

N'Djamena Declaration

At the invitation of the President of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), His Excellency IDRIS DEBY ITNO, President of the Republic of Chad, the Fourth Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government was held in N'Djamena, on April 18, 2013, to examine the situation prevailing in the Central African Republic. H.E.M. Jacob Zuma, President of the Republic of South Africa also participated in the Summit as a guest.

The Summit adopted the following declaration, called the N'Djamena Declaration.

Considering the relevant provisions of the Charter of the United Nations, the Constitutive Act of the African Union, and the Protocol Relating to the Peace and Security Council of Central Africa (COPAX)

Considering the relevant decisions taken within the framework of the sub-region, with a view to a peaceful settlement of the conflict in the Central African Republic, in particular the Ceasefire Agreement and the Libreville Political Agreement of January 11, 2013;

Considering the resolution relating to consultation between the Parties of the Libreville Agreements adopted on April 13, 2013, in Bangui

Considering Order No. 005 of April 13, 2013, establishing and composing the National Transition Council

Considering Order No. 006 of April 13, 2013, convening the National Transition Council

Considering the document bearing Minutes N° 001 / CNT / SG of April 16, 2013, electing Mr. DJOTODIA AM NONDOKORO Michel, President of the Republic, Head of State;

Considering the continuing will of the ECCAS member states and their partners to support the standardization process in the Central African Republic;

Aware of the need for dialogue for achieving lasting peace and security throughout the national territory, an essential condition for the reconstruction of the country and the return to constitutional order

The Heads of State and Government, members of the ECCAS, meeting in N'Djamena, decided on the following

1. The Political Agreement signed on January 11, 2013, in Libreville is and remains the foundation of political agreements during the transition period;
2. The establishment of the National Transitional Council (CNT) and the election of the President of the Republic by this body must be acknowledged;
3. The duration of the transition period is set at 18 months;
4. During this transition, free, democratic, transparent and fair elections (constitutional, legislative, and presidential) will be organized based on a consensual legal order and calendar, with a view to returning to an undisputed democratic constitutional order;

5. The Head of State, the Prime Minister, and the Ministers members of the Transitional Government, as well as the President and the members of the office of the CNT, cannot present themselves for the next elections

6. The Prime Minister has broad powers. He cannot be dismissed by the Head of State during the transition period. A new transitional government is being formed through broad consultations and based on the spirit of the Libreville Agreement;

7. The transitional government is responsible in particular for:

- Restoring peace and security of people and property (by confining all uncontrolled armed groups) and ensuring the protection of civilian populations throughout the territory of the CAR;
- Assisting displaced persons and promote their return and resettlement;
- Ensuring strict respect for human rights, pluralism and citizens' freedoms;
- Preparing and organizing the elections
- Reorganizing the defense and security forces
- Reorganizing the Territorial Administration
- Reforming the judicial system
- Continuing the Demobilization - Disarmament Reintegration (DDR) and Security Sector Reform (RSS) processes with the support of the International Community

Undertaking economic and social reforms.

8. The National Transitional Council has full legislative power. It is responsible for preparing the Constitutional Draft to be submitted to popular suffrage.

The urgent mission of the National Transitional Council is to draw up and adopt a Constitutional Charter for the transition, organizing all the public authorities of the transition per the Libreville Agreement, the N'Djamena Declaration, popular consensus, and with the Central African political class.

9. A Constitutional Court of Transition will be established, responsible for ensuring the constitutionality of laws, hearing electoral disputes, proclaiming the final results of electoral consultations, and receiving the Oath of the democratically elected President of the Republic.

The Heads of State and Government launch an urgent appeal to the whole of the International Community, in particular, the African Union, the United Nations, the European Union, the International Organization of La Francophonie, and the bilateral partners of the Central African Republic, to effectively combine their efforts to support the transition in the CAR, in order to achieve in the best possible conditions the objectives it sets for the benefit of the Central African people, as well as regional and international peace.

The Heads of State and Government reiterate their total confidence in the Monitoring Committee of the Libreville Agreement under the aegis of HE Denis Sassou Nguesso, President of the Republic of Congo;

The Heads of State and Government urge this Committee to take all appropriate measures to support the transition. They also agree to the creation of an International Contact Group, comprising regional and international organizations of which the CAR is a member, as well as

bilateral and multilateral partners. This Group is responsible for mobilizing the political support and the financial resources necessary for a successful transition and ensuring its strategic support. The International Contact Group is called to hold its first high-level meeting in May 2013 in Brazzaville.

