

**AFRICAN UNION**

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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL**

**380<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

**17 JUNE 2013**

**ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

**PSC/PR/COMM.1(CCCLXXX)**

**COMMUNIQUÉ**

## COMMUNIQUÉ

The Peace and Security of the African Union (AU), at its 380<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 17 June 2013, adopted the following decision on the situation in the Central African Republic (CAR):

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in the CAR [PSC/PR/2. (CCCLXXX)] and the briefing by the Commissioner for Peace and Security, as well as of the statements made by the representatives of Chad, in its capacity as the Chair of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), South Africa, Rwanda, Togo, France, the United Nations (UN) and the European Union (EU);
2. **Recalls** Declaration Assembly/AU/Decl.1 (XXI) on the Report of the Peace and Security Council on its Activities and the State of Peace and Security in Africa adopted by the 21<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, held in Addis Ababa, from 26 to 27 May 2013, in particular, paragraph 10 which "endorses the decisions of the Peace and Security Council on the issue and requests that efforts be intensified to restore security and ensure return to constitutional order." Council **also recalls** its previous communiqués and press statements on the CAR, notably its communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.1(CCCLXXV) adopted at its 375<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 10 May 2013;
3. **Reiterates its deep concern** at the continuing violations of human rights and insecurity in the CAR, including pillaging, both in Bangui and in the country side. Council **also notes with deep concern** the very limited progress made with respect to the cantonment and disarmament of the Seleka elements, as well as in the reconstitution of a core force of police and gendarmerie to protect civilians;
4. **Recalls** the Roadmap adopted by the 4<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Summit of the ECCAS Heads of State and Government held in Ndjamenya, on 18 April 2013, and the conclusions of the 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the International Contact Group on the CAR (ICG-CAR), which took place in Brazzaville, Republic of Congo, on 3 May 2013. In this regard, Council **reiterates the need** for the CAR transitional institutions to be truly inclusive, and for the scrupulous respect of the prerogatives of the Prime Minister of the transition. Council **also calls** for sustained international support to facilitate the transition in the CAR and, in this respect, **commends** the Economic and Monetary Community of Central African States (CEMAC) for the decision taken, at its Summit of 14 June 2013, to extend financial assistance in support of the stabilization efforts in the CAR;
5. **Takes note** of the conclusions of the Military Assessment Mission of the Mission for the Consolidation of Peace in the CAR (MICOPAX), which visited Bangui from 2 to 7 May 2013, under the leadership of the Commission and with the participation of representatives of the ECCAS General Secretariat, the International Organization of *La Francophonie* (OIF), the EU and the UN. Council **welcomes** the recommendations of the Mission, particularly with regard to the need for enhanced international security presence to ensure the protection of civilians and carry out other related tasks, as contained in paragraphs 18 to 20 of the report of the Chairperson of the Commission;

6. **Supports, in principle**, the establishment of an African-led International Support Mission for the Central African Republic (AFISM-CAR), whose core elements will be constituted by the contingents serving under the MICOPAX, augmented, as necessary and within a maximum strength of 3,500 uniformed personnel, including police, by contingents provided by other Member States, as indicated in the report of the Military Assessment Mission of MICOPAX, in order to contribute to: (i) the protection of civilians and the restoration of security and public order, through the implementation of appropriate measures, (ii) the stabilization of the country and the restoration of state authority, (iii) the reform and restructuring of the defense and security sector, and (iv) the creation of conditions conducive to the provision of humanitarian assistance to the needy populations. Council **requests** the Commission to develop, in consultation with ECCAS and other potential troop and police contributing countries, as well as with relevant international partners, notably the EU the UN and *La Francophonie*, a concept of operations and a concept of logistical support, and to submit to it a detailed report, within 30 days from the date of this communiqué, to enable it to take the required decision on the envisaged AFISM-CAR;
7. **Requests** the Commission, in the meantime, to actively consult with ECCAS, including the Planning Element (PLANELM) of its Regional Standby Force, to agree on urgent modalities for the restructuring and strengthening of MICOPAX within the envisaged new security arrangements referred to in paragraph 6 above;
8. **Further requests** the Commission to continue and intensify its efforts towards the mobilization of support from the UN, the EU and *La Francophonie*, as well as from bilateral partners, toward the strengthening of MICOPAX and the effective operationalization of the envisaged AFISM-CAR, as will be decided by Council;
9. **Reiterates its support** for the efforts being deployed on the ground by the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission in the CAR, Hawa Ahmed Youssouf, and **encourages her** to continue her efforts. Council **expresses its deep appreciation** for the work of the United Nations Integrated Office in the CAR (BINUCA) and its Head, Margaret Vogt. Council **pays tribute** to Mrs. Vogt for her outstanding commitment and contribution to the efforts aimed at addressing the situation in the CAR throughout her tenure at the helm of BINUCA. Council **takes note** of the appointment of General Babacar Gaye as the new Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of BINUCA, and **emphasizes** the need for continued close cooperation between the AU and the UN in the CAR;
10. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.