

CALL FROM THE AFRICAN FRANCOPHONE COALITIONS TO THE PROSECUTOR OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT ON THE ELECTORAL PROCESS IN CHAD

March 09, 2021

Abidjan, Bangui, Bamako, Bujumbura, Conakry, Kinshasa, N'Djamena, Rabat.

Chad has begun the process of presidential elections on 11 April 2021. The President IDRIS DEBY ITNO who has been in power for more than thirty (30) years is invested by his political party to run for a sixth term. Several civil society associations and some opposition political parties have called for the withdrawal of this candidacy. Peaceful demonstrations were held, but they were severely repressed by defence and security forces. The homes of some civil society leaders and opposition political parties are under daily siege by security forces, creating a general psychosis in the city of N'Djamena.

On February 28, 2021, defence and security forces attacked the home of Mr YAYA DILO DJEROU, a declared candidate in the 2021 presidential elections, causing the death of several people including his mother and son. The mobile phone and internet networks were suspended, cutting Chad off from the rest of the world. The city of N'Djaména is heavily militarised.

In reaction to this "coup de force", several candidates in the presidential elections of April 2021 decided to withdraw, at the risk of endorsing the electoral masquerade in sight.

Civil society and some political parties called for calm and the postponement of the presidential election as the only solution to peace, stability and security in the country. Unfortunately, President IDRISS DEBY ITNO does not intend to postpone these elections. Tension is very high. The situation is in danger of degenerating if no action is taken by the international community.

Faced with this situation and in order to preserve Chad's relative stability, the Coalitions of Francophone Africa for the International Criminal Court urge the Prosecutor of the ICC to launch a strong appeal to the Chadian authorities to dissuade them from committing atrocity crimes and thus avoid the risks of widespread conflict.

The smooth running of the elections and respect for human rights are necessary conditions to ensure peace in Chad.













Coalition Malienne pour la Cour Pénale Internationale

Coalition Ivoirienne pour la Cour Pénale Internatiole

For the African Francophone Coalitions for the ICC,

Mr. ALI Ouattara, The Spokesperson

Coordinator of the African Francophone Coalitions for the ICC

West Africa Focal Point of the African Network for International Criminal Justice

Signatory Organizations.

- 1. Burundian Coalition for the ICC
- 2. Central African Coalition for the ICC
- 3. Guinean Coalition for the ICC
- 4. Ivorian Coalition for the ICC
- 5. Malian Coalition for the ICC
- 6. National Coalition (DRC) for the ICC
- 7. Chad Coalition for the ICC
- 8. Moroccan Coalition for the ICC