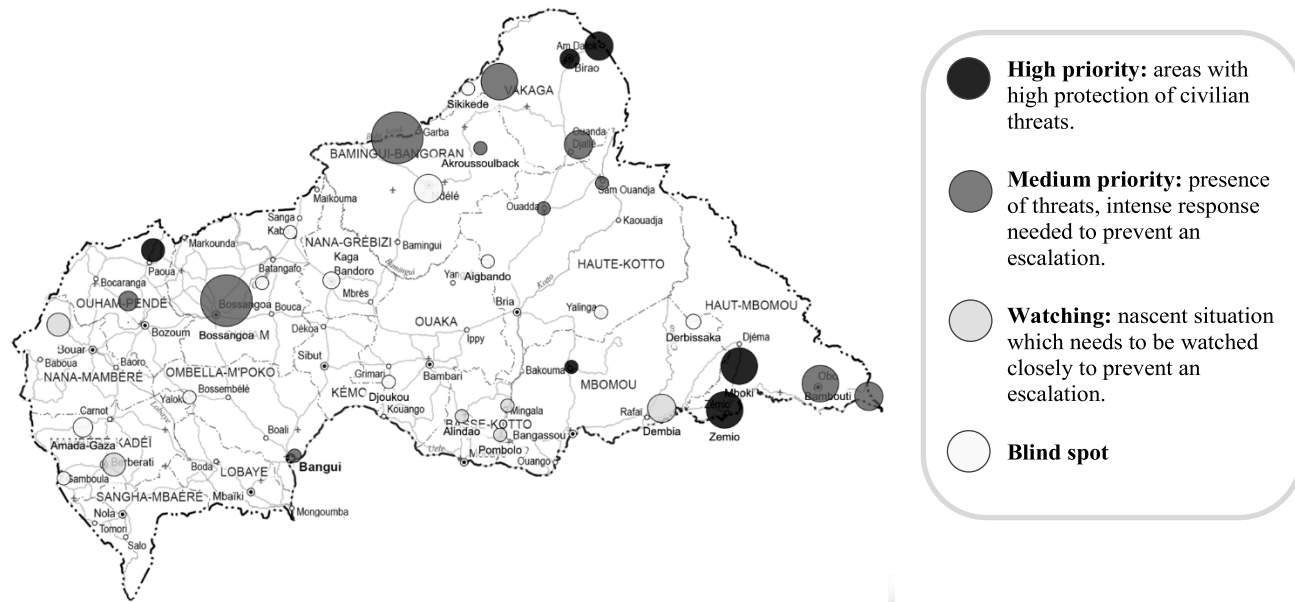


Source: MINUSCA/Joint Mission Analysis Cell.

For more details, see paragraph 21.



Figure II  
Protection of civilians hot-spot map

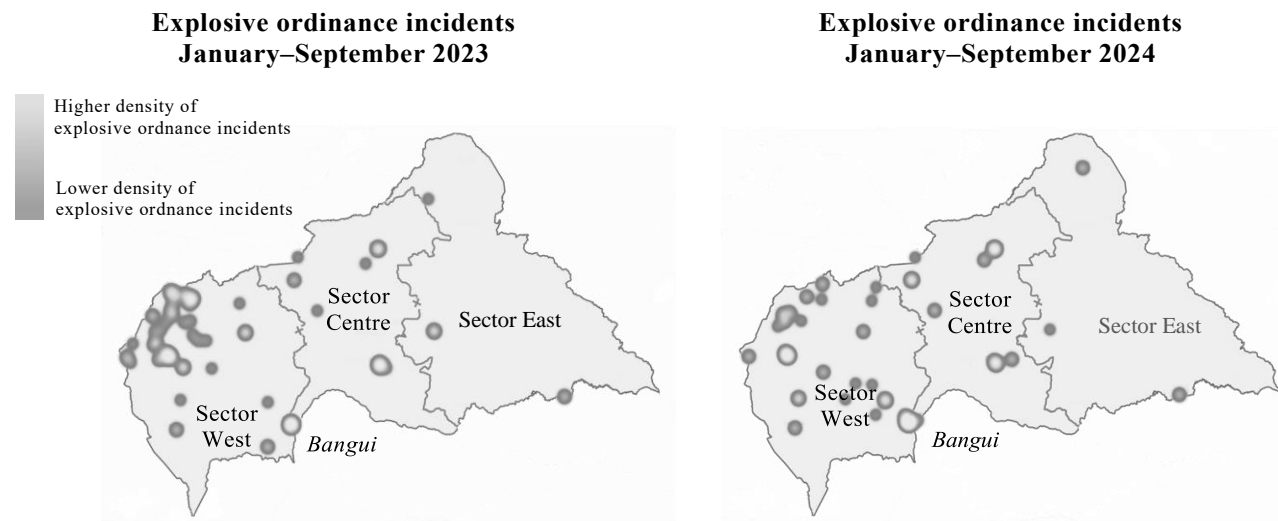


Source: MINUSCA/Protection of Civilians Unit

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

For more details, see paragraph 21.

