

Opposition Group Urges Multiparty System*AB2212211189 Paris AFP in French 1915 GMT
21 Dec 89*

[Text] Libreville, 21 Dec (AFP)—The National Recovery Movement (Morena), which is banned in theory in Gabon but whose leader, Mr Paul Mba Abessole, has been living in Libreville for several weeks now at the invitation of President Omar Bongo, today published its first bulletin in Libreville in which it said it favors a multiparty state. In the cyclostyled bulletin entitled "THE KEY," the movement, whose members acknowledge that they have full freedom of action, takes up again a statement of Father Mba Abessole which says multiparty politics is "the key to the Gabonese problem." "We are not interested in integration into the Gabonese Democratic Party (PDG—the sole and ruling party). A single system is a dictatorship," stated the spokesman for the movement, Mr Asseh Bekale.

It is recalled that the Gabonese president has already said on several occasions that he is opposed to a multiparty system, arguing that all the segments of the Gabonese society could express their views within the PDG. "We do not want President Bongo's seat, nor do we want his head (...). Morena is not a violent movement," continued Mr Bekale, adding that Mr Abessole had not come to Gabon "to look for work" and that they only reason for his presence was the recognition of the multiparty system.

Security Service Summons Abessole*AB2212212589 Paris AFP in French 1613 GMT
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[Text] Libreville, 22 Dec (AFP)—Mba Abessole, the leader of the National Recovery Movement [Morena], the opposition movement with no legal status in Gabon, was yesterday summoned by the Gabonese security services, it was learned today from sources close to the movement. The security services blamed the political leader, who is staying in the Gabonese capital on President Bongo's invitation, for having a Morena news bulletin published. Several copies of the cyclostyled bulletin were published yesterday under the title "THE KEY" and called for the establishment of a multiparty system. Following formal statements, Mr Abessole decided to suspend the distribution of his news bulletin until official formalities for its publication are completed. President Bongo has already expressed several times his refusal of a multiparty system in Gabon. According to him, the Gabonese Democratic Party (the single ruling party) should include all political trends in the country.

Rwanda**President Addresses Party Session 18 Dec***EA2012184689 Kigali Domestic Service in French
1115 GMT 19 Dec 89*

[Report on President Habyarimana's speech at the closing ceremony of a session jointly attended by the cabinet and the party Central Committee held in Kigali on 18 December]

[Excerpts] The National Revolutionary Development Movement [MRND] founder president and president of the Rwandan Republic, General Juvenal Habyarimana, yesterday closed the joint meeting of the Central Committee and the cabinet, which was held from 6 to 15 December, at the party headquarters in Kigali. The marathon meeting, which was chaired by the founder president, had the task of assessing the economic situation of our country and preparing recovery measures. [passage omitted]

In his closing remarks, the founder president declared that at the end of their working session, he and all those who had met at party headquarters in Kigali were fully convinced of the exceptional seriousness of the current economic crisis. However, he immediately added: We are all convinced that we are going to come out of the crisis victorious if we commit ourselves to doing what the circumstances require us to do. And we are going to win, for we have to win the struggle, and above all, surmount the current crisis, however much fate may be against us.

President Habyarimana said the officials' awareness of the seriousness of the current crisis and their eagerness be transmitted to others, instead of remaining solely the business of the authorities, and it should rather become the business of all Rwandan militants.

For our head of state, the crisis is there to show us the prime importance of the intrinsic national financial capacity, which henceforth will have to occupy a privileged place in our economic policy. All that will have to be done henceforth will have to be conceived so as to enhance our intrinsic financial capacity. He directed the relevant departments and services to develop the economic policy of our country in that way, so that it can become the prime strategy of our 5-year plan for economic, social, and cultural development.

The founder president emphasized the urgency of the measures to be taken in order to avoid the worst happening, to face better the foreseeable shocks of the crisis in the course of next year. Leaders of the Second Republic unanimously agreed on the pertinence of such measures, and on the timeliness of the measures, decisions and programs adopted, which fall harmoniously within the context of our strategies, which were formulated by technical experts of the relevant ministries.

