

AFRICAN UNION

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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
411th MEETING AT THE LEVEL OF
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

BANJUL, THE GAMBIA
30 DECEMBER 2013

PSC/AHG/COMM.2(CDXI)

COMMUNIQUÉ

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The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 411th meeting, held at the level of Heads of State and Government, in Banjul, The Gambia, on 30 December 2013, adopted the following decision on the situation in the Central African Republic (CAR), including the deployment of the African-led International Support Mission in the CAR (MISCA) and its resource requirements:

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the briefing provided by the Commissioner for Peace and Security on the situation in the CAR, including the deployment of MISCA and its resource requirements;
2. **Recalls** its earlier communiqués and press statements on the situation in the CAR, notably on the deployment of MISCA, as well as related United Nations Security Council resolutions, particularly resolution 2127 (2013) of 5 December 2013;
3. **Welcomes** the transfer of authority on 19 December 2013 from the Peace Consolidation Mission of the Economic Community of Central African States (MICOPAX) to MISCA;
4. **Commends** MISCA and its leadership for the tremendous efforts they are deploying with the support of the French Operation Sangaris, in very difficult conditions. Council **pays tribute** to MISCA's personnel for the sacrifices made and **expresses appreciation** to all the troop and police contributing countries for their commitment. Council **also reiterates its appreciation** to ECCAS and MICOPAX for their contribution to the quest for peace, security and stability in the CAR;
5. **Notes** the ongoing efforts by the Commission to deploy additional uniformed personnel, as a follow-up to communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.2(CDVIII), adopted by Council at its 408th meeting, held on 13 December 2013, authorizing the increase of MISCA's strength up to 6,000 military and police personnel, to effectively deal with the current situation. Council **expresses its confidence** in the ability of MISCA to rapidly contribute to the improvement of the security situation and ease the current tension, and **welcomes** the ongoing efforts by MISCA's leadership to reorganize the force;
6. **Further welcomes** the visit undertaken to Bangui, on 28 December 2013, by a joint AU-ECCAS delegation, comprising the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Chad and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs and of Defense of the Republic of Congo, as well as the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, and **encourages** the two organizations, in cooperation with the international partners concerned, to take other steps to facilitate the early conclusion of the current transition and reconciliation among all CAR people. Council **reminds** the CAR authorities of their responsibilities, particularly with respect to the protection of the civilian population and the promotion of peaceful and harmonious coexistence among all the sections of the CAR society;
7. **Stresses the need** for AU Member States to fully support MISCA, notably by availing the much-needed financial resources. In this respect, Council **urges** all Member States to seize the opportunity of the donors Conference scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa on 1 February 2014, in line with the relevant provisions of UN Security Council resolution 2127 (2013), to make contributions to the funding of MISCA;

8. **Requests** all members of the AU Peace and Security Council to make financial contributions to MISCA and to inform the Commission of their pledges prior to the holding of the 23rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa at the end of January 2014, bearing in mind Council's primary responsibility in the promotion of peace, security and stability on the continent and the need for its members to lead by example. Council **requests** the Commission to update it on the follow-up to this request to its members. Council **further requests** the Commission to submit to it proposals on the ways and means of generating additional resources in favor of MISCA, for adoption by the Assembly of the Union, in January 2014;
9. **Expresses appreciation** to the AU partners which are already extending support to MISCA and **calls upon** all other partners to also contribute to the funding of the Mission and to seize the opportunity of the donors Conference referred to in paragraph 8 above to make pledges, to enable MISCA to discharge its mandate more effectively and stabilize the situation, in order to pave the way for the deployment, in due course, of a UN peacekeeping operation, in line with the relevant provisions of UN Security Council 2127 (2013);
10. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.