Figure III  
Explosive ordnance incidents in 2023 and 2024 year-to-date



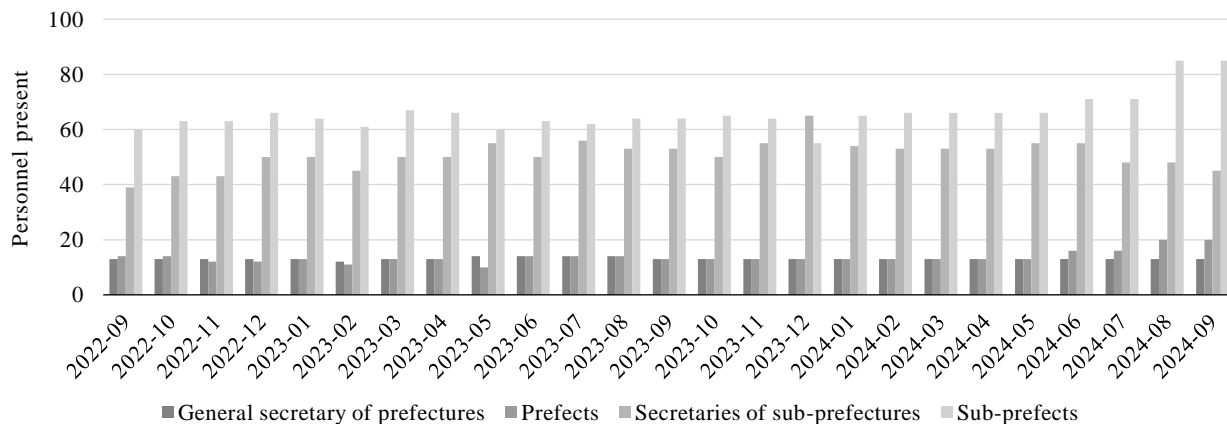
Source: MINUSCA/Mine Action Service

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.

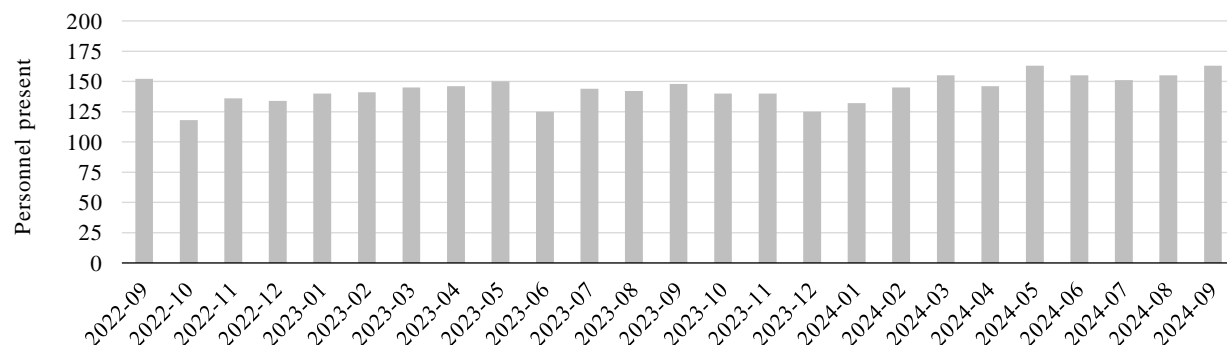
For more details, see paragraph 34.

