



PRESS RELEASE

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Introductory meeting of the Commission in charge of monitoring the Implementation of the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities

Bangui, 02 September 2014: The United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) welcomes the first meeting, in Bangui, of the Commission in charge of monitoring the Implementation of the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities signed in Brazzaville on 23 July 2014. The introductory meeting follows the signature by the Head of Government of the Central African Republic, Mahamat Kamoun, of the Order establishing the Commission.

The meeting was co-chaired by General Jean-Marie Michel Mokoko, in his capacity as Coordinator of the Group of Eight (8)-CAR, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission of the African Union and Chief of MISCA, and by Mrs. Marie Noelle Koyara, the Minister of Public Works, Facilities and Planning of the Central African Republic.

As noted by General Jean-Marie Michel Mokoko, the signing of the order provides a legal basis for the Commission to monitor the agreement on cessation of hostilities, and facilitates the implementation of its bodies, notably the Secretariat of the Commission which will be based in MINUSCA until a local host is identified.

According to the Order, the main goal of the Monitoring Committee is to "provide a forum for an exchange of information, and to ensure the control, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the Agreement on Cessation of hostilities."

Mrs. Marie Noëlle Koyara reported on the development of actions undertaken by the Central African government, such as awareness campaigns and the translation in Sango language of the Agreement.

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations in the Central African Republic and Chief of MINUSCA, Lt-General (rtd) Babacar Gaye, for his part, briefed the members of the Commission on the ongoing efforts of the United Nations to develop of a communication plan, which will support a better understanding and outreach of the Agreement by the Central African population.

Also present at the meeting were: Mr. Bernard Piette, the Representative of the European Union, Mr. Romain Vuillaume, the Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of France, General Noël Léonard Essongo, the Representative of the Mediator of the crisis, Mr. Thierry Metinkoe, the Minister of Public Safety, representatives of the Presidency of the Central African Republic, and several politico-military groups that have also signed the Agreement on Cessation of Hostilities.

The agreement commits the belligerents, upon its signature on July 23, 2014 in Brazzaville (Republic of Congo), to cease hostilities throughout the Central African territory. It also implies the abstention from any military action or any other form of violence.

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