

**STATEMENT TO BE DELIVERED ON BEHALF OF MEMBER
STATES OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF CENTRAL
AFRICAN STATES (ECCAS)**

FIRST COMMITTEE.

**Draft Resolution: Regional confidence-building measures:
Activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on
Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC)**

Mr. President,

Being the first time I take the floor in this session of the committee, I would like to congratulate you, and the other members on your accession to the presidency of the Bureau.

I am honored to express my Country's full support and willingness to collaborate for the fulfillment of your mandate.

I would also like to thank the outgoing Bureau for the work accomplished during the last session of the Committee.

My delegation aligns itself with the statements delivered by Nigeria, on behalf of the African Group, and by Indonesia, on behalf of the Non-Aligned Movement.

I am honored, on behalf of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), to introduce the draft resolution on "Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC)".

This is a draft resolution that our sub-region has presented in previous sessions of the General Assembly, and that has been adopted by consensus. During the sessions of the First Committee at the 69th Session of the General Assembly, it was presented by the Permanent Representative of Gabon.

Overall, this draft resolution, which was duly submitted to this Committee and circulated to Member States, envisages to contribute to the global efforts in combating terrorism and illegal armed groups, the proliferation of small arms and light weapons, piracy, poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking, trafficking in persons and other criminal activities affecting our region.

The draft also reaffirms the General Assembly's support to the efforts aimed at promoting confidence-building measures at the regional and sub-regional levels, in order to ease tensions and conflicts in Central Africa and to further sustainable peace, stability and development in the sub-region.

The draft requests the continued assistance of the Secretary-General and the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees to the countries of Central Africa in tackling the problems of refugees and displaced persons in their territories. Additionally, it requests the continued assistance of the Secretary-General and the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights to the sub-region, on issues related to human rights and the strengthening of democracy.

Mr. President,

The content of the draft resolution hereby submitted by the Central African States does not differ substantially from resolutions adopted in previous sessions, except the addition of some data on major developments that took place since the adoption of the last resolution during the 69th session of the General Assembly.

The draft resolution welcomes and supports the recommendations of the strategic review of the United Nations Regional Office for Central Africa (UNOCA) and strongly encourages the States members of UNSAC and international partners to ensure it has the adequate resources to undertake its mandate.

It welcomes the adoption by the States members of UNSAC of the integrated strategy on counter-terrorism and the non-proliferation of small arms and light weapons in Central Africa, while requesting international support to those member States that have ratified the Arms Trade Treaty and encourages those that have not yet ratified the Treaty to do so.

It also encourages Member States to implement the provisions of General Assembly resolution 69/314, the first resolution on poaching and illicit wildlife trafficking.

That is why we request the usual cooperation and understanding of the First Committee that, as on previous occasions, considers and adopts this draft resolution by consensus, as orally amended.

Mr. President,

The Republic of Angola hosted with great pleasure the 40th meeting of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee for Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC).

The meeting considered the political and security situation in the geopolitical space of the Central African region, in particular the conflicts in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Central African Republic and the Republic of Burundi.

Special attention was paid to the terrorist threat and to the attacks by radical extremists in Central Africa, stretching from the Sahel to the Gulf of Guinea, the increase of attacks in the Maghreb and threats in other parts of Africa.

Angola, as President of UNSAC, has sought to achieve consensus, on the basis of dialogue with member States, to the problems of the sub region and the African continent in general.

We believe that the prevention and the fight against this scourge should be tackled through international, regional and bilateral cooperation. As such, the United Nations, regional and sub-regional organizations should play a leading role in the fight against still incipient forms of terrorism, already being felt in some countries of sub-Saharan Africa, before they become a real threat to the region.

Thank you.