Figure IV  
State authorities present at posts

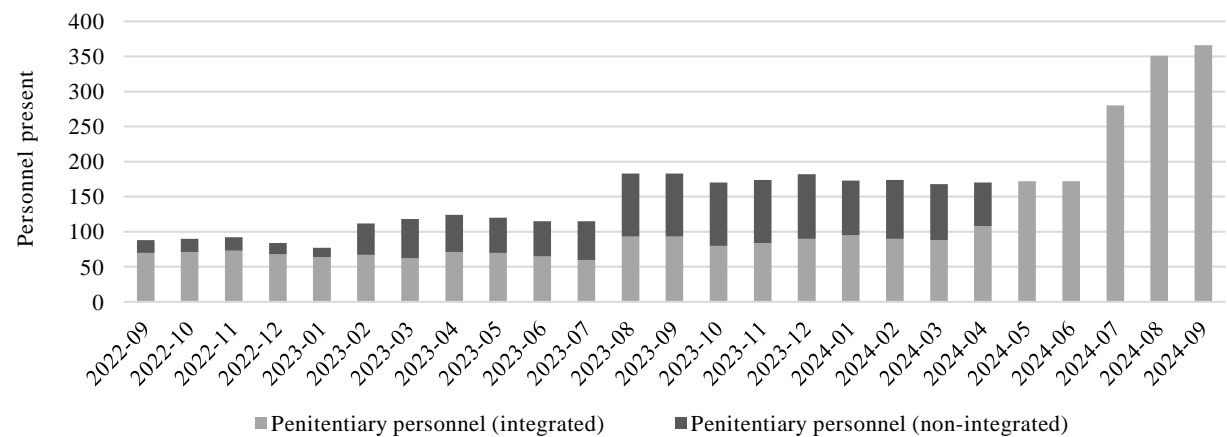
**i. Civil administrators**



**ii. Judicial personnel**



**iii. Penitentiary personnel**

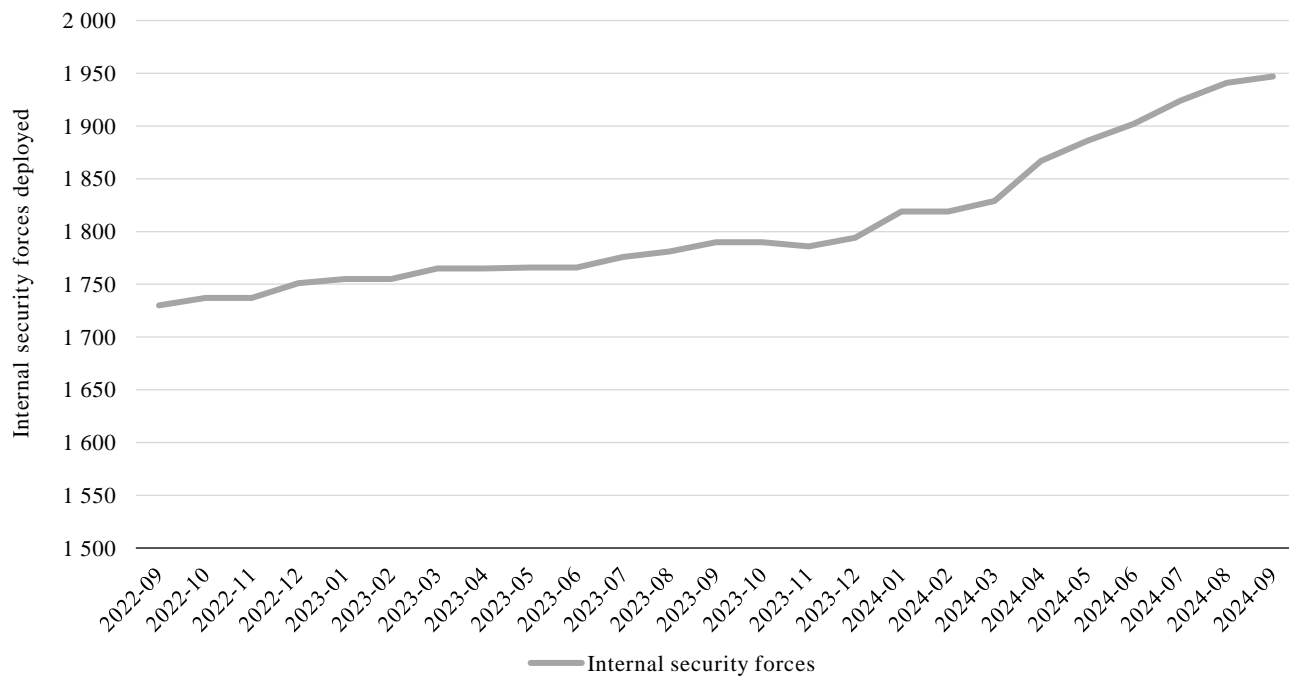


Source: MINUSCA/Civil Affairs Section and Justice and Corrections Section.

Note: Part of the 295 newly trained civilian prison personnel were initially assigned and deployed to duty stations despite not having been formally incorporated into the governmental payroll. These are shown in the graph as “non-integrated personnel”.

For more details, see paragraphs 36 and 49.

Figure V  
Internal security forces deployed outside Bangui



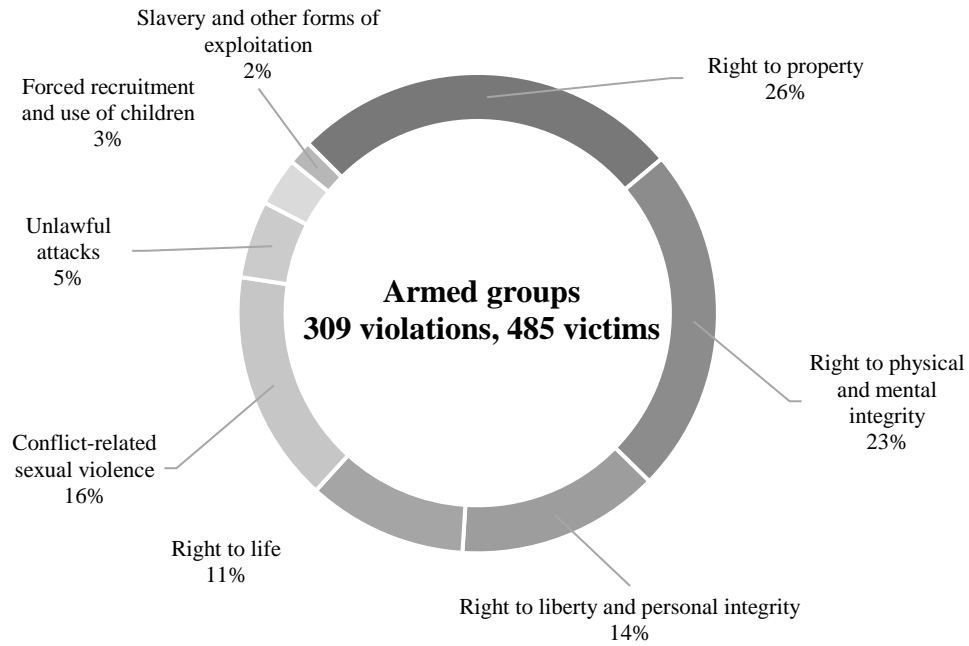
Source: MINUSCA/United Nations Police.

