

ROAD MAP FOR NEGOTIATIONS IN THE ALGIERS PROCESS FRAMEWORK

I. OBJECTIVE OF THE ROAD MAP

- The objective of the present road map is to put in place a framework for the peace negotiations which shall lead to a global and negotiated solution to the problem of the Regions of Northern Mali, known by one of the Parties as “Azawad”;
- This negotiation framework agreed between the parties shall produce the climate of confidence needed for a definitive resolution of the conflict;
- The road map sets out the principles and basic references and specifies the provisions for regulating the conflict. It shall list the necessary elements for proper conduct of the negotiations, creating a climate of confidence and leading to concrete results.

II. PRINCIPLES GUIDING THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS PROCESS

- The negotiations shall be based on thorough background work, designed to establish the foundations of the peace process. The process shall proceed without haste but with the aim of moving forward;
- The background work shall consider all aspects of the conflict, including sensitive issues; the discussions shall be open, frank and sincere. They shall consider the general interest.
- Previous Peace Agreements shall be referred to for inspiration, to build on their experience and to avoid the pitfalls of the past.
- Information and communication designed to appease and to establish a climate of peace and security, shall be ensured.

III. BASIC PRINCIPLES

To this end, the parties:

- Reiterate:
 - their respect for national unity and the territorial integrity of Mali;
 - their respect for the republican and secular nature of Mali;
- Reaffirm their commitment to a peaceful resolution to the conflict;
- Declare their support for dialogue and negotiation as means of resolving their differences;
- Renew their wish to seek political, economic and social solutions as a prerequisite for a durable peace and resolution of the conflict.

IV. BASIC REFERENCES

The following documents constitute the main references for the peace negotiations:

- the Constitution of Mali;

- resolutions 2100 and 2164, the Declarations of the Security Council, and the relevant decisions of the African Union, CEDEAO, and OCI;
- the Preliminary Agreement for the presidential election and inclusive peace negotiations of June 18, 2013.

The discussions may also take into account earlier peace agreements, namely:

- the Algiers Agreement of July 4, 2006,
- the National Pact of April 11, 1992;
- the Tamanrasset Agreement of January 6, 1991;

as well as the documents used to prepare the launch of the peace negotiations, including:

- the Final Communique of the visit of President Ibrahim Boubacar Keita to Algeria on January 18 and 19, 2014;
- The Algiers Declaration of June 9, 2014;
- The Closing Communiques of the three high level agreements on the negotiating process.

The platforms of the belligerent movements will also be taken into account in the themed negotiating groups.

V. THE PARTIES

- The Malian Government, on one hand;
- The Movements signatory to the “Declaration of Algiers” of June 9, 2014,
- The Movements signatory to the Preliminary Algiers Platform of June 14, on the other.

These parties are encouraged to focus their negotiation on identifying as rapidly as possible the components of a global and definitive solution, and to take into account the legitimate claims of the populations of the regions of Northern Mali, known by one of the parties as “Azawad”, while fully respecting the territorial integrity, national unity and republican nature of the Malian State.

They are requested to inform all the components of Malian society to this effect.

V. MEDIATION AND SUPPORT

The parties shall be assisted by a Mediation team led by Algeria, made up of mediators from CEDEAO, UN/MINUSMA, UA, OCI, EU, as well as Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger and Chad.

- The bilateral and multilateral partners shall work to provide effective support for the Malian parties during the negotiation, in order to find a rapid, definitive and durable solution to the current crisis, and to achieve genuine reconciliation between all the people of Mali.
- They are called on to pay particular attention to areas relating to support during and after the negotiation.

- They shall provide back-up without trying in any way to impose specific views on the parties.
- They shall carry out periodic evaluations.

VII. TIMETABLE FOR THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

To ensure a calm and effective climate for the negotiations, they shall proceed by distinct and sequential stages, with activities to be carried out in a planned time period. Each stage shall be evaluated.

