Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2454 of 23 December 2015 implementing Article 17(1) and (3) of Regulation (EU) No 224/2014 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Central African Republic

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING REGULATION (EU) 2015/2454

of 23 December 2015

implementing Article 17(1) and (3) of Regulation (EU) No 224/2014 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Central African Republic

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Council Regulation (EU) No 224/2014 of 10 March 2014 concerning restrictive measures in view of the situation in the Central African Republic[1], and in particular Article 17(1) and (3) thereof,

Having regard to the proposal of the High Representative of the Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy,

Whereas:

(1) On 10 March 2014, the Council adopted Regulation (EU) No 224/2014.

(2) On 20 October 2015, the United Nations Security Council Committee, established pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolution 2127 (2013) ('the Sanctions Committee'), updated the identifying information concerning one individual on its sanctions list.

(3) On 17 December 2015, the Sanctions Committee added two persons to the list of persons and entities subject to the restrictive measures.

(4) Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 224/2014 should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 224/2014 is hereby amended as set out in the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the day of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2454. (See end of Document for details)*

Done at Brussels, 23 December 2015.

For the Council

The President

J. ASSELBORN

***Changes to legislation:** There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2454. (See end of Document for details)*

ANNEX

I.The following persons are added to the list set out in Annex I to Regulation (EU) No 224/2014:

A. Persons

7. Haroun GAYE (alias: a) Haroun Geye; b) Aroun Gaye; c) Aroun Geye

Designation: Rapporteur of the political coordination of the Front Populaire pour la Renaissance de Centrafrique (FPRC)

Date of birth: a) 30 Jan. 1968 b) 30 Jan. 1969

Passport No: Central African Republic number O00065772 (letter O followed by 3 zeros), expires 30 Dec. 2019)

Address: Bangui, Central African Republic

Listed on: 17 December 2015
Information from the narrative summary of reasons for listing provided by the Sanctions Committee:

Haroun Gaye was listed on 17 December 2015 pursuant to paragraphs 11 and 12 (b) and (f) of resolution 2196 (2015) as 'engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR'; 'involved in planning, directing, or committing acts that violate international human rights law or international humanitarian law, as applicable, or that constitute human rights abuses or violations, in the CAR, including acts involving sexual violence, targeting of civilians, ethnic- or religious-based attacks, attacks on schools and hospitals, and abduction and forced displacement;' and 'involved in planning, directing, sponsoring, or conducting attacks against UN missions or international security presences, including MINUSCA, the European Union Missions and French operations which support them.'
Additional information:

HAROUN GAYE has been, since early 2014, one of the leaders of an armed group operating in the PK5 neighbourhood in Bangui. Civil Society representatives of the PK5 neighbourhood state that Gaye and his armed group are fuelling the conflict in Bangui, opposing the reconciliation and preventing movements of population to and from the third district of Bangui. On 11 May, 2015, Gaye and 300 demonstrators blocked access to the National Transitional Council to disrupt the final day of the Bangui Forum. GAYE is reported to have collaborated with anti-Balaka officials to coordinate the disruption.

On 26 June 2015, Gaye and a small entourage disrupted the opening of a voter registration drive in Bangui's PK5 neighbourhood, causing the registration drive to close.

MINUSCA attempted to arrest Gaye on 2 August 2015, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 32(f) (i) of the Security Council resolution 2217 (2015). Gaye, who was reportedly informed of the arrest attempt in advance, was ready with supporters armed with heavy weaponry. Gaye's forces opened fire on the MINUSCA Joint Task Force. In a seven-hour firefight, Gaye's men employed firearms, rocket-propelled and hand grenades against MINUSCA troops and killed one peacekeeper and injured eight. Gaye was involved in encouraging violent protests and clashes in late September 2015 in what appears to have been a coup attempt to overthrow the Transitional Government. The coup attempt was likely led by former president Bozize's supporters in an alliance of convenience with Gaye and other FPRC leaders. It appears that Gaye aimed to create a cycle of retaliatory attacks that would threaten

Changes to legislation: *There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Council Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2454. (See end of Document for details)*

the upcoming elections. Gaye was in charge of coordination with marginalized elements of the anti-Balaka.

On 1 October 2015, a meeting took place in the PK5 neighbourhood between Eugène Barret Ngaïkosset, a member of a marginalized anti-Balaka group and Gaye, with the aim of planning a joint attack on Bangui on Saturday, 3 October. Gaye's group prevented people inside the PK5 neighbourhood from leaving it, in order to reinforce the communal identity of the Muslim population to exacerbate inter-ethnic tensions and avoid reconciliation. On 26 October 2015, Gaye and his group interrupted a meeting between the Archbishop of Bangui and the Imam of the Central Mosque of Bangui, and threatened the delegation which had to retreat from the Central Mosque and flee the PK5 neighbourhood.

8. Eugène BARRET NGAÏKOSSET (alias: a) Eugene Ngaikosset b) Eugene Ngaikoisset c) Eugene Ngakosset, d) Eugene Barret Ngaikosse e) Eugene Ngaikouesset; low quality alias.: f) ‘The Butcher of Paoua’; g) Ngakosset

Designation: a) Former Captain, CAR Presidential Guard b) Former Captain, CAR Naval Forces

National identification No: Central African Republic armed forces (FACA) Military identification number 911-10-77

Address: a) Bangui, Central African Republic

Listed on: 17 December 2015.

Other Information: Captain Eugène Barret Ngaïkosset is a former member of former President François Bozizé's (CFi.001) presidential guard and associated with the anti-Balaka movement. He escaped from jail on 17 May 2015 following his extradition from Brazzaville and created his own anti-Balaka faction including former FACA fighters.
Information from the narrative summary of reasons for listing provided by the Sanctions Committee:

Eugène BARRET NGAÏKOSSET was listed on 17 December 2015 pursuant to paragraphs 11 and 12 (b) and (f) of resolution 2196 (2015) as ‘engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the CAR;’‘involved in planning, directing, or committing acts that violate international human rights law or international humanitarian law, as applicable, or that constitute human rights abuses or violations, in the CAR, including acts involving sexual violence, targeting of civilians, ethnic- or religious-based attacks, attacks on schools and hospitals, and abduction and forced displacement;’ and ‘involved in planning, directing, sponsoring, or conducting attacks against UN missions or international security presences, including MINUSCA, the European Union Missions and French operations which support them.’
Additional information:

Ngaïkosset is one of the main perpetrators of the violence which erupted in Bangui in late September 2015. Ngaïkosset and other anti-Balaka worked together with marginalized members of ex-Séléka in an effort to destabilize the CAR Transitional Government. On the night of 27-28 September 2015, Ngaïkosset and others made an unsuccessful attempt to storm the ‘Izamo’ gendarmerie camp in order to steal weapons and ammunition. On 28 September, the group surrounded the offices of CAR national radio.

On 1 October 2015, a meeting took place in the PK5 neighborhood between Ngaïkosset and Haroun Gaye, a leader of the Front Populaire pour la Renaissance de Centrafrique (FPRC), with the aim of planning a joint attack on Bangui on Saturday, 3 October.