The Heads of State and Government urge the Government of the CAR, ECCAS, PUA, the UN, the EU, and the OIE to consult each other, as soon as possible, on the security arrangements to support the transition period, including those likely to enhance the effectiveness of MICOPAX and ensure the capacity to contribute to the protection of civilians and to the reform the defense and security sector of the CAR.

To this end, the Heads of State have asked the African Union Commission to take the appropriate measures, to assess the needs of MICOPAX in terms of staff, equipment and funding, with an operational and a logistical support motif supported by Africa and the International Community.

The attendees agreed on a roadmap for the composition and functioning of the CNT, as well as a document containing elements towards developing another roadmap for the Transition in CAR.

Done in N'Djamena, April 18, 2013

For ECCAS

President

Idriss Deby Itno

President of the Republic of Chad

ELEMENTS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A ROADMAP FOR THE TRANSITION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

A roadmap structured around the following headings should be quickly discussed with the Prime Minister, Head of the Government of National Union and supported by the international

community, during the first meeting of the International Contact Group for the situation in CAR:

Political and governance issues

- Transition Charter / Constitution / Laws;
Electoral process;
Administration and Public Services
 - II. Security and civil protection issues
DDR- RSDS
 - III. Humanitarian issues (refugees, displaced persons)
 - IV. Economic aid
 - V. International support
- Reinforced MICOPAX, well supported financially and materially (including possibly with a mandate from UN Security Council).
 - Conference on solidarity and aid for economic recovery. Monitoring Group resulting from the Libreville Agreements (sitting in Bangui and interacting regularly with the Transitional Government)
 - International Contact Group: Inclusive strategic support group of all CAR partners (Region, Continent, International Organizations) The first meeting of the International Contact Group should take place as soon as possible (May 2 or 3, 2013 in Brazzaville)

ROADMAP RELATED TO THE COMPOSITION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE NATIONAL TRANSITIONAL COUNCIL

1. The National Transitional Council (CNT) which was created on the recommendation of the ECCAS Extraordinary Summit held on April 3, 2013, in N'Djamena, constitutes the central institution of the transition period due to the constituent and legislative powers that are vested in it. Given that its training and implementation were carried out without the participation and contribution of ECCAS, the National Transitional Council must be strengthened in its representativeness and its composition.
2. The current composition of the CNT fixed at 105 members mirrors that of the National Assembly, now dissolved. The seats allocated to different political and socio-professional categories reflect a balance of power enshrined in the politico-military situation, rather than a popular representation meeting the criteria traditionally followed in countries with a democratic system.
3. Given the need to make the CNT the main body for inclusive management of the transition, and to meet the conditions for greater participation in the drafting of constitutional and legislative texts, essential to the legislative process and to the restoration of the constitutional order, the composition of the CNT should be reviewed. Given the need to ensure the stability of the functioning of this body, as well as achieving a better balance in the composition of the CNT, it is recommended that:

- The number of seats in the CNT is increased to a total of 135;

- That the new 30 seats be allocated to the regions of the country, to political parties including the former presidential majority, who are currently under-represented, to the politico-military groups which have not yet given up the fight, as well as to civil society and women.

4. The Parliamentary Commissions must elaborate on the constitutional projects and the other structuring texts of the transition, and the exit from the crisis must be done with a strict balance of the political and social sensitivities so that no group in particular can have a determining influence in the decision-making.

Adoption by consensus should be seen as the rule of thumb. After efforts to reach consensus have been exhausted, decisions must be made by a qualified majority of two-thirds (2/3) of the members.

5. Per the decisions of the ECCAS Extraordinary Summit held on April 3, 2013, the official designation of the authority invested by the CNT of the responsibility of Head of State must be Transitional Head of State, to the exclusion of any other title. Consequently, the CNT is called upon to immediately amend any previous decision on this issue.

Done in N'Djamena, April 18, 2013

FOURTH EXTRAORDINARY SUMMIT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF CENTRAL AFRICAN STATES ON THE SECURITY SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC.

FINAL RELEASE

At the invitation of the President of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), His Excellency IDRIS DEBY ITNO, President of the Republic of Chad, the Fourth Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government was held in N'Djamena, on April 18, 2013, to examine the situation prevailing in the Central African Republic.