As at 30 September, 1,947 internal security forces personnel are deployed outside Bangui, and 6,715 in the capital; 23 per cent are of internal security forces personnel are women.

## II. Human rights and rule of law

Figure VI  
**Human rights violations and abuses, June to October 2024**

### i. Non-State armed groups

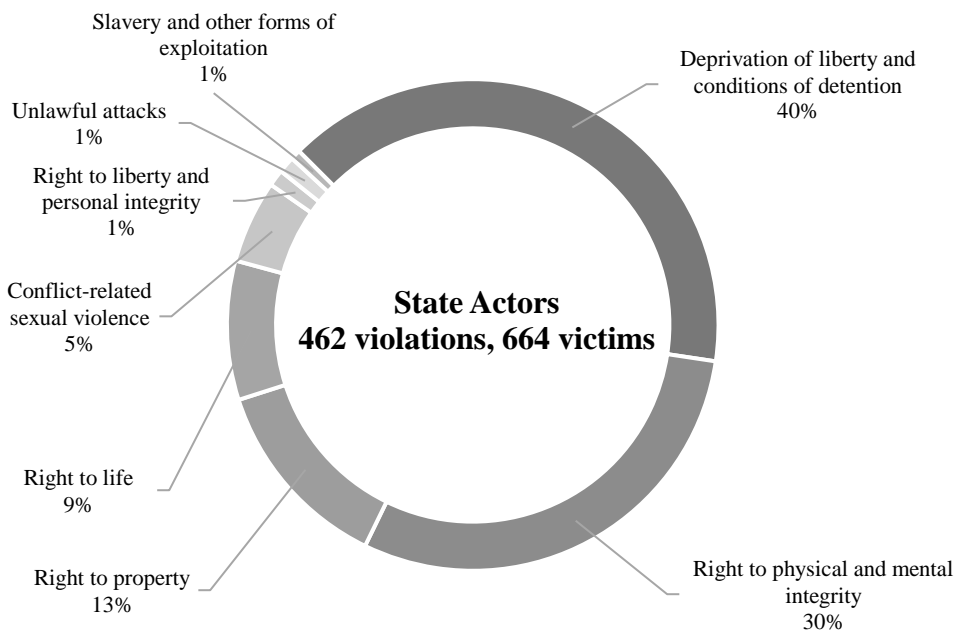


*Source:* MINUSCA/Human Rights Division.

*Note:* Percentages are based on the number of documented victims. Statistics include both signatories and non-signatories to the Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation.

For more details, see paragraph 39.

