I have the honour to forward herewith a letter dated 11 March 1998 from His Excellency President Ange-Félix Patassé, President of the Central African Republic, addressed to the President of the Security Council for the month of March 1998.

(Signed) Antonio Deinde FERNANDEZ
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Letter dated 11 March 1998 from the President of the Central African Republic addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to inform you that, as he and I have agreed, President El Hadj Omar Bongo, Chairman of the International Mediation Committee, has decided to extend until 15 April 1998 the mandate of the Inter-African Mission to Monitor the Implementation of the Bangui Agreements (MISAB), to allow for a smooth transition between the Mission and the United Nations force.

Accordingly, I should like to request the Security Council to extend, for the last time, the validity of its resolution 1152 (1998) authorizing the conduct of this operation.

I fully share the concerns and endorse the recommendations of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in his report of 23 February 1998 (S/1998/148), and earnestly hope that the Security Council will pronounce itself as soon as possible in favour of the establishment of the United Nations Mission in the Central African Republic (MINURCA).

In order to inform the Council members of the progress made in settling the Central African crisis, I should be grateful if you would circulate the report of the National Reconciliation Conference held recently in Bangui (see appendix) as a document of the Security Council.

I should like to express again my personal appreciation and that of the Central African people for the Security Council's determined and courageous action.

(Signed) Ange-Félix PATASSÉ
Appendix

[Original: French]

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION PACT

National Reconciliation Conference, held in Bangui
from 26 February to 5 March 1998

The parties signatory to this Pact:

In view of the Constitution of 14 January 1995,

Noting the grave political and military crisis which shook the Central African Republic in 1996 and 1997,

Recognizing that this crisis nearly engulfed the entire country in chaos, which would have entailed incalculable consequences for the preservation of national unity and sovereignty,

Aware of the fact that the meeting on consensus-building and dialogue held in Bangui from 11 to 18 January 1997 rekindled the hopes of Central Africans that solutions to this crisis would be found,

Convinced of the commitment of the signatories to respect the conclusions of the Bangui Agreements and to strive to restore a genuine, lasting peace,

Gauging the seriousness of the socio-economic crisis, characterized by growing poverty, the breakdown of family and social ties, the decline in Central African purchasing power and food production and the emergence of famine and widespread malnutrition, which are sources of disturbances and social conflict,

Considering the upsurge of insecurity in Bangui and in the interior, owing to the proliferation of weapons and the phenomenon of highway banditry,

Convinced that only an effort by the entire national community, supported by the international community, can make it possible to find ways and means of restoring peace and security, a sine qua non of the effective resumption of socio-economic activities for peaceful, lasting development,

Considering the flagrant violation of human rights linked to political and military crises,

Noting the repeated violations of the commitments made by Central Africans to each other,

Convinced of the need to establish a definitive national reconciliation pact between all Central Africans so as to put an end to political, economic and social practices characterized by nepotism, tribalism, exclusion and poor governance,

/...
Aware of the need to establish a Monitoring and Arbitration Committee responsible for settling any disputes that may arise from non-compliance with the provisions of this Pact,

In view of the relevant recommendations resulting from the work of the National Reconciliation Conference,

Have solemnly agreed as follows:

Article 1

The parties signatory to this Pact solemnly undertake to practise good governance, excluding nepotism, clanship, tribalism, political patronage and misappropriation of funds,

They also undertake to settle or help to settle, through dialogue and consensus-building, all disputes that may arise.

Article 2

The signatories solemnly undertake to use elections as the only legal means of access to government power and decide to ban the use of weapons and force as ways and means of access to government power. They renounce the use of the armed forces to destabilize a democratic regime and to sow terror in the hearts of the population in defiance of democratic principles, human rights and the national Constitution.

They strongly oppose all forms of dictatorship and call on the authorities to listen to the people and respect the rights of the minority.

Article 3

The signatories call on all Central Africans to unite in rebuilding the country, which has been destabilized politically and torn apart economically, culturally and socially.

Article 4

The parties signatory to this Pact undertake to launch a frontal attack on poverty, and to support the State in its quest for ways and means of restoring a sound national economy and equitably distributing resources, on the one hand and, on the other, in its efforts to improve the social sectors of education and health, while giving priority attention to the regular payment of wages, scholarships and pensions.

