



FORTY-SECOND ORDINARY SESSION OF THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

Yamoussoukro, 27-28 February 2013

DECISION A/DEC.3/02/13 SUPPORTING THE EXTENSION OF THE TENURE OF THE TRANSITIONAL ORGANS IN GUINEA- BISSAU

THE AUTHORITY OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

MINDFUL of Articles 7, 8 and 9 of the ECOWAS Treaty, as amended, establishing the Authority of Heads of State and Government and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of the ECOWAS Declaration on Political Principles adopted in Abuja on 6 July 1991;

MINDFUL of the ECOWAS Protocol relating to the Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, and Peacekeeping and Security signed in Lome on 10 December 1999,

MINDFUL of the ECOWAS Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance signed in Dakar on 21 December 2001,

MINDFUL of the Constitution of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau adopted in December 1996;

CONSIDERING that following the unconstitutional take-over of power by the Guinea Bissau army on 12th April, 2012 before the second round of the presidential elections, the transitional organs were put in place to organize the elections within the period of twelve (12) months,



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NOTING that as a result of the delay in attaining an inclusive national political dialogue and the continued imposition of sanctions by the African Union, the European Union and the United Nations, the conditions for the organisation of consensual elections cannot be fulfilled;

BEARING IN MIND the Resolution 2048 of 18th May 2012 of the United Nations Security Council which underscored among others the need for active and close cooperation between international Partners for the return of constitutional order to Guinea-Bissau;

DETERMINED to support the transitional Organs in Guinea-Bissau;

DESIROUS of supporting the extension of the mandate of the transitional organs in Guinea-Bissau in order to facilitate the organization of elections necessary for the return of constitutional order to that country.

DECIDES

Article 1:

1. ECOWAS hereby supports the extension of the tenure of the transitional organs in Guinea-Bissau in order to enable them organize presidential, legislative and local elections.
2. The competent Authorities in Guinea-Bissau are hereby urged to initiate the necessary constitutional process to extend the mandate of the transitional organs in Guinea-Bissau up till the 31st December 2013.



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Article 2:

This Decision shall be published by the Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Authority. It shall also be published by each Member State in its Official Gazette within thirty (30) days after its notification by the Commission.

DONE AT YAMOUSSOUKRO, THIS 28TH DAY OF FEBRUARY 2013

FOR THE AUTHORITY

THE CHAIRMAN

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H.E. ALASSANE OUATTARA