**ii. State actors**

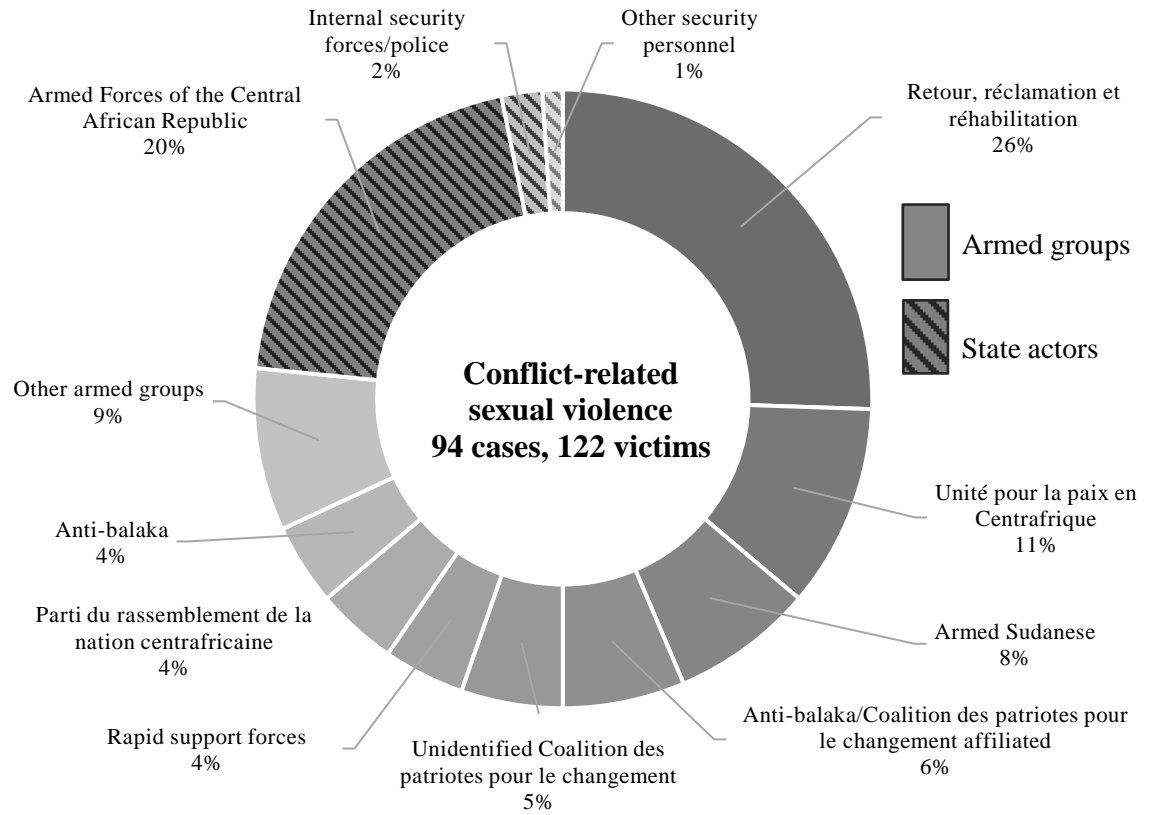


Source: MINUSCA/Human Rights Division.

Note: Percentages are based on the number of documented victims. Statistics include both State actors and other security personnel.

For more details, see paragraph 39.

Figure VII  
**Conflict-related sexual violence, June to October 2024**

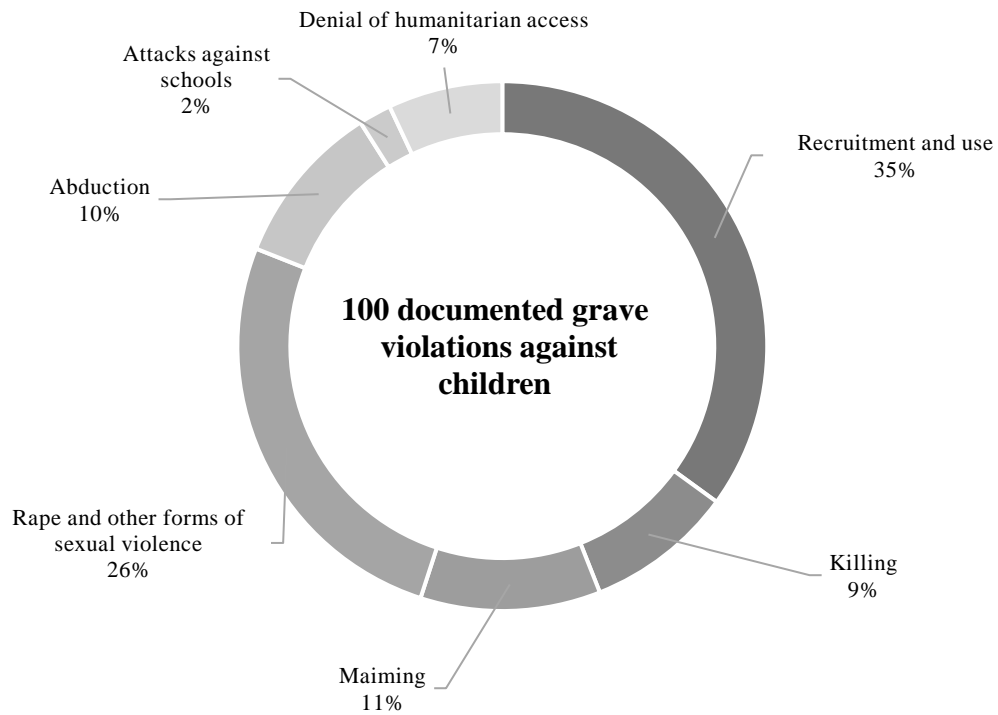


Source: MINUSCA/Human Rights Division.

Note: An increase or decrease is no indication of the scale of conflict-related sexual violence in the Central African Republic as it is largely underreported. Percentages are based on the number of documented victims. Statistics include both signatories and non-signatories to the Political Agreement on Peace and Reconciliation.

For more details, see paragraph 44.

