

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي

UMOJA WA AFRIKA



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

UNIÓN AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. P.O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 5513 822 Fax: (251-11) 5519 321

Email: situationroom@africanunion.org

**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
1305TH MEETING**

**13 OCTOBER 2025
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

PSC/PR/BN.1305 (2025)

BRIEFING NOTE

EMERGENCY SITUATION IN MADAGASCAR

EMERGENCY SITUATION IN MADAGASCAR

I. INTRODUCTION

1. Since 25 September 2025, Madagascar has been experiencing a major political, social and security crisis triggered by disruptions in electricity and water supplies. It quickly became a national protest movement led by the youth referred to as the “Gen Z” who condemned corruption, bad governance and the lack of economic prospects. According to the United Nations High Commission on Human Rights, clashes between the demonstrators and the security forces have led to more than 20 deaths. Reacting to the situation, President Andry Rajoelina announced on 6 October, the dissolution of the government and the appointment of General Fortunat Ruphin Zafisambo as Prime Minister, in addition to the appointment of three ministers from the Defense and Security Forces.

2. In spite of these measures, the demonstrations continued and were characterized by strikes in several public sectors and the imposition of a curfew in the big cities.

II. RECENT DEVELOPMENTS OF THE SITUATION (11–12 OCTOBER 2025)

3. The events of the last 48 hours show that the crisis has taken a critical turn as follows:

- a) Statement by the CAPSAT and COZOFAM (Association of Junior Officers formed in 2009 during the fall of the Ravalomanana regime and dissolved subsequently) expressing support for the demonstrators and calling on the Armed Forces, the Gendarmerie and the Police to cease obeying repressive orders from their command. They condemned the violence perpetrated against the people and demanded that the Presidential Guards withdraw from the National Palace and return to their mother units.
- b) Tension in the Army Personnel Administration Center (**CAPSAT**): in the morning, officers from the Gendarmerie went to the camp to negotiate with the soldiers. There was a brief exchange of fire between the soldiers and the gendarmes before the negotiations ended. Two people were reported injured. At the end of the discussions, the two camps issued statements on social media calling for peace. The National Gendarmerie announced that it would no longer receive instructions, except if they were coming from the FIGN (National Gendarmerie Intervention Forces), whose initial directive was to call for the “immediate cessation of all forms of violence against the people”.
- c) New de facto military and political configuration: Major-General Démosthène Pikulas has been made the head of the General Headquarters of the Armed Forces at the CAPSAT.
- d) On the Place du 13 Mai (13 May Square), a very important and symbolic venue where popular Malagasy movements gather, several senior officers, including General Lylison Roland de René, thanked the soldiers of the CAPSAT for the role they played in turning the situation around and commended the peaceful mobilization of the citizenry. Major opposition political figures, including former Senate President Rivo Rakotovoao, were also present.
- e) The Minister of Public Security and Inspector-General of Police, Ny Aina Randriambelo, stated that the National Police will remain loyal to its mission of maintaining order and that it will peacefully monitor the demonstration scheduled for that day on the Place du 13mai.
- f) The Senate President, Lieutenant-General Richard Ravalomanana, was removed this morning by the Permanent Bureau of the Senate, in consultation with all the Senators, in order to

“preserve the higher interest of the Nation and to strengthen institutional consistency”. This decision comes in the wake of several testimonies and videos showing him ordering Gendarmes to shoot at the demonstrators on previous days of crackdown.

- g) Unconfirmed information indicates that President Andry Rajoelina is reported to have left Madagascar through Mahajanga for Mozambique, while former Prime Minister and businessman, Mamy Ravatomang, is reported to have attempted to seek refuge in Réunion before returning to Maurice because his plane was not given clearance to land.

III. DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL REACTIONS

- 4. Domestic and International reactions on the Situation in Madagascar are as follows:
 - a) The Office of Communication of the Presidency has issued a statement condemning an unconstitutional attempt to seize power, calling on all forces to defend the constitutional order and reaffirming that dialogue remains the only way out of the crisis.
 - b) The Government of the Union of the Comoros has issued an official statement calling for restraint, dialogue and the avoidance of unconstitutional changes.
 - c) The Statement by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission calling for a peaceful resolution was welcomed with relief by several authorities. However, the protesters hope that it will condemn the violence they suffered during the recent crackdowns.

IV. ANALYSIS

- 5. The analysis of the current situation in Madagascar is as follows:
 - a) The Malagasy crisis has reached a tipping point, with a gradual collapse of the military and security chain of command and the loss of executive authority.
 - b) The situation could very quickly develop into an unconstitutional de facto transition.
 - c) The risks of internal clashes between units loyal to the authorities and forces committed to dissent remain high.
 - d) The popular participation in the movement by the Armed Forces and the strong mobilization of the youth suggest an imminent major political change.

V. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 6. At the end of the meeting, it is expected that the PSC will, among others, adopt a communiqué containing the following recommendations:
 - a) Call for an immediate cessation of violence and the protection of civilians.
 - b) Encourage an inclusive national mediation jointly facilitated by the Catholic Churches of Madagascar and the FemWise-Madagascar network in order to promote a peaceful dialogue between stakeholders, prevent any escalation and determine a consensual roadmap for a peaceful and constitutional way out of the crisis.

- c) Support the call for dialogue made by the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, while reaffirming the need to respect the constitutional order and reject any seizure of power by force.
- d) Continue to monitor the situation closely using diplomatic means through the AU Liaison Office in Antananarivo to follow developments in real time.
- e) Prepare, as a preventive measure, a joint AU–UN–SADC assessment mission for mediation and support in the possible transition.
- f) Recall the appeal to the Sub-Committee on Institutional Reforms, which recommends that the mandate of the Liaison Office should be maintained and strengthened, and that a Special Envoy should be appointed for Madagascar to provide sustainable support to stabilization efforts.

VI. CONCLUSION

7. The situation in Madagascar remains extremely volatile, while developments could evolve quickly in the coming hours. A concerted, preventive and diplomatic response by the African Union, in coordination with regional partners, is urgently required to prevent a total institutional breakdown and to promote a peaceful and inclusive end to the crisis.

VII. DATE AND VENUE

8. The meeting will be held in-person on Monday, 13 October 2025, starting at 3:00 p.m, (1500hrs), Addis Ababa local time, First Floor of Julius Nyerere Peace and Security Building. The meeting will be conducted in English and French languages.