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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
586TH MEETING
ADDIS ABABA
31 MARCH 2016

PSC/PR/COMM.(DLXXXVI)

COMMUNIQUÉ

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The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 586th meeting held on 31 March 2016, adopted the following decision on the situation in the Central African Republic (CAR):

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the briefing made by the Commission, as well as of the statement made by the representative of The Gambia, on the situation in the CAR;
2. **Recalls** its previous communiqués and press statements, in particular, Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM/(CCCLXIII) adopted at its 363rd meeting held on 25 March 2013, in which Council decided to suspend the participation of the CAR in all AU activities until the restoration of normal constitutional order;
3. **Welcomes** the positive developments in the CAR, particularly, the successful holding of the presidential election, and the first round of legislative elections, as well as the swearing in, on 30 March 2016, of President Faustin-Archange Touadéra, which marked the completion of the transition process;
4. **Reiterates its appreciation** to the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), **Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC)**, bilateral and multilateral partners of the CAR and AU partners. Council, in particular, **pays tribute** to the ECCAS Mediator in the CAR crisis, President Denis Sassou Nguesso, of the Republic of Congo, for his commitment and active engagement, which contributed significantly to the progress achieved in the CAR;
5. Council **further pays tribute** to Madam Catherine Samba-Panza for her exemplary role, in her capacity as the President of the Transition, in steering the transition process in the CAR to a successful conclusion. Council **commends** the political actors and the people of the CAR, as a whole, for demonstrating political maturity and commitment to end the crisis, in the supreme interest of their country;
6. **Decides**, in view of the successful completion of the transition process and the restoration of normal constitutional order, in accordance with the relevant AU instruments, including the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, to lift the suspension of the participation of the CAR in the activities of the AU. Council **further decides** to lift all other measures that had been taken to ensure that the CAR stakeholders work irreversibly towards the restoration of normal constitutional order. In this regard, Council **invites** the CAR to immediately resume its participation in the activities of the AU;

7. **Urges** the new President of the CAR and all the other CAR stakeholders to work together towards the promotion of national reconciliation, good governance and respect for human rights, as well as in post-conflict reconstruction and development;
8. Council **reiterates** the commitment of the AU to continue accompanying and supporting the CAR in addressing the challenges at hand. Council **urges** the international community to remain actively mobilized and engaged in supporting the CAR;
9. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.