Figure VIII  
Grave violations against children, June to October 2024



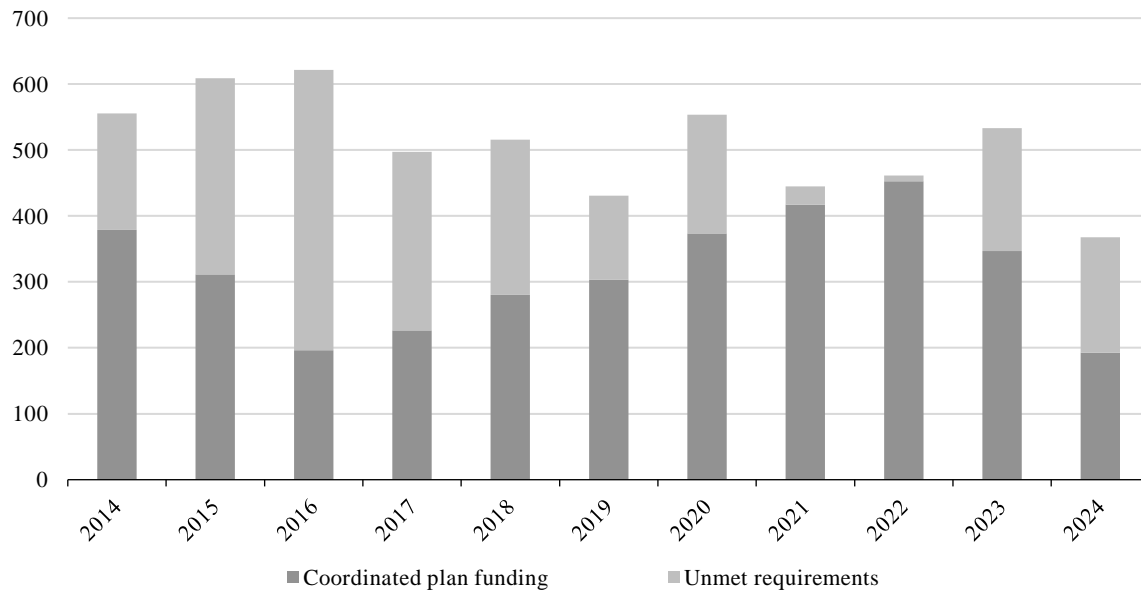
*Source:* MINUSCA/Child Protection Unit and Country Task-Force on Monitoring and Reporting.  
*Note:* Percentages are based on the number of documented victims.

For more details, see paragraph 43.

### III. Humanitarian Situation

Figure IX  
**Humanitarian response plan funding**

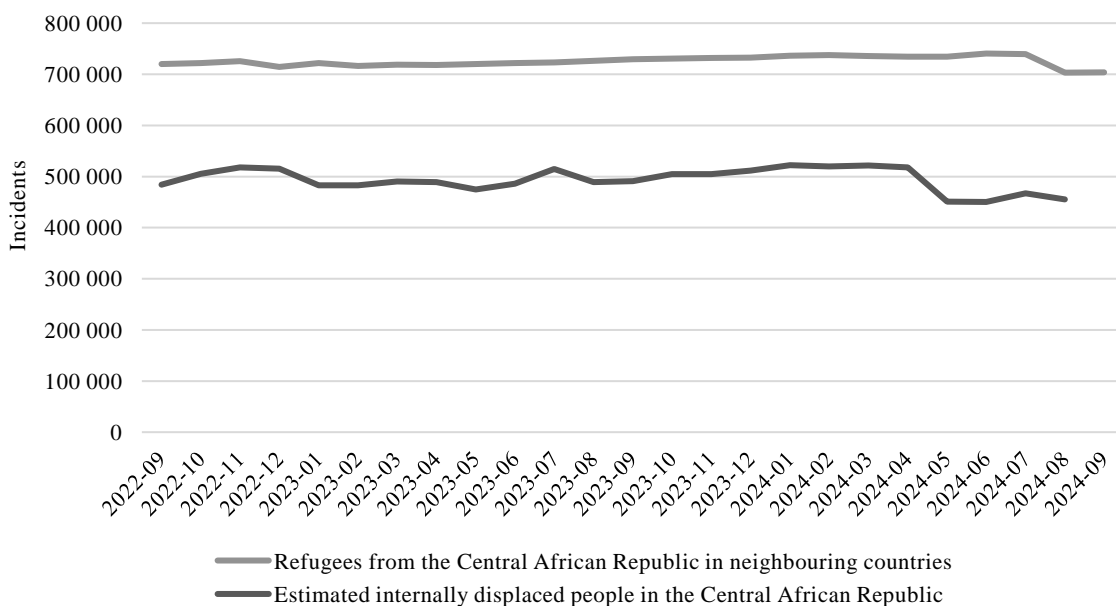
(Millions of United States dollars)



Source: MINUSCA/Integrated Office.

For more details, see paragraph 54.

