DECISIONS

COUNCIL IMPLEMENTING DECISION (CFSP) 2022/23

of 10 January 2022

implementing Decision 2013/798/CFSP concerning restrictive measures against the Central African Republic

THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION,

Having regard to the Treaty on European Union, and in particular Article 31(2) thereof,

Having regard to Council Decision 2013/798/CFSP of 23 December 2013 concerning restrictive measures against the Central African Republic (¹), and in particular Article 2c thereof,

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

Whereas:

- (1) On 23 December 2013, the Council adopted Decision 2013/798/CFSP.
- (2) On 21 December 2021, the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Committee established pursuant to UNSC Resolution 2127 (2013) approved the addition of one individual to the list of persons and entities subject to restrictive measures.
- (3) The Annex to Decision 2013/798/CFSP should therefore be amended accordingly,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DECISION:

Article 1

The Annex to Decision 2013/798/CFSP is hereby amended as set out in the Annex to this Decision.

Article 2

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

Done at Brussels, 10 January 2022.

For the Council The President J.-Y. LE DRIAN

⁽¹⁾ OJ L 352, 24.12.2013, p. 51.

ANNEX

In the list set out in Part A (Individuals) of the Annex to Decision 2013/798/CFSP, the following entry is added:

'15. Ali DARASSA (alias: a) Ali Darassa Mahamat b) Ali Mahamat Darassa c) Ali Daras d) Ali Darrassa e) Général Ali Darassa)

Designation: Founder and leader of the Unité pour la Paix en Centrafrique (UPC)

Date of Birth: 22 September 1978

Place of Birth: Kabo, Ouham Prefecture, Central African Republic

Nationality: Central African Republic

National Identification No.: 10978000004482

Date of UN designation: 21 December 2021

Other information:

Ali Darassa founded and still leads the Central African Republic (CAR)-based militia group *Unité pour la Paix en Centrafrique* (UPC), which has killed, tortured, raped, and displaced civilians, committed a large number of abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and engaged in arms trafficking, illegal taxation activities, and warfare against CAR defence and security forces, as well as other militias, since its creation in 2014. In December 2020, he played a leading role in the creation of the *Coalition des patriotes pour le changement* (CPC) that took up arms to oppose the elections and attempted to enter the capital Bangui, in violation of the commitments made by the UPC under the *Accord politique pour la paix et la reconciliation* (APPR) signed on 6 February 2019. INTERPOL-UN Security Council Special Notice web link: https://www.interpol.int/en/How-we-work/Notices/View-UN-Notices-Individuals

Information from the narrative summary of reasons for listing provided by the Sanctions Committee:

Ali Darassa was listed on 21 December 2021 pursuant to paragraph 20 and paragraph 21 (b) of resolution 2399 (2018), extended by resolution 2588 (2021), for engaging in or providing support for acts that undermine the peace, stability or security of the Central African Republic, including acts that threaten or impede the stabilization and reconciliation process or that fuel violence; and for being involved in planning, directing, or committing acts in the Central African Republic that violate international human rights law and international humanitarian law, as applicable, or that constitute human rights abuses or violations, including those involving targeting of civilians, ethnic- or religious-based attacks, attacks on civilian objects, including administrative centres, courthouses, schools and hospitals, and abduction and forced displacement.

Additional information

Ali Darassa founded and still leads the Central African Republic (CAR)-based militia group *Unité pour la Paix en Centrafrique* (UPC), which has killed, tortured, raped, and displaced civilians, committed a large number of abuses of human rights and violations of international humanitarian law, and engaged in arms trafficking, illegal taxation activities, and warfare against CAR defense and security forces, as well as other militias, since its creation in 2014. In December 2020, he played a leading role in the creation of the *Coalition des patriotes pour le changement* (CPC) that took up arms to oppose the elections and attempted to enter the capital, in violation of the commitments made by the UPC under the *Accord politique pour la paix et la reconciliation* (APPR) signed on 6 February 2019.

Fighters under Ali Darassa's command have committed acts that constitute serious human rights abuses and violations of international humanitarian law. On 10 November 2014, UPC fighters attacked the villages of Bolo in Ouaka Prefecture and 10 civilians were killed including three elderly women who were burned alive in their homes. On 12 December 2017, UPC and FPRC elements opened fire on a hospital, killing 17 civilians, including 4 children. On 15 November 2018, UPC elements attacked an internally displaced persons camp in Alindao, killing between 70 to 100 civilians.

Under Darassa's leadership, UPC continued to oppose the restoration of State authority. In 2016, UPC fighters posed a threat to the electoral process on several occasions. On 29 March 2016, UPC fighters fired bullets over an electoral post and wounded several internally displaced persons.

Since December 2020, as one of the leaders of the CPC, Ali Darassa has participated in violations of the APPR, attempts to prevent the legislative and presidential elections and, more broadly, to destabilize the Central African Republic. Due to threats made by UPC fighters under Ali Darassa's command, voting operations could not take place on 27 December 2020 in areas under UPC's control, for instance in several areas of the Ouaka and Haut-Mbomou Prefectures. In January 2021, UPC attempted to enter Bangui by force.'