

**Communiqué of the fourth meeting of the Bilateral Algerian- Malian Strategic Committee on Northern Mali**

1. The Bilateral Algerian-Malian Strategic Committee on Northern Mali held its fourth meeting in Algiers on 14 and 15 June 2014, co-chaired by His Excellency Mr. Ramtane Lamamra, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, and His Excellency Mr. Abdoulaye Diop, Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Integration and International Cooperation of the Republic of Mali, with the participation of His Excellency Mr. Zahabi Ould Sidi Mohamed, Minister of National Reconciliation of the Republic of Mali, and His Excellency Mr. Hamadou Konaté, Minister of Solidarity, Humanitarian Action and Reconstruction of the North of the Republic of Mali.
2. This meeting was held pursuant to the decision by the two Heads of State, the President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, His Excellency Mr. Abdelaziz Bouteflika, and the President of the Republic of Mali, His Excellency Mr. Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, to establish this mechanism as a strategic tool for follow-up and implementation of any measures the parties deemed likely to further a peaceful and lasting solution to the problems of northern Mali.
3. Considering the situation prevailing in the region, the two parties made an in - depth assessment of that situation [and] of the aftermath of the events which occurred in Kidal on 17 and 21 May 2014 and their security, political and humanitarian repercussions.
4. The two parties considered that because of their gravity, those events underscored the necessity and urgency of accelerating the preparations for the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue, in such a way as to lay the groundwork for genuine reconciliation among Malians and for lasting peace, security and stability in the country.
5. The Algerian party gave the Malian party a progress report on the exploratory consultations it had been conducting since January 2014, the aim of which was to establish conditions favourable to the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue, in keeping with the guidelines established by the two Heads of State on the occasion of the visit of the President of Mali to Algeria on 18 and 19 January 2014.
6. The Algerian party drew particular attention to the outcome of the consultations that had been resumed on 5 June 2014 with the participation of all the leaders of all the movements of northern Mali, which had resulted in the adoption by the movements of the Algiers Declaration and the Algiers Preliminary Platform for the Inclusive Inter-Malian Dialogue, on 9 and 14 June respectively.
7. The Algerian party pointed out that in these two documents, the six movements of northern Mali had affirmed their determination to enter into a constructive dialogue with the Malian authorities in order to find a definitive solution to the crisis in the northern region of the country, by endorsing the legitimate claims of the populations of the region while ensuring full respect for the territorial integrity and national unity of Mali.
8. The Malian party expressed its deep appreciation for those results, which were an effective and constructive basis for quickly launching, in Algiers, the initial phase of the inclusive inter-Malian dialogue.

9. The Malian party declared its readiness to work in good faith to consolidate the process under way in Algiers and the progress already made, and it reaffirmed its full confidence that Algeria would bring that new phase to a successful conclusion, in accordance with the wishes of President Keita.
10. The two parties accordingly proceeded to consider a series of proposals for fostering a climate of confidence among the parties concerned, through the implementation of measures to be agreed which would facilitate the discussions in accordance with an agreed timetable and methodology.
11. The two parties stressed the importance of conducting that new phase in conjunction with the regional and international partners they invited to support their efforts, which would be in strict accordance with the objectives established by the international community for preserving the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Mali and reinforcing its national unity.
12. The two parties decided to hold the fifth meeting of the Committee in Bamako, during the month of July 2014.

DONE at Algiers on 16 June 2014.

For the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria:

(Signed) Ramtane Lamamra

Minister for Foreign Affairs for the Republic of Mali:

(Signed) Abdoulaye Diop

Minister for Foreign Affairs, African Integration and International Cooperation