Figure X  
**Internally displaced persons and refugees**

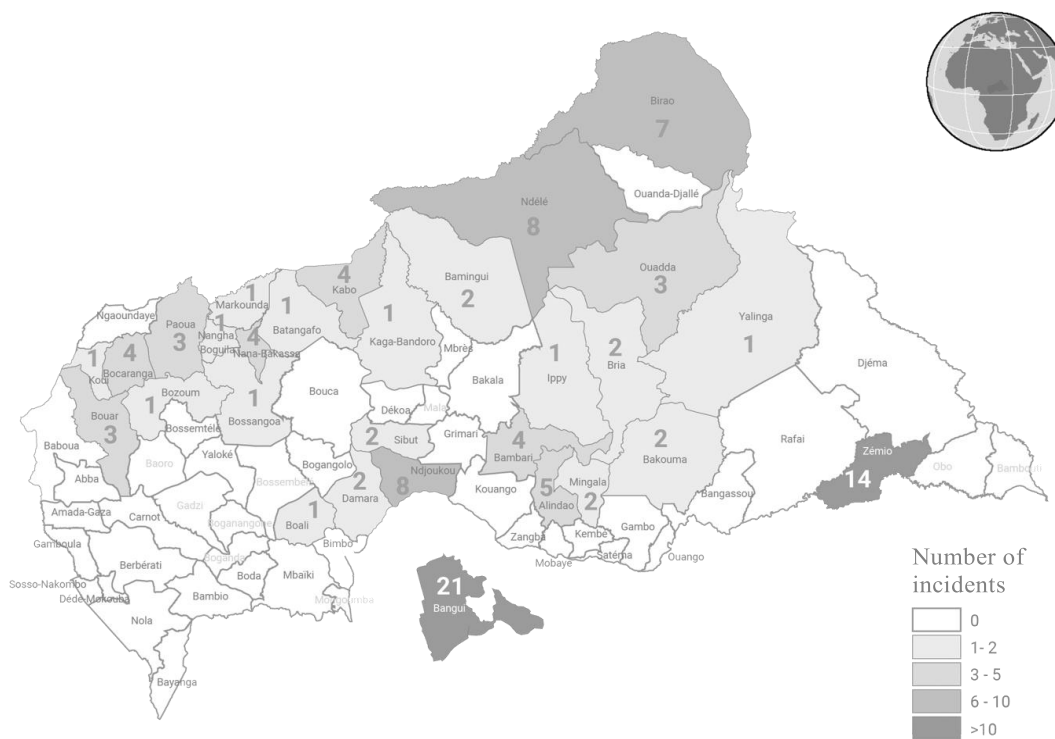


Source: Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

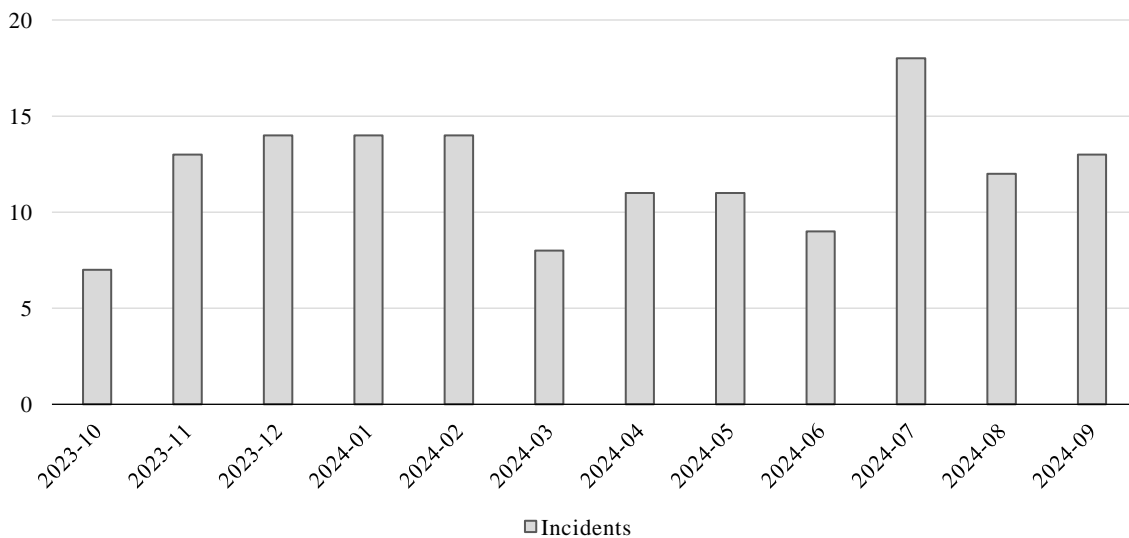
For more details, see paragraph 55.



