

**Summary of the informal meeting  
of the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission  
with the participation of UNOCA SRSG Bathily and MINUSCA SRSG Gaye.  
21 January 2015.**

On 21 January, the Central African Republic configuration of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) invited two Special Representatives of the Secretary-General (SRSG), Mr. Abdoulaye Bathily, Chief of the UN Regional Office for Central Africa and Mr. Babacar Gaye, Chief of MINUSCA, to brief on the political transition process in the Central African Republic (CAR) and discuss areas of cooperation with the PBC.

The Chair of the CAR configuration, Ambassador Omar Hilale underscored the need for complementarity and coherence among stakeholders to help the national authorities throughout the political transition process. He asserted that lasting solutions must be pursued through political, not military means. In relation to the ongoing security situation, the Chair condemned the recent spate of kidnappings, calling for the prompt release of all captives. The Chair was encouraged by the recent dynamics of the political process, despite their complexity, which present opportunities to engage all stakeholders in the political process. In this context, he placed great emphasis on the role of the PBC in helping promote national reconciliation at the upcoming Bangui Forum, for the Constitutional referendum and the general elections. Ambassador Hilale announced his intention to attend the Bangui Forum where he intends to hear the views of all stakeholders on the situation and deliver a message of support from the PBC.

SRSG Gaye indicated that the security situation in CAR had seen some encouraging signs of improvement but serious difficulties in curbing criminality remained. General Gaye also highlighted efforts in combating impunity with the arrest of notorious criminals, and progress in extending the reach of State authority across the country. General Gaye advocated for a multi-faceted approach to achieve lasting peace and security, starting with the restoration of constitutional order. Furthermore, General Gaye said that resources are urgently needed to ensure the preparation and holding of the general elections in August 2015.

SRSG Gaye praised the coordination and partnership among the international community actors, the International Mediator and SRSG Bathily, in support of the national authorities and momentum for the political process. He noted that local consultations in preparation for the Bangui Forum had been launched on that day, constituting the second phase of a three-pronged sequence. The following phase, the Forum itself, should promote inter-group discussions on justice, reconciliation, governance and the return of refugees as well as issues related peace and security. SRSG Gaye indicated that the Preparatory Commission of the Bangui Forum would propose an inclusive Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration Agreement and a Security Sector Reform programme. Both agreements, he added, are essential to the success of the transition phase and would require support from all stakeholders. He emphasized that the PBC support would be essential to build momentum towards an inclusive reconciliation road map in the aftermath of the Bangui Forum.

SRSG Bathily briefed on the activities of the international mediation in CAR, including on the ongoing discussions between the former Head of States of the Central African Republic in the Kenyan capital. He lamented that the recurrent incidents of violence following the Brazzaville Agreement of July 2014 had caused significant delays in the process. SRSG Bathily urged the international community to provide resources and mobilize efforts in support to the upcoming milestones,

especially to help promote national dialogue across the Central African civil society, including with the refugee population. SRSB Bathily warned that Boko Haram is a further source of instability for the CAR and requires close attention.

The Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) for Peacebuilding Support, Oscar Fernandez-Taranco informed the meeting that the Central African Republic will be one of the case studies undertaken by the Peacebuilding architecture review in 2015. He further recalled that the PBF had been actively supporting three strategic interventions in CAR, such as paying salaries of civil servants, supporting the voluntary relocation of ex-Séléka combatants from camps in Bangui to their communities of origin or choice, while providing support to receiving communities and facilitating reconciliation and political dialogue, including through funding for the organization of the Bangui Forum. Furthermore, in 2015 the Fund aims to provide additional support for the restoration of state authority in collaboration with MINUSCA, UNDP and the World Bank.

The Ambassador of the Central African Republic exhorted international partners to help the Central African authorities meet its obligations in the political transition and to continue providing long term support and accompaniment. Some Member States commented with concern on the unstable situation and the impact of the tight calendar of event leading to August general elections. The European Union stressed the importance of transparency and legitimacy of the electoral process, while France elicited a role for the PBC to mobilize partners to meet financial and other needs. Angola, the Republic of Congo and France supported the holding of the Bangui Forum, for which the European Union emphasised the role of civil society to guarantee national ownership. The Russian Federation and the Organization of the Francophonie expressed hope that the Forum will be an opportunity to build broad consensus and national reconciliation. The Republic of Congo reminded the meeting that the International Mediator had called for greater solidarity and contributions to CAR during side event at the UN General Assembly in 2014.

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