

**Security Council**

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Letter dated 22 December 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith the final communiqué of the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Group of Five for the Sahel (Sahel G-5), held in Nouakchott on 19 December 2014 (see annex).

At the Summit, the Heads of State and Government took a number of important actions, including:

- The signature of the convention establishing the Sahel G-5, which provides the Group with a legal foundation
- A call to the parties to the Algiers process to reach a comprehensive and final peace agreement that is in line with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the decisions of the African Union and that guarantees the territorial integrity, sovereignty and unified, secular and republican character of Mali
- A call to the Security Council to establish, in accordance with the African Union, an international force to neutralize armed groups, support national reconciliation and build democratic, stable institutions in Libya

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Sékou **Kassé**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative



Annex to the letter dated 22 December 2014 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Final communiqué of the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Group of Five for the Sahel

An extraordinary Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Group of Five for the Sahel (Sahel G-5) was held in Nouakchott on 19 December 2014.

The following attended the Summit: President of Burkina Faso, Michel Kafando; President of the Republic of Mali, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita; President of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania, Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz; President of the Republic of the Niger, Mahamadou Issoufou; and President of the Republic of Chad, Idriss Deby Itno.

Having heard the report of the ministerial meeting, the Heads of State commended the important work undertaken, including:

- The preparation of draft texts, in particular the convention establishing the Sahel G-5.
- The establishment of the 2015-2017 priority investment programme, in the amount of 7,208 billion CFA francs (approximately \$15 billion).
- The consultative meetings held with several partners that had recognized the importance of the priority investment programme and had expressed their commitment to supporting the Sahel G-5 with regard to the financing of the programme and the establishment of the permanent secretariat, including the World Bank, the African Development Bank, the Islamic Development Bank, Arab funds and banks, the European Union and the United Nations. These partners had praised the energy of the Sahel G-5 and the strong leadership of the Heads of State, as evidenced by their outstanding approach to dealing with the main challenges in the Sahel, particularly in the areas of security and development.
- The alignment of national programmes of the member States through a broadly participative and consensual approach.
- The appointment of Najim Elhadj Mohamed, of the Niger, to the post of Permanent Secretary of the Sahel G-5.

The Heads of State:

- Instructed the ministers responsible for the Sahel G-5 to continue their efforts to finalize the comprehensive funding map and organize as soon as possible a round table with donors on financing the priority investments programme by inviting cooperation partners to cover the funding gap
- Called upon the international community to support the efforts of the Sahel G-5 to secure the region and promote its development

They noted with satisfaction:

(a) The meeting of ministers responsible for the security of the Sahel G-5 countries, held in Nouakchott on 21 May 2014;

(b) The ministerial meeting of troop-contributing countries to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali, held in Niamey on 5 November 2014. The Heads of State called upon the Security Council to urgently take the measures necessary to build the capacity of the Mission to enable it to effectively fulfil its mandate;

(c) The progress made in the inter-Malian talks in Algiers. They called on the parties to conclude a comprehensive and final peace agreement, that was in line with the relevant resolutions of the Security Council and the decisions of the African Union and that guaranteed the territorial integrity, sovereignty and unified, secular and republican character of Mali;

(d) The efforts undertaken by the States members of the Lake Chad Basin Commission and Benin to neutralize the Boko Haram terrorist group. They expressed their full support for the establishment of the joint multinational task force and requested the African Union Commission and the countries of the region to redouble their joint efforts with a view to the adoption by the Security Council of a resolution supporting the establishment of the joint multinational task force;

(e) The inaugural meeting of the International Contact Group on Libya, to be held in Addis Ababa on 3 December 2014. They supported the efforts undertaken by neighbouring countries and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Libya to create conditions conducive to dialogue between all the Libyan parties, with the exception of known terrorist groups. Nevertheless, the Sahel G-5 called on the Security Council to establish, in accordance with the African Union, an international force to neutralize armed groups, support national reconciliation and build democratic, stable institutions;

(f) That the Summit was being held at a time when sister countries in West Africa were facing an epidemic of the Ebola virus. They expressed their solidarity with the countries and peoples affected and called for the extension and enhancement of African and international efforts to address the situation.

The Heads of State signed the convention establishing and conferring legal status to the Sahel G-5, which had already clearly demonstrated its effectiveness and ability to play a leading role in coordinating strategies and policies on the Sahel.

They agreed to meet in N'Djamena in early 2015 for the next ordinary session of the Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Sahel G-5.

The Heads of State expressed their deep gratitude to their colleague, the President of Mauritania, Ould Abdel Aziz, who is the current chair of the Sahel G-5. They also expressed their deep gratitude to the Government and people of Mauritania for their generous hospitality, their warm welcome and the courtesy with which they had been treated throughout their stay in Nouakchott.

Nouakchott, 19 December 2014