

Mandate of the Inter-African force to monitor the
implementation of the Bangui Agreements

Recalling the decision of the heads of State and Government of France and Africa meeting in Ouagadougou from 4 to 6 December 1996,

Considering the declaration issued by the heads of State in Bangui on 25 January 1997,

Taking into account the Charter of the Organization of African Unity and the various decisions and resolutions concerning the settlement of disputes, including the resolution establishing the central organ of the Organization of African States for the prevention, management and settlement of disputes,

Bearing in mind letters No. 009/97 and No. 010/97 of 7 January 1997 from the President of the Central African Republic requesting that an inter-African force be established in the Central African Republic,

I, El Hadj Omar Bongo, President of the Gabonese Republic, representing the heads of State designated by the Nineteenth Summit Meeting of Heads of State and Government of France and Africa, to help find a peaceful solution to the Central Africa crisis, at the request of President Ange-Félix Patasse of the Central African Republic,

Hereby establish the terms of the mandate of the inter-African force for security and peace.

Article 1

A neutral inter-African force, to be known as the Inter-African Mission to Monitor the Implementation of the Bangui Agreements (MISAB), is hereby established.

Article 2

The objective of MISAB is to help restore peace and security by monitoring the implementation of the agreements signed on 25 January 1997 in Bangui.

Article 3

In order to attain this objective, MISAB shall conduct operations to disarm the ex-rebels, the militia and all other unlawfully armed individuals.

Article 4

The force shall be composed initially of 600 men from the following six countries: Burkina Faso, Chad, Gabon, Mali, Senegal and Togo.

It shall be structured as an operational staff headquarters composed of the following offices:

- A personnel management and administration office;
- An information gathering and processing office;
- An office for the planning and conduct of operations;
- An office of infrastructure resources management;
- A legal and civilian affairs office;
- A military police force;
- A legal adviser for, inter alia, coordinating provostal and judicial action;
- A liaison office with the Central African authorities and other parties concerned.

The work of the various offices shall be coordinated by a superior officer, deputy to the Commander of the force and Chief of Staff.

Article 5

The force shall be provided with a French logistical command unit.

Article 6

MISAB shall be placed under the political authority of President El Hadj Omar Bongo. General Amadou Toumani Touré, in his capacity as Chairman of the International Monitoring Committee to supervise the implementation of the Bangui Agreements, shall have such authority delegated to him.

Article 7

The conditions of stay and deployment of MISAB shall be established by the status-of-forces agreement.

Article 8

The initial duration of the mandate shall be three months as from 31 January 1997. It may be renewed at the request of the President of the Central African Republic.

Article 9

The force shall be commanded by an officer appointed by President El Hadj Omar Bongo, representing the heads of State designated by the Summit Meeting of Heads of State and Government of France and Africa.

Article 10

The participating countries undertake to provide the necessary troops for the accomplishment of the mission.

Article 11

Logistical and financial support for the force shall be provided by France and/or other contributors of funds.

Article 12

The Commander of the force shall make an interim report to the President of the International Committee, who shall bring the report to the attention of President El Hadj Omar Bongo.

Bangui, 6 March 1997.

(Signed) El Hadj Omar BONGO President of
the Gabonese Republic
representing the heads of State designated
by the Nineteenth Summit Meeting of Heads of
State and Government of France and Africa