The following took part in this Summit,

- His Excellency Idriss DEBY ITNO, President of the Republic of Chad, President in office of ECCAS;
- His Excellency Denis SASSOU NGUESSO President of the Republic of the Congo;
- His Excellency Ali BONGO ONDIMBA, President of the Gabonese Republic;
- His Excellency Jacob ZUMA, President of the Republic of South Africa;
- His Excellency Amadou Ali, Deputy Prime Minister, Minister Delegate at the Presidency of the Republic Responsible for Relations with the Assemblies, Republic of Cameroon, -

His Excellency Raymond Tashibanda, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Francophonie, Democratic Republic of Congo -

His Excellency AGAPITO MBA MOKUY Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea;

His Excellency ISSIFOU Kogui Ndouro, Minister of State in Charge of Presidential Affairs, Republic of Benin

His Excellency Sébastien Fernandes, Ambassador of Angola to Chad, Republic of Angola; -

His Excellency Nicolas TIANGAYE, Prime Minister of the Central African Republic;

As well as Mr. Nassour GUELENGDOUKSIA OUAIDOU, Secretary-General of ECCAS,

The Summit was held in the presence of the Representatives of the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union, the President of the Commission of the European Union, the Secretary-General of the International Organization of La Francophonie, the United States of America and France.

Opening the session, the President-in-Office of ECCAS, His Excellency Idriss DEBY ITNO, briefly recalled the successive crises that the CAR has faced over the past twenty years.

He also recalled the multiple efforts made by the Sub-region in particular and the International Community in general in favor of peace in this country, like the last Libreville Agreement of January 11, 2013. President Idriss DEBY ITNO deplored the violation of this Agreement by the main Central African political actors, a violation which led to the change of power by force.

While condemning this coup, the President-in-Office of ECCAS invited the international community to a duty of solidarity and assistance in favor of the CAR, given the chaotic political and social situation in which this country finds itself.

President Idriss DEBY ITNO then described the purpose of this extraordinary summit, which aims to assess the situation since the last N'Djamena summit with a view to a final solution to the crisis in the Central African Republic.

The Summit finally followed a presentation by the Transitional Prime Minister of CAR, Me Nicolas Tiangaye, on the political, institutional, security and humanitarian situation in his country. This was supplemented by the Secretary-General of ECCAS Mr. Nassour Guelengdouksia Ouaidou, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Mrs. Margaret Vogt, the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission in the CAR Mrs. Hawa Ahmed Youssef and the Representative of the International Organization of La Francophonie Mr. Louis Michel.

The Summit also noted the interventions of the Representatives of the European Union, France, and the United States.

ECCAS Heads of State and Government, as well as CAR partners, expressed their deepest concern at the worsening security and humanitarian situation prevailing in the capital and throughout the country. To this end, they challenge the Transitional Authorities on cases of human rights violations, the recruitment of children into armed groups, looting, and urge them to do everything possible to restore security in the country.

At the end of the various interventions and after consultation behind closed doors, the Heads of State and Delegation reaffirmed that the Libreville Agreements of 11 January 2013 are and remain the central core of the political arrangements during the transition period, as well as that they have taken note of the establishment of a National Transitional Council, and the designation of a Transitional Head of State by this body.

The Heads of State and Government adopted a roadmap relating to the composition and functioning of the CNT and a document containing elements for the development of another roadmap for the Transition of CAR. They decided on the reactivation of the Monitoring Committee of the Libreville Agreement and the creation of an International Contact Group responsible for mobilizing the support necessary for the success of the transition.

The Heads of State and Government agreed to provide the Multinational Force for Central Africa (FOMAC) with a total strength of 2,000 (two thousand) men and an adequate mandate to support the efforts of the Transitional government, both in maintaining security and in restructuring the Defense and Security Forces

In addition, the Heads of State and delegation recalled that the restoration of peace and security, the revival of the Administration throughout the territory and of economic and social activities, as well as the preparation of elections, constitute the priority areas for government action during the transition period.

The Summit asked the International Community, in particular the United Nations, the African Union, the European Union, the International Organization of La Francophonie and all those

willing to bring their political, financial, and material support for initiatives taken by ECCAS to bring peace to CAR.

The Summit also called on the Transitional Government to respect all of CAR's international commitments, including the Regional Cooperation Initiative for the Elimination of the LRA, based in the Central African Republic.

Then, the Summit welcomed the active participation of its partners, participation which demonstrates their great interest in the return to peace in the Central African Republic.

Finally, the Summit addressed its thanks and appreciation to President Idriss DEBY ITNO, President-in-Office of ECCAS for the efforts he continues to deploy to resolve the crisis in the Central African Republic as well as to the people and the Government of Chad for the warm welcome extended to the various delegations.

Done in N'Djamena, April 18, 2013

For ECCAS

The President in Office

IDRISS DEBY ITNO

President of the Republic of Chad