Article 5

The parties signatory to this Pact launch a strong appeal to the international community to assist the national and international forces of order in their sensitive mission to collect the weapons spread throughout the country and to restore order.
Article 6

The signatories undertake to work together to create the political, social and economic conditions necessary to prevent any violations of human rights.

Article 7

The parties signatory to this Pact decide to establish a Monitoring and Arbitration Committee to monitor the implementation of the undertakings set forth in this Pact and to serve as an arbitrator in any disputes that may arise.

They undertake to have recourse to the Committee in the case of non-compliance with the provisions of this Pact.

The composition, powers and functions of the Monitoring and Arbitration Committee are set forth as an annex to this Pact.

Article 8

The parties signatory to this Pact undertake to respect scrupulously the provisions contained therein.

DONE at Bangui on 5 March 1998

[Signed]

His Excellency Ange-Félix PATASSÉ
President of the Republic

Government
National Assembly
Judiciary
Armed Forces of the Central African Republic
Association of Mayors
**Political parties**

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<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>ADP</td>
<td>Alliance pour la démocratie et le progrès</td>
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<tr>
<td>CDCAD</td>
<td>Carrefour démocratique centrafricain pour le développement</td>
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<td>CN</td>
<td>Convention nationale</td>
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<td>ELAN</td>
<td>Effort libéral en Afrique noire</td>
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<td>FC</td>
<td>Forum Civique</td>
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<td>FPP</td>
<td>Front patriotique pour le progrès</td>
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<td>GILA-MND</td>
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<td>MLPC</td>
<td>Mouvement de libération du peuple centrafricain</td>
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<td>MSCA</td>
<td>Mouvement socialiste centrafricain</td>
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<td>PAD</td>
<td>Parti pour l'action et le développement</td>
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<td>MNR</td>
<td>Mouvement national pour le renouveau</td>
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<td>MUD</td>
<td>Mouvement pour l'unité et le développement</td>
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<tr>
<td>RDC</td>
<td>Rassemblement démocratique centrafricaine</td>
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/...
UDRP Union pour la démocratie et le renouveau panafricain
UDR/FK Union démocratique républicaine/Fimi Kodro
UNDD Union nationale pour la défense de la démocratie
UPR Union pour la République
UPDES Union du peuple pour le développement économique et sociale

Trade unions:

CNTC Confédération nationale des travailleurs centrafricains
OSLP Organisation des syndicats libres des secteurs public, parapublic et privé
Patronat
USTC Union syndicale des travailleurs centrafricains
USCC Union syndicale des chargeurs centrafricains
UNTC Union nationale des travailleurs centrafricains

Religious denominations:

AEEC Association des églises évangéliques centrafricaines
Catholic Church
CICA Communauté islamique centrafricain

Human rights, justice and democracy:

ACAT Association centrafricaine de lutte contre la torture et l'abolition de la peine de mort
AFJC Association des femmes juristes de Centrafrique
GERDES Groupement d'études et de recherches pour la démocratie et le développement économique et social
LCDH Ligue centrafricaine des droits de l'homme
GRPS Groupe de réflexion politique et sociale
LONDO Levons-nous
MDDH Mouvement pour la défense des droits de l'homme

/...
GAMPCC Groupe des artistes musiciens pour la promotion de la culture en Centrafrique

OCDH Observatoire centrafricain des droits de l'homme

GRADDER Groupe de réflexion et d'action pour la défense de la démocratie républicaine

CNDH Commission nationale des droits de l'homme

National organizations:

OFCA Organisation des femmes centrafricaines

KOLI-OUALI GALA Hommes et femmes commerçants

FNEC Fédération nationale des éleveurs centrafricains

Fed. BOUBA-NGUERE Fédération des vendeurs ambulants

JEC Jeunesse étudiante chrétiennes

FESCA Fédération du Scoutisme centrafricain

USCA Union scolaire centrafricaine

CNOSCA Comité national olympique du sport centrafricain

ACCB Association des commerçants centrafricains du bétail

ANEC Association nationale des étudiants centrafricains

ONAPHA Organisation nationale des personnes handicapées

UMCA Union des musiciens centrafricains

AVIMUT Association des victimes des mutineries

CIONGCA Conseil inter-organisation non gouvernementale de Centrafrique

ANBC Association nationale des bouchers centrafricains

FNCJ Fédération nationale des clubs des jeunesse

Occupational organization:

UNPC Union nationale du patronat centrafricain