CONCLUSIONS
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1. The International Follow-up and Support Group for the Transition in Burkina Faso (GISAT-BF) held its third meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 12 June 2015. The meeting was co-chaired by the African Union (AU), the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the United Nations (UN). The countries and organizations that participated in the meeting are indicated below.

2. Participants took note of the briefing given by the Government of Burkina Faso on the political situation and transitional process in the country. They welcomed the stabilization of the country and commended the Burkinabé actors for conducting the Transition in Burkina Faso in accordance with the Transitional Constitutional Charter adopted in November 2014. In this regard, they reiterated their appreciation to the transitional authorities, in particular President Michel Kafando, Prime Minister Yacouba Isaac Zida and the Government, as well as to all the other political and civil society actors, for their commitment and efforts towards ensuring a successful Transition.

3. Participants underlined the need to preserve the spirit of consensus in the conduct of the Transition. In this context, they encouraged the Burkinabé stakeholders to continue to show the same sense of responsibility and to favour dialogue and consultation in this critical phase of the transitional process.

4. Participants noted with satisfaction the conclusions and recommendations of the inaugural meeting of the local chapter of the GISAT-BF held in Ouagadougou, on 29 May 2015. This meeting enabled the Group to have sustained interaction with the transitional authorities, as well as with political and civil society actors, on the status of the Transition, especially preparations for the holding of the presidential and legislative elections scheduled for October 2015 and the local elections planned for January 2016.

5. Participants also took note of measures taken as part of the electoral process, in particular the progress made in the revision of the electoral register, the adoption of a new Electoral Code and the funding of the electoral process. They took note of the briefing given by the Chairman of the Independent National Electoral Commission (CENI) on the status of the electoral process. In this respect, they underscored the urgent need for the Transitional Government and the CENI to update and finalize the provisional elections budget and the detailed operational plan for the forthcoming elections, following the completion of the revision of the electoral register. They also highlighted the urgency of operationalizing the Steering Committee in charge of the electoral process, to allow for the effective coordination of efforts made by the different institutions involved in the preparation and organization of the elections.

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1 Algeria, Côte d’Ivoire, Egypt, France, Germany, Ghana, Luxemburg, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Russia, Senegal, United States of America and Zimbabwe, AU, CEN-SAD, ECOWAS, EU, OIF and United Nations
6. Participants encouraged the establishment of a framework bringing together these institutions, the political parties and civil society, to enable them to consult throughout the electoral process, including with respect to the implementation of the Electoral Code. Furthermore, they reaffirmed the need for all political actors to continue carrying out their activities in accordance with the Constitution, the Transitional Charter and the Electoral Code. To this end, they reiterated the importance of the principle of inclusiveness, which should govern the transitional process leading to the holding of elections.

7. Participants welcomed the pledges made by some GISAT-BF members towards funding the electoral process. They reiterated their call to the members of the GISAT-BF who have not yet done so to provide the necessary financial, technical and logistical support for the holding of free, fair and transparent elections in Burkina Faso.

8. Participants further welcomed the stated willingness and efforts of the transitional authorities to lay the groundwork for the establishment of a legal framework to fight impunity in Burkina Faso, which constitutes an important dimension of the efforts to build and enhance the rule of law. In this connection, they looked forward to continued efforts by all concerned, including the authorities that would emerge from the upcoming elections.

9. Participants noted with satisfaction the continuing mobilization of regional States in support of the transitional and reconciliation process in Burkina Faso. They expressed their deep gratitude to the regional leaders, in particular Presidents Macky Sall of Senegal, in his capacity as Chair of the ECOWAS Contact Group on Burkina Faso and current Chair of ECOWAS, and John Dramani Mahama of Ghana, outgoing ECOWAS Chair, for their sustained support towards the successful completion of the Transition in Burkina Faso.

10. Participants expressed their gratitude to the AU, ECOWAS and the UN, for their joint action in support of the Transition in Burkina Faso. They agreed to hold their next meeting in Ouagadougou, at a date to be determined through consultations. In the meantime, they requested the GISAT-BF local chapter to follow-up on the conclusions of this meeting and report on progress made and challenges encountered.