

CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES AGREEMENT

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PREAMBLE

Considering the relevant provisions in the United Nations Charter, the Resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, and in particular resolutions: 2121 (2013); 2127 (2014); 2134 (2014) and 2149 (2014) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the relevant decisions of the Central African Peace and Security Council of Central Africa (COPAX);

Considering the African Union Convention on the protection and assistance of displaced persons in Africa, signed in Kampala on October 23 2009;

Considering the regional resolutions on regulating the conflict in Central Africa; notably Libreville Global Peace Agreement of 2008 and 2013, as well as the Ndjaema Declarations of 2013 and 2014;

Considering the national initiatives on conflict regulation, notably the Recommendations of the Inclusive Political Dialogue of December 20, 2008, the Charter of Constitutional Transition of 2013, and the Transition Route Map which resulted;

Conscious of the need for dialogue in order to establish a durable and secure peace throughout the national territory, an essential condition for reconstructing the country and building democracy;

Considering the ongoing desire of Her Excellency Madame Catherine SAMBA-PANZA, Head of the State of Transition, reiterated in various speeches (Brussels, Paris, Oslo, Malabo) and her last address to the Nation on July 4, 2014, to promote political dialogue and national reconciliation among all the sons and daughters of Central Africa;

Considering the enthusiasm across the nation, particularly among the institutions of the Transition, in the living forces of the Nation including the religious authorities, civil society and the political parties, to build a peaceful society and national agreement, by supporting the present Transition framework;

Reaffirming their desire to contribute to a definitive return to peace, to take part in the Brazzaville Forum and to sign an Agreement for the cessation of hostilities;

Reaffirming their unwavering determination to bring to an end the underlying causes of this ongoing state of violence, insecurity, political instability and exclusion which has reduced the Central African people to a state of distress and suffering, and which is gravely

compromising any prospect of economic development, of equality and of social justice in the country;

Responding to the International Mediation led by his Excellency Denis SASSOU NGUESSO, President of the Republic of Congo, Mediator of the Central African crisis, assisted by Mr BOUBEYE MAÏGA, Representing the President of the Commission of the African Union and Mr Abdoulaye BATHILY, UN Secretary-General Special Representative for Central Africa, set up following the Meeting of Heads of State and of Government in the margins of the 23rd Ordinary Summit of the African Union, held in Malabo in Equatorial Guinea on June 27, 2014, on the situation in the Republic of Central Africa;

The ex-combatants and Central African armed elements agree the following:

Article 1:

- The present Cessation of Hostilities Agreement is established between the belligerents to take effect across the whole territory of the Central African Republic;
- The belligerents agree to end all hostilities upon signature of the Agreement;

Article 2:

The cessation of hostilities implies:

- An immediate end to hostilities and abstention from all military activities and all forms of violence;
- The cessation of all acts of violence against civil and military populations, and respect for and protection of human rights. These acts of violence include summary executions, torture, harassment, burning of villages and public and private property, destruction of religious buildings, pillage, the arbitrary detention and execution of civilian and military personnel, recruitment of child soldiers, sexual violence and arming civilians;
- The denunciation of all acts of violence and violations of human rights and international humanitarian law
- Abstention from any action or provocation liable to damage efforts to build a spirit of fraternity and national harmony;
- Commitment by the parties to communicate cessation of hostilities to the general public within 24 hours of the date of signature of the present Agreement, via their respective chains of command and to the general public;
- The Parties to desist from all propaganda, and discourse of hatred and division based on religious, tribal or partisan allegiance; and to put an end to acts of intolerance and media campaigns liable to provoke religious or political confrontation;
- The organisation of an information campaign for their supporters on the content of the present Agreement, and on the part of the government, one targeted on the whole Central African population.

Article 3: As soon as the present Agreement enters into force:

- a. The Parties commit to removing all obstacles to state authority in their respective zones, including in particular illegal barriers and parallel administrations.
- b. The Parties commit to the global process of national reconciliation to be pursued in the Central African Republic, and to end immediately any restrictions on the free movement of goods and people throughout the national territory, and on the work of national and international actors in exercising their duties under different United Nations Resolutions.
- c. The Parties undertake to remove from their ranks and repatriate any mercenaries such that they may return to their own countries with the support of the international community.
- d. The Parties undertake to reject any project to divide up the Central African Republic.

Article 4: All ex-combatants and armed elements signatories to the present Agreement must be re-grouped without undue delay, if the necessary resources are available, in areas to be mutually agreed with the Transition Government and the International Community.

