INAUGURAL MEETING OF THE
INTERNATIONAL CONTACT GROUP
ON THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC (ICG-CAR)

3 MAY 2013
BRAZZAVILLE, REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Appeal of Brazzaville

by the International Contact Group
on the Central African Republic
The International Contact Group on the Central African Republic (ICG-CAR) held its inaugural meeting in Brazzaville, the Republic of the Congo, on 3 May 2013. The inaugural meeting falls within the framework of the support to the Central African Republic (CAR), in conformity with the communiqué of the 366th meeting of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), held on 16 April 2013, in Addis Ababa, as well as the final communiqué of the 4th Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Economic Community of the Central African States (ECCAS), held in N’Djamena, on 18 April 2013.

The International Contact Group, whose establishment meets the concerns of its members to make individual and collective contributions to the full restoration of the constitutional order in the CAR, is determined to support that country in the attainment of all the objectives assigned for the period of Transition of eighteen (18) months.

While respecting the national sovereignty and independence of the CAR, the International Contact Group (ICG) intends to work with the authorities of the Transition and all the Central African stakeholders to ensure the protection of the civilians, the promotion of human rights, access of humanitarian actors to the people in need, the reactivation of the public administration and services, the reconstruction of the central, regional and local Institutions of the State, the restructuring of the defense and security sector, as well as the recovery of economic activities.

For this purpose, the ICG:

Deeply concerned about the continued deterioration of the political and security situation, marked particularly by the serious violation of human rights, as well as the deterioration of the humanitarian and economic situation in the CAR;

Considering that this situation constitutes a threat to peace, security and stability of the region, as well as to international peace and security, and concerned about the risks to the peaceful coexistence between the different community and religious entities in the country as a result of extremist behavior;

Referring to the Political Agreement of Libreville of 11 January 2013 and the Declaration of the 4th Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government of ECCAS;

Convinced about the need for ownership by the Central African authorities of the process for the restoration of constitutional legality, through the establishment and strengthening of viable Institutions of the Transition, capable of carrying out the missions entrusted to them by the Political Agreement of Libreville of 11 January 2013 and the Declaration of N’Djamena of 18 April 2013;

Considering the urgent need to carry out successfully the Transition in the CAR, with the support of ECCAS, the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), the
AU, the United Nations (UN), the European Union (EU), the International Organization of la Francophonie (OIF), as well as all the stakeholders concerned, including the relevant economic and financial institutions;

1. **Reaffirms** its political will to support the CAR in the necessary efforts to end definitively the recurrent cycle of instability and unconstitutional change of Government;

2. **Requests** the authorities of the Transition and all the Central African stakeholders to scrupulously and without delay honor the commitments and other provisions contained in the Political Agreement of Libreville and the Declaration of N’Djamena;

3. **Further Requests** the authorities of the Transition, the political class, as well as the Central African civil society to take all the concrete measures to effectively honor the commitments contained in the Political Agreement of Libreville and in the subsequent decisions of the Heads of State and Government of the Region by resorting to inclusive dialogue for the establishment of a peaceful climate and the promotion of national reconciliation;

4. **Warns** the authors, sponsors and accomplices of the acts, abuses and other violation of human rights, as well as the acts likely to be considered as crimes against mankind and **stresses** the related individual criminal responsibility;

5. **Requests** the authorities of the Transition to continue to comply with and implement all the regional, continental and international legal instruments to which the CAR is party, as well as all the other commitments, including those related to the Regional Cooperation Initiative for the Elimination of the Lord’s Resistance Army (RCI-LRA);

6. **Takes note with satisfaction** of the information given by the Prime Minister of the Transition on the policies to be implemented and the decisions already taken by the Government of National Unity on security, political and governance issues, as well as on humanitarian and economic matters. **Appeals** to the international community to take appropriate measures to help for the success of all these policies and their implementation without delay;

7. **Takes particular note** of the information on the launching of the cantonment and/or disarmament operations of a significant number of SELEKA elements; **reiterates**, in this context, the great importance attached to the security of persons and properties and **stresses** the imperative need to ensure the continuation of the above-mentioned operations and promote the actual protection of the civilian population with the consistent support of the international community.

8. **Encourages** all the Member States of ECCAS and the AU, as well as all the bilateral and multilateral partners of the CAR to lend political, economic and financial support to the Transition in that country for the urgent restoration of security and public law and order, the protection of human rights and the fight against impunity, the establishment and the effective functioning of the Institutions of the Transition, the preparation of an electoral
calendar and the meeting of the conditions for the organization of free, fair and credible elections, the provision of humanitarian assistance to the people in need, as well as for the implementation of an emergency economic programme;

9. **Appeals** to the different appropriate international Institutions and bilateral partners to hold consultations in order to harmonize their contributions including in terms of expertise for the implementation of the different policies on the management of the tasks of the Transition;

10. **Further appeals** to the international community to accept the idea of establishing a Trust Fund for the reactivation of the public administration and services, as well as for the financing of the preparation and organization of the electoral operations and **encourages** all the AU member countries and international partners to make generous voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund;

11. **Recommends** enhanced cooperation with the UN Peace Building Commission on the situation in the CAR in order to pool efforts and to arrive at a coordinated international response and **expresses** the wish that the vacancy of the Chair of the “country coordination” of that body be quickly filled by a consensual selection of a partner of the CAR;

12. **Requests** the Technical Follow-up Committee of the Political Agreement of Libreville to carry out a regular assessment of the implementation of the Roadmap and to report to the Chairman of the Follow-up Committee;

13. **Pledges** to pursue its activities, in an active and coordinated manner, for the mobilization of political, material and financial support and to meet regularly for the assessment of the implementation of the Roadmap and all the relevant decisions so as to give the necessary impetus to the accomplishment of the tasks of the Transition.