**Figure XI**  
**Incidents targeting humanitarian actors over the past 12 months, October 2023 to September 2024**



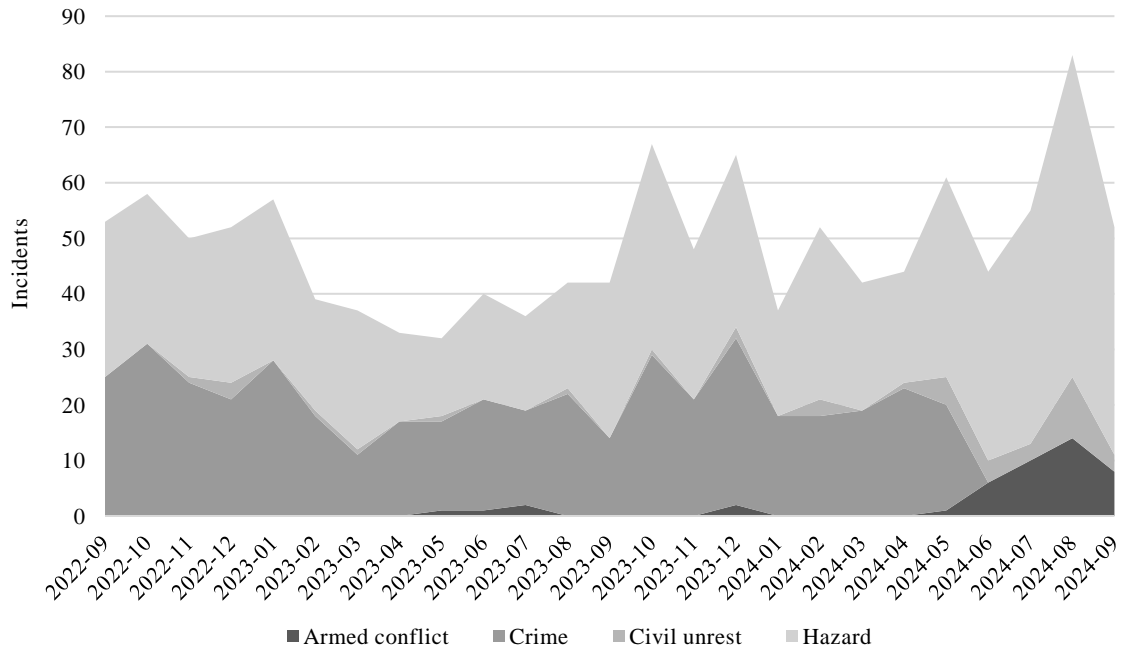
*Note:* The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by the United Nations.



*Source:* United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

## IV. Safety and security of United Nations personnel

Figure XII  
Security incidents affecting MINUSCA personnel



Source: MINUSCA/United Nations Department of Safety and Security.

For more details, see paragraph 65.

## Annex II

**United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization  
Mission in the Central African Republic: military and police  
strength as at 1 October 2024**

Country	Military component				Police component	
	Experts on mission	Staff officers	Troops	Total	Formed police units	Individual police officers
Argentina	–	2	–	2	–	–
Bangladesh	13	36	1 371	1 420	–	4
Benin	4	3	–	7	–	3
Bhutan	2	5	180	187	–	–
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	2	4	–	6	–	–
Brazil	3	6	–	9	–	–
Burkina Faso	–	8	–	8	–	51
Burundi	8	12	747	767	–	–
Cambodia	4	6	335	345	–	–
Cameroon	2	7	749	758	320	22
China	–	–	–	–	–	5
Colombia	2	–	–	2	–	–
Congo	2	3	–	5	180	–
Côte d'Ivoire	–	5	180	185	–	51
Czechia	3	–	–	3	–	–
Djibouti	–	–	–	–	180	41
Ecuador	–	2	–	2	–	–
Egypt	8	27	975	1 010	140	31
France	–	3	–	3	–	–
Gambia	3	6	–	9	–	2
Ghana	4	9	–	13	–	7
Guatemala	2	2	–	4	–	–
Guinea	–	–	–	–	–	12
India	–	3	–	3	–	–
Indonesia	4	11	240	255	140	26
Jordan	3	7	–	10	–	33
Kazakhstan	–	2	–	2	–	–
Kenya	7	10	–	17	–	–
Mali	–	–	–	–	–	20
Mauritania	9	7	450	466	320	7
Mexico	1	1	–	2	–	–
Moldova (Republic of)	3	1	–	4	–	–
Mongolia	–	4	–	4	–	–
Morocco	5	22	743	770	–	–
Nepal	5	16	1 219	1 240	–	–
Niger	–	5	–	5	–	51
Nigeria	–	7	–	7	–	8

<i>Country</i>	<i>Military component</i>				<i>Police component</i>	
	<i>Experts on mission</i>	<i>Staff officers</i>	<i>Troops</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Formed police units</i>	<i>Individual police officers</i>
Pakistan	9	30	1 276	1 315	–	3
Paraguay	2	2	–	4	–	–
Peru	7	9	220	236	–	1
Philippines	2	1	–	3	–	–
Portugal	–	9	210	219	–	11
Romania	–	–	–	–	–	6
Russian Federation	3	10	–	13	–	–
Rwanda	9	28	2 107	2 144	639	43
Senegal	–	14	179	193	498	43
Serbia	2	4	70	76	–	–
Sierra Leone	4	2	–	6	–	–
Spain	–	–	–	–	–	2
Sri Lanka	–	4	110	114	–	–
Togo	4	7	–	11	–	54
Tunisia	3	13	822	838	–	47
Türkiye	–	–	–	–	–	9
United Republic of Tanzania	–	6	510	516	–	–
United States of America	–	8	–	8	–	–
Uruguay	–	3	–	3	–	–
Viet Nam	1	7	–	8	–	–
Zambia	7	17	910	934	–	–
Zimbabwe	1	2	–	3	–	–
<b>Total</b>	<b>153</b>	<b>418</b>	<b>13 603</b>	<b>14 174</b>	<b>2 417</b>	<b>593</b>

# Annex III

## Map