The peace negotiations taking place in Algiers consist of three stages:

1 – First stage (July 16-24, 2014):

This stage shall deal with the preliminaries for the negotiations and establish the basis for the peace process. To this end it shall:

- Adopt an agreed road map for the negotiations together with a timetable;
- Strengthen confidence-building measures, in particular by consolidating the ceasefire;
- Pursue efforts to reconcile the positions of the Movements.

2 – Negotiating basic issues:

This stage shall kick-off negotiations on the main questions. Essentially it shall work within a framework of themed negotiating groups. Plenary sessions are also planned.

It shall begin on August 7 and last until September 11, 2104. It shall re-commence at the beginning of October, and should lead to a regulation plan as a basis for developing a Peace Agreement.

The parties shall work to raise awareness and promote the main components of the Agreement, by organising meetings and forums with the population, political and civil organisations, community leaders and other national actors, in order to make the negotiations more inclusive.

3 – Finalising the agreement

This shall essentially consist of formulating the regulation plan and by means of the appropriate legal formulae, developing a definitive and global Peace Agreement.
(Approximately four weeks.)

The peace negotiations process shall conclude with a formal ceremony for signature of the Peace Agreement, which shall take place in Mali.

VIII ORGANISATION OF THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS

The negotiations shall be organised and conducted using the following mechanisms:

- Plenary sessions
- Themed Negotiating Groups.

There may also be:

- Specific negotiations between the Government and the belligerent movements
- Bilateral meetings
- Use of expert resources as needed.

THE PLENARY:

- This shall be the formal negotiating framework, consisting only of the parties and the Facilitation Team, as defined in paragraph VI.
- This framework shall discuss the conclusions of the Thematic Negotiating Groups and take decisions which are fundamental to the Agreement. Apart from the work of the Groups, the Plenary shall address questions relating to implementing confidence-building measures, guarantees and international support for implementation of the Agreement.
- In case of deadlock in a Plenary, the Mediation Team shall convene the delegation leaders of the parties in order to facilitate a convergence of views.

THEMATIC NEGOTIATING GROUPS:

- The negotiations shall primarily take place within the thematic groups. Discussions will be organised by theme.
- There shall be a negotiating group for each theme, and, where necessary workshops.
- A work plan shall be developed by each negotiating group, according to the theme being discussed.
- The operational methods of the groups relate principally to the second and third stages of the negotiations.

In light of the above, the following Thematic Groups shall be established:

- Politico-institutional;
- Defence and security;
- Economic, social and cultural development;
- Reconciliation, justice and humanitarian questions.

Each Group shall hold discussions until conclusions are reached, including the implementation provisions which shall be submitted for final discussion and approval in plenary.

IX- PEACE NEGOTIATIONS THEMES

The discussions shall be structured around the following themes:

- The prevailing situation in the regions of Northern Mali, known by one of the parties as “Azawad”;
- The principles and basic reference points for a global and definitive solution;
- Identifying the key elements of a global and definitive solution in the following areas:
 - Politico-institutional;
 - Defence and security;
 - Economic, social and cultural development;
 - Reconciliation, justice and humanitarian questions.
- Confidence-building measures and the Agreement implementation timetable;
- Implementation, monitoring and support measures, and regional and international commitments to be agreed.

X- SUBJECTS OF INTEREST

The following subjects have been identified as key to the search for solutions and shall be discussed in depth:

- Administrative organisation in the regions of Northern Mali, known by one of the parties as “Azawad”;
- The return of State Authority in these regions;
- Reform of the judicial system;
- Deployment of the Army and related reorganisation of the defence and security forces;
- Managing security in the towns;
- Cantonment/disarmament and the destination of combatants;
- The fight against terrorism;
- Development and wealth redistribution;
- Specific aspects of local cultures;
- Creating conditions for the voluntary and safe return of refugees and internally displaced persons to their homes;
- Release of detained persons;
- Questions relating to the objective of national reconciliation (amnesty measures, inquiry into serious violations of Human Rights, transitional justice, reviving the electoral process at the local level...)
- Guarantees and international support.

