consider dispatching an advance team to collect further information, explore the possibilities for a political agreement and conduct additional planning and logistic preparations.

The representative of the Central African Republic was invited to participate in the discussion. The President (Russian Federation) made a statement on behalf of the Council,⁶ by which the Council, inter alia:

Reiterated its concern about the continuing instability along the borders between the Sudan, Chad and the Central African Republic and about the threat which this posed to the

6 S/PRST/2007/2.

safety of the civilian population and the conduct of humanitarian operations;

Noted the Secretary-General's intention to authorize the immediate return of the technical assessment mission to the region in order to complete its observations that were curtailed on security grounds and requested him to submit, by the middle of February 2007, updated and finalized recommendations on the size, structure and mandate of a United Nations multidimensional presence;

Requested that the Secretary-General deploy as soon as possible an advance mission to Chad and the Central African Republic, in consultation with their Governments, as envisaged in paragraph 88 of his report.

21. The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion

Initial proceedings

Decision of 27 August 2007 (5734th meeting): statement by the President

At its 5734th meeting, on 27 August 2007, the Security Council included in its agenda the item entitled "The situation in Chad, the Central African Republic and the subregion" and the report of the Secretary-General dated 10 August 2007 on Chad and the Central African Republic.¹ In his report, the Secretary-General indicated that the authorities in Chad had expressed concern about the military component of the proposed multidimensional United Nations presence in eastern Chad and the north-eastern Central African Republic, as set out in his report dated 23 February 2007,² and added that the current report was based on consultations with the authorities of both countries and relevant stakeholders on the ground.

He detailed the revised concept for an international multidimensional presence in eastern Chad and the north-eastern Central African Republic, which had three significant adjustments to the previous proposal. First, the tasks and functions of the military component would be performed by a European Union military force for the first 12 months of the deployment. Thereafter, a follow-on agreement, including a possible United Nations successor, would be put in place. Second, there would be no direct involvement of the multidimensional international presence in the border area. Third, Chadian police and gendarmes, serving in refugee camps and at internally displaced person sites, would remain under national authority, while being trained, monitored and mentored by the United Nations police component. Expressing concern about the security and humanitarian situation in the region, the Secretary-General reiterated the importance of the proposed United Nations mission, which he hoped, in conjunction with the newly authorized African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID), would help stabilize the situation in the region, pending political agreements for a lasting solution. Finally, he emphasized the importance of proper coordination between the United Nations, the European Union and the authorities in Chad, and underlined the need for early preparation for the recommended follow-on military component.

The President (Congo) made a statement on behalf of the Council,³ by which the Council, inter alia:

¹ S/2007/488.

² S/2007/97.

Welcomed the report of the Secretary-General of 10 August 2007, which proposed a revised concept of operations for a multidimensional presence aimed at contributing to the protection of refugees, internally displaced persons and civilian

³ S/PRST/2007/30.

populations at risk in eastern Chad and the north-eastern Central African Republic as well as facilitating the provision of humanitarian assistance;

Requested the Secretary-General to study the follow-on arrangements for this multidimensional presence after a period of 12 months, in particular on the basis of a joint assessment of requirements to be conducted by the United Nations Organization and the European Union six months after the deployment of the multidimensional presence;

Expressed its readiness to authorize the establishment of a multidimensional presence in eastern Chad and the north-eastern Central African Republic;

Requested the Secretary-General to continue to keep it closely informed of the preparations for each element of the multidimensional presence, including further details on the structure, modalities and force levels.

Decision of 25 September 2007 (5748th meeting): resolution 1778 (2007)

At its 5748th meeting, on 25 September 2007, the Council again included in its agenda the report of the Secretary-General on Chad and the Central African Republic.⁴ The representatives of the Central African Republic and Chad were invited to participate in the discussion.⁵

The President (France) drew attention to a draft resolution;⁶ it was put to the vote and adopted unanimously and without debate as resolution 1778 (2007), by which the Council, inter alia:

Approved the establishment in Chad and the Central African Republic of a multidimensional presence intended to

help to create the security conditions conducive to a voluntary, secure and sustainable return of refugees and displaced persons, inter alia, by contributing to the protection of refugees, displaced persons and civilians in danger, by facilitating the provision of humanitarian assistance in eastern Chad and the north-eastern Central African Republic and by creating favourable conditions for the reconstruction and economic and social development of those areas;

Decided that the multidimensional presence should include, for a period of one year, a United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic and Chad (MINURCAT);

Requested the Secretary-General and the Governments of Chad and the Central African Republic to conclude status-offorces agreements for MINURCAT as soon as possible;

And, acting under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations:

Authorized the European Union to deploy an operation;

Requested the Secretary-General to report to it, after due consultations with the Governments of Chad and the Central African Republic;

Invited the Governments of Chad and the Central African Republic and the European Union to conclude status-of-forces agreements as soon as possible;

Requested the European Union to report to the Security Council, in the middle and at the end of the period of deployment;

Urged all Member States, particularly the States bordering Chad and the Central African Republic, to facilitate the delivery to Chad and the Central African Republic of all personnel, equipment, provisions, supplies and other goods intended for MINURCAT and the European Union operation;

Encouraged the respective Governments of the Sudan, Chad and the Central African Republic to cooperate actively with a view to implementing the Tripoli Agreement of 8 February 2006;

Exhorted the donor community to redouble its efforts to address the humanitarian, reconstruction and development needs of Chad and the Central African Republic.

⁴ S/2007/488.

⁵ Chad and the Central African Republic were represented by their respective Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

⁶ S/2007/563.