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**Office of the
Special Representative
to the United Nations**

Facsimile Cover Sheet

DATE: December 30, 1997

NO. OF PAGES: 02
(including cover sheet)

TO: Mr. Eugen Scanteie
Title: **Principal Country Economist, AFTM3**

FAX NO. : (202) 473-8466

FROM: **Alfredo Sfeir-Younis**
Title: Special Representative to the UN

Telephone: (212) 986-7838

SUBJECT: **Political Mission to the CAR**

MESSAGE:

Dear Eugen:

Attached you will find the official note which came out of the meeting on CAR.

Let me take this opportunity to wish you a great 1998.


Alfredo



OUTGOING FACSIMILE

IMMEDIATE

DATE: 26 December 1997

TO: Mr. Mahmoud, DPA Ms. Gasarabwe, UNDP Mr. Madore, DHA Mr. Mbaidjol, UNHCR Mr. Zulu, IMF New York	FROM: Dmitry Titov <i>D Titov</i> DPKO United Nations New York
FAX NO: 3-4307, 3-3630, 4-5830, 3-0074, 697-7020	FAX NO: (212) 963-9222

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSMITTED PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 1

Political mission to the CAR

Thank you for attending (or sending your representative) the meeting conveyed by Mr. Miyet on the CAR on Monday 22 December.

Please be informed that the Secretary-General has decided to send Mr. Hédi Annabi, Assistant Secretary-General for Peace-keeping Operations on a mission to Bangui to meet President Patassé, as well as to Libreville to meet President Bongo and other representatives of the IMC who may be in the Gabonese capital during this visit. Mr. Annabi, who will be accompanied by a small team, is scheduled to leave New York for the region on 3 January 1998.

In accordance with the understanding reached at the 22 December meeting, we would be grateful for receiving your input/suggestions regarding the issues to be raised during the visit by 29 December. Thank you for your cooperation.

cc: LL
PD

MSG. NO.

DATE December 29, 1997

PAGE 1 OF 4

TO

Mr. Sfeir-Younis, World Bank
Fax# 963-7020

I'm faxing the following documents, for your information.

CAR File

from Kenya

FROM:

J.B. Zulu
UN/IMF Office

828 Second Avenue	EXTENSION-557-0894	ACCOUNT CODE
AUTHORIZED BY		SIGNATURE <i>Ananda Edua Castro</i>



Office in the United Nations

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

Fourth Floor, 828 Second Avenue
New York, New York 10017Telephone: (212) 687-0894
Facsimile: (212) 687-9123

December 24, 1997

Mr. Bernard Miyet
Under-Secretary-General
Department of Peace-keeping Operations
S-3727B
United Nations Secretariat
New York, NY 10017

Dear Mr. Miyet:

Following our meeting this past Monday on the Central African Republic (CAR), as promised I have consulted with the IMF African Department. The Department has prepared the attached note, which outlines the IMF's involvement in the CAR. I trust that this note will be helpful to you in preparing the necessary briefing for the actions which the Secretary-General intends to take soon, on the CAR.

I would like to further stress that anything the United Nations can do to enhance security within the country and ensure more effective stabilization of the political situation, will be very helpful to the Fund's involvement in efforts to facilitate economic recovery.

May I take this opportunity to wish you, your family and your staff a healthy and happy holiday season.

Sincerely yours,

J.B. Zulu

Director of the Fund Office at the UN
and IMF Special Representative to the UN

Attachment

cc: Mr. Boorman
Mr. Calamitsis
Mr. Heller
Mr. Cross

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC-- FUND INVOLVEMENT

The policy dialogue between the authorities and the Fund was resumed in October 1997 when a Fund mission visited the Central African Republic (CAR) to assess the economic and financial situation, assist the authorities in developing a set of priority measures together with a frame for the 1998 budget, and discuss the settlement of overdue payments. In collaboration with the authorities, the mission identified a series of emergency measures to improve revenue collection, made specific tax policy recommendations regarding the 1998 budget, and suggested concrete measures to improve the current system of economic and financial management. Fund staff has remained in close contact with the CAR authorities since then.

A Fund staff mission is expected to return to Bangui in early February 1998 to review the implementation of the emergency measures identified last October, agree on a budget for 1998, and, if feasible, put in place a comprehensive staff-monitored program of economic and structural reforms. This course of action could pave the way to an eventual medium-term economic program that could be supported by Fund resources under the enhanced structural adjustment facility at a subsequent stage. Such an approach is also viewed as essential to normalize financial relations with official multilateral and bilateral creditors and donors. An immediate and most challenging issue in this regard is to prevent further accumulation of arrears on external obligations.

A fully concerted international effort is a prerequisite, in addition to determined adjustment and structural efforts, to help enhance the prospects for early and solid economic recovery and improved living standards. To this end, the pursuit of the current policy dialogue is critical, and can succeed only if the government maintains its resolve to implement bold measures to bring the fiscal situation under control, and the international community provides the CAR with full support to, inter alia, help create a safe environment. In this context, the Fund welcomes the extension by the United Nations Security Council of the mandate of the MISAB until February 6, 1998, and supports current efforts to put in place a global framework within which the search of a durable peace will be conducted in a consistent fashion with much needed political and economic reforms.