Article 5: The Parties also agree to:

- a. Respect and engender respect for human rights;
- b. Prohibit and condemn all violence, including sexual violence, against civilian and military populations;
- c. To put in place a mechanism within their own organisations to monitor these commitments, and to report any violations to the competent authorities, to guard against impunity;
- d. To end and prevent any future violations of children, in particular murder, mutilation, exploitation, rape and other violence;
- e. To end the recruitment of child soldiers, in line with the African Charter for the Rights and Welfare of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, and the Optional Protocol on the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict.

Article 6: The parties undertake to:

- a. Respect free movement in general, and in particular of humanitarian convoys, as well as humanitarian enclaves, and to create favourable conditions for assisting refugees and displaced persons;
- b. To promote a favourable social and security environment for the return of refugees and displaced persons to their communities.

Article 7: A priority programme must be implemented urgently in order to:

- a. Create the necessary conditions for the return, reinstallation and reinsertion of persons displaced by the conflict;
- b. Fight against criminality, in particular that specified in Article 2;
- c. Rehabilitate the zones affected by the conflict.

Article 8: The parties will establish a committee to monitor implementation of the present agreement as follows:

1. 01 representative per politico-military group;
2. G8-RCA;
3. 06 representatives of the Transition Institutions (Presidency, CNT, Government).

This Committee should establish regional and local sub-committees as needed. The monitoring committee for implementation of the present Agreement may be advised by any qualified person.

Article 9: In case of any litigation or disagreement arising during the implementation of this agreement, the Parties may refer to the Monitoring Committee. If this fails they may request International Mediation.

Article 10: The present Agreement enters into force upon signature.

Done in Brazzaville, July 23, 2014

Signatures

The former combatant and armed elements

- For the Popular Front for the Rebirth of the Central African Republic (FPRC)
 - o General Mohamed MOUSSA DHAFANE, Ex Coalition SELEKA
- For the Anti-Balaka
 - o Mr Patrice Edouard NGAISSONA
- For the Democratic Front of the Central African People (FDPC)
 - o Mr Andre Le-Gaillard RINGUI
- For Revolution and Justice (RJ)
 - o Mr Armel Sayo
- For the Central African Liberation Movement for Justice (MLCJ)
 - o Mr ABAKAR SABONE
- For the Union of Republican Forces (UFR)
 - o Mr Florian N'DJADDER BEDAY
- For the Union of Fundamental Republican Forces (UFRF)
 - o Mr Dieu-Benit GBEYA-KIKOBET

In presence of

Transition Government:

- The minister of foreign affairs, African integration and Francophonie
 - o His Excellency Toussaint KONGO-DOUDOU
- National Council of Transition
 - o The Honorable Alexandre Ferdinand N'GUENDET
- Alternative Citizen for Democracy and Peace (ACDP)
 - o Mr Enoch DERANT LAKOUE
- Former Presidential Majority
 - o Mr Laurent NGON-BABA
- Group of Political Parties/ Republican Workers Legalists [Republicains Travailleurs Legalistes – not sure how to translate this] (GPP/RTL)
 - o Mr Bertin BEA
- Union of Political Parties for National Reconstruction (UPPRN)

- Pierre Abraham MBOKANI
- Assembly of other political parties
 - Mr Auguste BOUKANGA
- Political parties without platform
 - Mr Henri GOUANDIA

Independent persons:

- Mrs Alphonsine BOGANDA-YANGONGO
- Mr Steve KOBIA

National Youth Council

- Mr Jean Felix Wulfrand RIVA
- Mr Abdel-Aziz AROUFAI

Organisation of Central African Women

- Mrs Marie-Annick SERVICE

Consultation Committee of Women Leaders

- Dr SOKAMBI DIBERT BEKOY [name obscured by signature]

High Council for Communication

- Mr Jose Richard POUAMBI

Workers Syndicat

- Mr Michel LOUDEGUE

National Confederation of Farmers and Breeders

- Mrs Brigitte ANDARA

Religious Representatives

- Mr Dieudonne NZAPALAINGA
- Imam KOBINE LAYAMA

Inter-NGO Council in the Central African Republic (CIONGCA)

- Mr Celestin NGAKOLA

Inter-professional Group in Central African Republic (GICA)

- Mr Giles POTOLO NGBANGANDIMBO

La Diaspora

- Mr Maurice OUAMBO

IDPs

- Mr Jean Claude MALABI

Communities at Risk

- Mr ATAHIROU BALLA DODO
- Mrs ADJA ASTA MOUSSA

International Mediation

For the UN

- The Special Representative of the UN in Central Africa
 - o Mr Abdoulaye Bathily

For the African Union

- The Vice Mediator
 - o Mr SOUMAILOU BOUBEY MAIGA

For CEEAC

- The Rapporteur, the Secretary General of CEEAC
 - o Ambassador Ahmad ALLAM-MI

The International Mediator

- The President of the Republic of Congo
 - o His Excellency Mr Denis SASSOU N'GUESSO