

THE BIRAO PEACE AGREEMENT

Peace agreement

Between

the Government of the Central African Republic

and the following Politico-Military Movement:

the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity

Preamble

- Considering the relevant provisions of the United Nations Charter, the African Union, the Economic and Monetary Community of Central Africa (CEMAC) and national resolutions pertaining to the peaceful resolution of conflicts, notably the robust recommendations of the National Dialogue and the Code of Good Conduct;
- Conscious of the need for dialogue to establish a durable peace throughout the national territory, an essential precondition for the reconstruction of the country and establishing democracy;
- Determined to consolidate a state of law, good governance, with consequent social progress, and complete entitlement to fundamental liberties guaranteed under law;
- Considering the ongoing desire of His Excellency (Army) General François BOZIZE, President of the Republic, Head of State, reiterated in his speech to the nation of 31 December 2006, to promote tolerance, dialogue and reconciliation among all the sons and daughters of Central Africa;

The Government of the Central African Republic and the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity agree to the following:

Article 1: An immediate cessation of hostilities and abstention from all military activities and all other forms of violence, as well as the closure of all media campaigns designed to prevent attempts to develop a spirit of fraternity and national harmony.

Article 2: The containment of the troops of the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity in their present locations, pending their integration with the defence and security forces and their incorporation in civilian life.

Article 3: The implementation of an urgent and top priority programme to:

1. Create the conditions needed to rehabilitate the troops of the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity, and to integrate them with the defence and security forces in line with current legislation;
2. Return ex-communicated Central African soldiers and Union of Democratic Forces for Unity civilian staff to their original training and service units.
3. Create the conditions needed to return, reinstall and reinsert all persons displaced by the conflict.

Article 4: The liberation of political prisoners and the declaration of a general amnesty for the Central African troops and fighters of the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity.

Article 5: The participation of the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity in managing government business, in a spirit of reconciliation and in line with the provisions of the constitution.

Article 6: The unequivocal renunciation by the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity of the use of armed struggle as a means to communicate its message.

Article 7: The creation of a monitoring commission for implementation of the present agreement, which may call upon any qualified person for their advice.

Article 8: In case of any differences in opinion or difficulties in implementing the present agreement, either of the parties may refer to the National Mediation Council. If any difference in opinion persists despite the efforts of this Committee, either party may refer to the President of the Ad Hoc Committee, on Central African questions, his Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo Ondimba, President of the Republic of Gabon, which this agreement requires us all to consider.

Article 9: In case of any flagrant and deliberate violation, duly noted, by either of the parties of the provisions of this agreement, the other party will withdraw from it in its entirety.

Article 10: The present Peace Agreement enters into force upon signature.

It may be signed by any group, movement or individual prepared to formally accept and adhere to each of its clauses.

Done in Birao, April 4, 2007

For the Government of the Central African Republic	For the Union of Democratic Forces for Unity
General NDOUGOU Raymond	Zacharia DAMANE
Prefect of L'OUHAM PENDE	Municipal Advisor in GORDIL