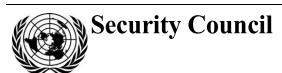
S/2021/1104 **United Nations**



Distr.: General 29 December 2021

Original: English

Letter dated 29 December 2021 from the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo addressed to the President of the Security Council

The members of the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo, whose mandate was extended pursuant to Security Council resolution 2582 (2021), have the honour to transmit herewith, in accordance with paragraph 6 of that resolution, the midterm report on their work.

The report was provided to the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 23 December 2021 and was considered by the Committee on 28 December 2021.

The Group would appreciate it if the present letter and the report were brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

> (Signed) Virginie Monchy Coordinator

Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo

(Signed) Nelson Alusala Expert

(Signed) Mélanie De Groof

Expert

(Signed) Sophia Pickles Expert

(Signed) Maïa Trujillo Expert

(Signed) David Zounmenou

Expert





Midterm report of the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo

- 1. The mandate of the Group of Experts on the Democratic Republic of the Congo was extended on 29 June 2021 by the Security Council in its resolution 2582 (2021). Following a hold on all proposed expert candidates in the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1533 (2004) concerning the Democratic Republic of the Congo on 12 July, the current members of the Group were appointed by the Secretary-General on 2 December (see S/2021/1006), with their contracts starting shortly thereafter, more than four months after the mandate given under resolution 2528 (2020) had expired.¹
- 2. While the Security Council, by paragraph 6 of resolution 2582 (2021), requested the Group to provide to the Council, after discussion with the Committee, a midterm report no later than 30 December 2021, the Group did not have adequate time to conduct investigations sufficient to reach findings that would satisfy its methodology, although it did initiate investigations pursuant to its mandate immediately following its appointment.
- 3. It is the intention of the Group to provide its findings based on its investigations and methodology in its final report, the submission of which was requested by the Security Council, also in paragraph 6 of resolution 2582 (2021), no later than 15 June 2022, and in the Group's monthly updates to the Committee, as appropriate.

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¹ See paragraph 3 of resolution 2528 (2020) and the letter dated 20 July 2020 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2020/726).