ALGIERS PROCESS FRAMEWORK

NEGOTIATING TIMETABLE

PLENARY SESSION I

- Adoption of the road map
- Evaluation of the situation in Northern Mali
- Principles and basic references
- Identifying elements of the global and definitive solution
- Setting up thematic negotiating groups

THEMATIC NEGOTIATING GROUP I:

- Political and institutional questions

THEMATIC NEGOTIATING GROUP II:

- Defence and security

THEMATIC NEGOTIATING GROUP III:

- Economic, social and cultural development

THEMATIC NEGOTIATING GROUP IV:

- Reconciliation, justice and humanitarian questions

PLENARY SESSION II:

Presentation of Thematic Negotiating Group work

PLENARY SESSION III:

Timetable for implementation of measures and restoration of confidence

PLENARY SESSION IV;

- Implementation, monitoring and support measures, and regional and international commitments to be agreed.

CLOSING PLENARY SESSION:

Presentation and adoption of the draft Agreement and conclusions

Algiers, July 24, 2014

DECLARATION OF CESSATION OF HOSTILITIES

Concerned by the deterioration of the security situation on the ground, in particular the confrontations in Tabankort and in the Tabankort-Anefi-Almoustarat-Tarkint sector;

Reaffirming their commitment to peace and stability and their attachment to the provisions of the preliminary agreement of Ouagadougou of June 18, 2013, on confidence measures, and to the ceasefire of May 23, 2014 and its implementation measures of June 13, 2014, as well as resolution 2164 (2014) of the United Nations Security Council;

Recognising their obligations under international humanitarian law, in particular concerning the protection of civilians in times of armed conflict and the humane treatment of persons not involved in the hostilities, and in addition committed to facilitating the humanitarian operations of the United Nations and other humanitarian partners;

Determined to create the climate of confidence needed for good conduct of the current peace process;

Under the auspices of the Mediation Team led by Algeria, made up of mediators from CEDEAO, UN/MINUSMA, UA, OCI, EU, as well as Burkina Faso, Mauritania, Niger and Chad;

The parties meeting at Algiers within the Inter Malian Inclusive Dialogue framework;

Have agreed the following:

1. An immediate cessation of hostilities;
2. Deployment on the ground as soon as possible, of a Joint Committee tasked with making contact with the actors to facilitate consolidation of the cessation of hostilities, and for which the operational methods shall be entrusted to MINUSMA;
3. The release of prisoners and all other persons detained anywhere as a result of the conflict;
4. Commitment of the parties to consult as needed to find a definitive solution to the underlying causes of the confrontations;
5. The immediate withdrawal of all armed elements to positions to be indicated by the Joint Committee foreseen in paragraph 2;
6. The cessation of all acts of harassment and violence towards the civilian population; and respect for the free movement of people and goods;

7. The cessation of all provocative acts or propositions which may damage growing confidence between the parties;
8. Ongoing awareness-raising of armed elements on the ground and of communities on their mutual engagements in the framework of the ongoing peace process;
9. The deployment of a Mixed Observation and Verification Team (Equipe Mixte d'Observation et Vérification, EMOV) in the zone of hostilities, enlarged as necessary with persons and resources proposed by one of the parties of the Facilitation Team, and appointed by the Chair of the Joint Technical Security Committee (Commission Technique Mixte de Sécurité, CTMS);

To support the effective implementation of the above commitments, **MINUSMA** shall take the following measures:

1. The military presence in the Tabankort-Anefi-Almoustarat-Tarkint sector shall be reinforced, with ground and aerial patrols, in order to protect the civilian populations;
2. There shall be immediate operationalisation of the EMOV for the Tabankort-Anefi-Almoustarat-Tarkint sector, based on *the Document on the organisation and remit of EMOVs* adopted by CMTS during its working session of July 16, 2014.

Algiers, July 24, 2014