The founder president, however, stressed two important aspects, namely, the management of foreign exchange and the precarious food situation prevailing in some of our country's regions. The stock of our foreign exchange is currently limited, the president said. There is, therefore, an absolute need for unimpeachable financial management, in order to make a parsimonious use of foreign exchange, for positive results. It will therefore be necessary to review all the planned investments, so that no single currency is committed for no purpose. Some

infrastructural work can be frozen or delayed if necessary, while clean and clear use is made of import credit lines.

On the precarious food situation, particularly in Butare, Gikongoro, and Kibuye, President Habyarimana gave assurances to his people. Hundreds of tonnes of food had been made available, and emergency food aid the government had requested and obtained from the international community was awaited. The main concern, he said, and that is the concern of the government and the Rwandan people, is to make sure that no one dies of hunger. In this regard, he hailed the dignity and self-control of the Rwandan people. [passage omitted]

A meeting with all our creditors should be held next January, in order to negotiate with them a recovery program for our national financial capacity. In this economic development program, we will have to reconcile new foreign exchange needs with accurate production objectives, to permit the improvement and boosting of the economic structure, and acceleration of the clean-up operation which has been in force for some time now. The document to be presented to our creditors must be accurate, with objectives in figures, with all the details on foreseeable effects, on the macroeconomic level. Among other things, we will have to reinforce environmental protection and the intercommunal development fund. Bankable projects nearing completion will have to be promoted. [sentence as heard] Exports will be diversified, and production of local goods and national resources will be enhanced to meet local needs.

Finally, the document to be presented to the creditors will contain an important section devoted to the balance of payments and internal financial adjustments. The Ministry of Finance is charged with compiling the document with the assistance of other relevant departments. The work must start without delay, the president of the Republic said, while all the other departments concerned with the adopted recovery measures must start speedy implementation of all that has been decided upon.

These are the major elements of the speech delivered by the president of the Republic and founder president of the Republic, at the closing of the joint session of the Central Committee, which met from 6 to 15 December at the MRND in Kigali.

Important recovery measures were taken after the meeting had heard and reaffirmed the fundamental principles of self-development, based on five key elements; namely: self-sufficiency in food; evaluation of human resources; planned development; mastery of the national financial capacity; and joint development efforts.

The meeting then adopted the general strategies which were deemed indispensable for the success of a development and recovery program. There are four strategies: Reinforcement of the general security of the Rwandan people; upholding the principle of political mobilization; research and innovation to accelerate the development

of our country; and, finally, decentralization of the conceptual and management development functions. Particular attention will be paid to the latter policy, as a sine qua non for the success of the economic recovery program, a huge task that requires the conviction, commitment, and support of every militant.

The joint meeting of the Central Committee and the cabinet, chaired by the founder president, finally adopted a series of recovery measures, aimed at responding to specific objectives in the following sectors: Reduction of the budget deficit; balance of payments adjustments; savings mobilization; the [word indistinct] of credits; price control; promotion of employment; relaunch of the agricultural sector; rehabilitation of the industrial sector; establishment and management of the basic infrastructure; stimulation of internal and external trade; development of transport and communications; promotion of tourism; reorientation of financial institutions; development of the health and national educational system; and scientific research.

Militant Callixte Nzabonimana, the minister of planning, now describes the major recovery measures.

[Begin Nzabonimana recording] The principal measures decided upon by the Central Committee and the government in the various sectors are as follows:

1. Reduction of the budget deficit. In order to reduce the state budget deficit, the Central Committee and the cabinet have adopted measures aimed both at increasing state revenues and at reducing public expenditure.

To increase state revenues the following has been decided: To reinforce tax control and verification, in order to curb the phenomenon of tax evasion, particularly by ensuring that individuals or groups of people with high contribution capacity are not undertaxed, or do not evade taxes. Human and material means of the relevant authorities will be reinforced to that effect.

To reduce tax and customs exemptions currently accorded to enterprises which do not in return create national [word indistinct] value.

The investment code and the customs laws currently in force, will be revised to take into account the (?measure).

Moral pressure will be exerted on taxpayers who do not want to pay their dues to the Treasury, by regularly publishing lists of them in the press.

Individuals or groups of people with debts to the Tax Department will be denied import licences. This measure will also apply to groups of people whose members owe debts to the state.

To reduce public expenditure the following has been decided: The number of state vehicles will be reduced to a strict minimum. Material benefits, such as transport, housing for administrative and public institutions cadres will be cancelled.