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**EIGHTY-NINTH ORDINARY SESSION  
OF THE CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE  
MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT PREVENTION,  
MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION  
AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL**

**15 JANUARY 2003  
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

**Central Organ/MEC/AMB/Comm. (LXXXIX)**

**COMMUNIQUÉ**

**COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE EIGHTY-NINTH ORDINARY SESSION  
OF THE CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE MECHANISM FOR CONFLICT  
PREVENTION, MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION  
AT AMBASSADORIAL LEVEL**

**ADDIS ABABA, 15 JANUARY 2003**

The Central Organ of the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution held its 89<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session at Ambassadorial level in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Wednesday 15 January 2003. The Session was chaired by Ambassador Baso Sangqu, South Africa's Permanent Representative to the African Union.

The Interim Chairperson of the Commission, Mr. Amara Essy, briefed the session on Burundi and informed it of the contacts he had, this morning, with Mr. Pierre Nkurunziza, the CNDD-FDD legal representative, to convey to him the appeal made by the 88<sup>th</sup> Ordinary session of the Central Organ, held in Addis Ababa, on 14 January 2003, [Central Organ/MEC/AMB/Comm. (LXXXVIII)], urging him to travel to Pretoria to participate in the follow-up meeting convened by Deputy President Jacob Zuma to resolve the outstanding issues related to the implementation of the cease fire. He informed the Central Organ that Mr. Nkurunziza had assured him that he would proceed to Pretoria with an open mind in order to ensure the successful conclusion of the ongoing process.

The Central Organ also considered the report of the Interim Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Central African Republic (CAR) and the relations between CAR and Chad [Doc. Central Organ/Mec/Amb/3 (LXXXVIII)].

After its deliberations, the Central Organ took the following decisions:

**On the situation in the Central African Republic and the relations between CAR and Chad**

**The Central Organ:**

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the outcome of the visit of Professor André Salifou, Envoy of the Interim Chairperson of the Commission, to Gabon, the CAR and Chad, from 13 to 29 November 2002;

2. **REAFFIRMS ITS SUPPORT** for the Libreville Communiqué of 2 October 2002 and the measures spelt out therein to ensure normalisation of relations between the Central African Republic and Chad;
3. **WELCOMES** the measures already taken by the leaders of both the Central African Republic and Chad to ensure the implementation of the Libreville Communiqué and **ENCOURAGES** them to persevere in that direction;
4. **FURTHER WELCOMES** the deployment of the CEMAC force, as stipulated in the Libreville Communiqué, and **ENCOURAGES** the Commission to continue to provide support to the CEMAC efforts. In that regard, the Central Organ **WELCOMES** the decision of the Interim Chairperson to provide the Central Organ a financial assistance of US\$100,000 to support the deployment of the CEMAC force and its activities;
5. **ENCOURAGES** the holding, in the best possible conditions, of the National Dialogue announced, on 25 November 2002, by President Ange-Félix Patassé and **TAKES NOTE WITH SATISFACTION** of the appointment, on 28 December 2002, of the coordinators of the Committee in charge of the preparation and management of the National Dialogue. In this regard, the Central Organ **APPEALS** to the CAR Government to ensure that the National Dialogue is an inclusive forum where all strata of the Central African society could join hands to lay the foundations for genuine national reconciliation;
6. **REITERATES** its support for the opening of an African Union Liaison Office in Bangui to establish and maintain closer contacts with the Central African authorities, as well as with the political and social players in the CAR, and to backstop the reconciliation process, including the National Dialogue;
7. **INVITES** international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, to work towards the rapid resumption of their assistance programmes for the Central African Republic and, in this respect, to review the conditionalities put forward for the resumption of those programmes, taking due account of the political, economic situation facing the CAR. The Central Organ

**ENCOURAGES** the CAR Government to implement the economic reforms agreed upon with the relevant international institutions;

8. **PAYS TRIBUTE** to President El Hadj Omar Bongo, co-ordinator of the crisis resolution process in the CAR, and to Col. Muamar Gaddafi, leader of the CENSAD Initiative for Peace and Security, for their tireless efforts to find a solution to the crisis in the Central African Republic and to the dispute between the CAR and Chad;
9. **ENCOURAGES** the resolution of the crisis in the CAR and the crisis affecting the relations between the CAR and Chad within the framework of CEMAC and the African Union. In this respect, the Central Organ **ENCOURAGES** Presidents Idriss Déby and Ange Félix Patassé to meet under the auspices of CEMAC and the African Union in order to discuss the problems affecting the relations between the two countries;
10. **TAKES NOTE** of the withdrawal, announced on 29 December 2002, of the CENSAD forces and **PAYS TRIBUTE** to CENSAD for the sacrifice it has made to promote peace and stability in the Central African Republic and for supporting the legitimate institutions and constitutional legality in that country;
11. **REQUESTS** the Interim Chairperson to keep it regularly informed of the development of the situation.