

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS OF THE PREPARATORY CONSULTATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT FOR PEACE AND RECONCILIATION IN MALI STEMMING FROM THE ALGIERS PROCESS

ALGIERS, JUNE 5, 2015

The enlarged Mediation Team held a series of meetings of the concerned Parties in Algiers from May 25, 2015, in order to identify the steps to be taken following the entry into force of the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali.

1. These meetings focussed on the following three subjects:
 - a. establishing the conditions needed to sign the Agreement as soon as possible and clarifying the methods and arrangements for implementing the Agreement;
 - b. reaffirmation of the Parties to the Algiers Process of their commitment to a complete and definitive cessation of hostilities;
 - c. examination of the preparations made to set up the Monitoring Committee for the Agreement, and to hold the first meeting of the Committee in the timetable defined in the Agreement.
2. Within this framework and in order to establish the conditions needed to sign the Agreement as soon as possible, the enlarged Mediation Team held a series of meetings with the Coordination of Azawad Movements (la Coordination des Mouvements de l'Azawad, CMA) to determine the factors and arrangements which would enable it to sign the Agreement. In this regard, the CMA noted a certain number of concerns relating to implementation of the Agreement.
3. After detailed examination of the points raised by CMA, the Mediation Team considers that all of the points are relevant to the Agreement. Hence, they shall be taken into account by the Monitoring Committee in implementing the Agreement, in the knowledge that before signing the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali, on May 15, 2015 at Bamako, the Government and the Platform also submitted a number of observations and commentaries, which shall be taken on board during the implementation process for the Agreement.
4. More specifically, regarding the Azawad problem, which is addressed in Article 5 of the Agreement, which underlines the need to address this politically and to organise a wide ranging national debate on the fundamental causes, the Mediation Team undertakes, within the implementation framework for this Article, to open discussions between the Parties in order to reach a mutually acceptable solution.
5. Concerning the representation of the populations of the North in the major public services, bodies and administrations of the Republic, in applying Article 6, bullets 1, 2, and 4 and 16.3, the Mediation

Team undertakes to properly implement the provisions, and shall facilitate exchanges between the Parties as soon as possible in order to specify the content of these provisions.

6. With regard to the regions of MENEKA and TAOUDENI, the Mediation Team recalls that the Agreement foresees in Article 3 that the Malian State institutions will make the necessary provisions for the elaboration and adoption of regulatory and legislative measures, notably the decrees in application of Law No 2012-17 of March 2, 2012, on the creation of administrative areas in Mali, which are required to implement decisions on the creation of these Regions. The Mediation Team will ensure during implementation of the Agreement that the Government implements these decrees and measures as soon as possible.

7. Concerning the question of the return of refugees, the Mediation Team considers that in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Agreement in Article 48 ("...the urgent return, repatriation, reintegration and reinsertion of displaced persons and refugees") is one of the main priorities of the interim period, given that this issue is one of the elements which will enable favourable conditions for the organisation of elections.

8. In terms of security, the Mediation Team recalls the need:

- a. for all Parties concerned to respect their earlier commitment to a cessation of hostilities;
- b. to ensure the security of persons and goods;
- c. to cease all hostile activities under penalty of sanctions which may ensue.

9. Hence, the Mediation Team considers that:

- The questions concerning the security of localities subject to conflict or disorder shall be given priority, in accordance with former commitments and under the auspices of the Mediation Team, using the defence mechanisms foreseen in the Agreement;
- Questions on participation and representation of combatants and the populations of the Regions of the North within the reconstituted Forces of Defence and Security, shall be dealt with by the competent mechanisms foreseen in the Agreement. In this regard, the Mediation Team shall ensure that in accordance with article 22 of the Agreement ("the redeployed forces shall include a significant number of persons from the regions of the North including in positions of command, in order to enhance the restoration of confidence and to facilitate a gradual improvement in the security of these regions"), priority for the insertion of a majority of combatants from the CMA and other politico-military movements is foreseen within the reconstituted Defence and Security Forces in the North, without prejudice to the provisions of article II of Annex 2 of the Agreement.

- The eligibility criteria for insertion within the reconstituted Defence and Security Forces shall be defined by consensus within the mechanisms foreseen within the Agreement, in accordance with its relevant provisions.

10. With regard to development, the Mediation Team notes with satisfaction that the Coordination has emphasised that its expectations concerning economic and social development are largely covered by the provisions in the Agreement.

It considers that the concerns raised by CMA in relation to the use of financial and natural resources are also covered by the Agreement, which guarantees the effective participation of the populations of the North in the process of economic decision-making for the development of the North.

Hence it shall ensure in implementing the Agreement, that external funds destined to finance the projects and programmes foreseen in the Agreement, shall be allocated effectively to these programmes and projects, by means of a development fund, within the implementation framework for articles 5, 33, 34 and 37 of the Agreement.

In applying article 35 of the Agreement, It shall also expedite the implementation of the Development Strategy for the Northern Regions, which shall be monitored by the Interregional Consultative Committee foreseen in article 33 of the Agreement, and which is tasked with coordinating the pooling of resources for local socio-economic development.

11. Finally, on the question of guarantees, the Mediation Team considers that the provisions of the Agreement relating to these are sufficiently detailed and developed to meet the expectations and concerns which have been expressed. In addition, signature of the Agreement by all members of the Mediation Team, as well as all the indications of support provided by the international community, constitute in themselves a commitment to the Agreement and an exceptional guarantee for its effective implementation.

12. An implementation timetable attached to the present document shall be submitted for approval to the Monitoring Committee.

13. The Mediation Team and the signatory Parties note with satisfaction CMA's commitment to proceed to sign the Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali stemming from the Algiers Process. This shall be signed on June 20, 2015, at Bamako, on the understanding that the Government shall take all necessary steps to remove any judicial, administrative or practical obstacles, and that this event will be followed by a celebration in Timbuktu, in the presence of the Parties and of the Mediation Team.

Signatures