



Text of communiqué on talks between DR Congo, Angola, Congo, Gabon presidents 16 July 2005

Text of final communiqué issued at end of talks between DR Congo, Angolan, Gabonese, Congolese Presidents Kabila, Dos Santos, Bongo and Sassou Nguesso in Kinshasa as read out by DR Congo Foreign Minister Ramazani and broadcast by Congolese radio from Kinshasa on 16 July

On the occasion of the visit, the heads of state of the Republics of Gabon, Angola, Congo, and DRC reviewed regional security and cooperation. They particularly examined the political and security situation in the DRC. In light of the presentation made by the president of the Republic of the Congo, current chairman of the Economic Community of Central African States [CEEAC], following his working visit to Kinshasa on 24 June as part of the mandate entrusted to him by the 2nd CEEAC conference held in Brazzaville, and taking into consideration the presentation made by President Joseph Kabila on the DRC situation, the heads of state agreed to take every measure to ensure that the ongoing democratic process in the DRC will continue in peace, security, and harmony. In this connection, the heads of state expressed satisfaction with the progress achieved in the implementation of the objectives of the transition as set forth by the All-Inclusive Agreement. They were particularly satisfied with the progress made in the voters' registration process started on 20 June, and the adoption of the draft constitution and the referendum bill by the transitional parliament.

On security matters, the heads of state referred to the decision made at the meeting of the AU Peace and Security Council in Libreville on 10 January 2005 to forcefully disarm all armed groups and militia as a matter of urgency. The four heads of state hailed the efforts made by the international community in the DRC, especially the United Nations, the AU, the International Committee To Support the Transition, the EU, and the MONUC. They also decided to take the necessary political and diplomatic initiative to create conducive conditions for the realization of the objectives of the transition.

The heads of state reaffirmed their unreserved support for the transitional institutions and denounced any attempts to destabilize the DRC. They condemned and issued a warning to all those responsible for massacring peaceful citizens and promoting a permanent climate of insecurity in eastern DRC.

The four heads of state appealed to the Congolese people, especially to political stakeholders, to take every measure to complete the transitional process and hold elections within the deadlines prescribed by the constitution.

The heads of state of the Republics of Angola, the Congo, and Gabon made a point of expressing their gratitude to the DRC authorities for the warm reception given them and their respective delegations.

The four heads of state agreed to pursue their consultations with the view of strengthening the friendly and cooperative relations among their states.

Issued at Kinshasa on 16 July 2005.

Source: Radio-Television Nationale Congolaise, Kinshasa, in French 1800 gmt 16 Jul 05

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