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IMF NY UN OFFICE

004

12/24/97 11:37 202 823 4006

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IMF NY UN OFFICE --- UN HQ

001/001

SENT BY:

12-19-97 : 1:10PM

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OUTGOING FACSIMILE

MOST IMMEDIATE

DATE: 19 December 1997

<p>TO: Mr. Mahmoud, DPA Ms. Gasarabwe UNDP Mr. Madore, DHA Mr. Mbaidjol, UNHCR Mr. Sfeir-Younis, World Bank Mr. Zulu, IMF New York</p>	<p>FROM: Dmitry Titov <i>D Titov</i> Officer-In-Charge Africa Division United Nations New York</p>
<p>FAX NO: 3-4307, 3-3630, 4-5830, 3-0074, 687-9123, 697-7020</p>	<p>FAX NO: (212) 963-9222</p>

TOTAL NUMBER OF TRANSMITTED PAGES INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 1

Subject: Meeting on the Central African Republic on Monday, 22 December 1997, at 10:30 a.m.

1. The Under-Secretary-General for peacekeeping operations, Mr. Bernard Miyet, is convening a meeting on the Central African Republic to be held on Monday at 10.30 a.m. in his Conference Room, S-3727B. We hope that you or a senior representative of your office would be able to attend.

2. As you are aware, the Security Council by its resolution 1134 (1997) requested the Secretary-General to provide the Council with a report by 6 February on the implementation of the resolution, including recommendations on further international support for the CAR. In this context, a technical multi-disciplinary mission has visited Bangui. The Secretary-General intends to despatch a high-level political mission to Bangui in early January. On Monday, Mr. Miyet would like to discuss this mission and the situation in the CAR.

Best regards.

cc: Mr. Miyet

The World Bank/IFC/MIGA
O F F I C E M E M O R A N D U M

DATE: December 22, 1997 01:08pm

TO: EUGEN SCANTEIE (ESCANTEIE@WorldBank.org@INTERNE

FROM: Alfredo Sfeir-Younis, EXTUN (ALFREDO SFEIR-YOUNIS)

EXT.:

SUBJECT: Meeting on CAR Called By Under-Secretary-General For Peace Keeping
Operantions

Eugen:

It was great to talk to you this morning, and your advise and information was right on!.

The meeting was rather long and the discussion full of complex insights, some of which I am not very familiar with.

The bottom line: an envoy will go to CAR on Januay 3rd (to come back on the 12th), and prepare a report for the Secretary General by the 20th, when the matter will be discussed at the Security Council. This envoy must convey a general message for the whole UN System, including the World Bank and the IMF. THus, they want to have a couple of pages from us, on actions and time tables, by next monday. These should be sent to the above mentioned Under Secretary general.

The tone of the meeting: everyone was trying to see what the options are there in terms of peace keeping, that will improve security but it would not write a blank check for the actual president to saty in power for ever. Somehow, all agreed that the Bangui Accoord has to be implemented in full force and that the remainder actions (i.e., parliamentary audit, rationalization of security operations, and conference on national reconciliation)have to be acted upon in the immediate future,

It was thought that the government needs to see what is there for them in the next move. This would suggest a number of carrots and sticks, which would include moneys and programs.

On the maintenance of security there was a general agreement that a UN Peace Operation or a continuation of a MISAB type of operation were the options to consider. The later will only be successful if some financing and TA from the french would be made available.

There are seem to be some key dates having to do with parlametarian elections (1998) and presidential elections (1999) that may provide the landmarks for some immediate action. In this respect, the UN involvement would most probably be heavily

involved in governance, restructuring of the army forces and the full implementation of the BAngui Accord.

The IMF and the Bank were asked to say a few words and I essentially made reference to some of the general points we discussed this morning. They are all fully aware (as stated by the special envoy) that the government is using the Bank/IMF as a way not to make the necessary policy reforms, so badly needed. As stated: "they are using the BANK/IMF as a way of inaction".

The latest on the French army forces is that they will stay in CAR maximum until April 15th.

Would you distribute this note, if appropriate, to those directly involved?. There were questions from the UN Secretariat and the UNDP (Ms. Mbaranga Gasarsbwe, Program Manager, Division I, regional Bureau for Africa, Tel --212-906-5697) regarding the Bank mission findings. They most probably will call you for directions.

The only action now is related to a short general statement by the Bank that the UN envoy can convey to the President.

Thanks again for your advice.

Warm regards,

Alfredo

CC: MARK MALLOCH BROWN
CC: Lisa Pachter
CC: Clare Fleming

(MARK MALLOCH BROWN @A1@WBWASH)
(LISA PACTER)
(CLARE FLEMING)