

PRESS RELEASE ON MAHAMAT SAID'S COURT APPEARANCE

September 24th, 2022

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

The African Francophone Coalitions for the International Criminal Court (AFC-ICC) have been following the arrest and transfer of the suspect **MAHAMAT SAID**, known as "**MAHAMAT SAID Abdel Kani**" to The Hague, as well as the hearings for his initial appearance before the Court and the confirmation of charges.

The arrest and translation of this alleged war criminal and crime against humanity is a strong signal in the fight against impunity in the Central African Republic, Africa and the world.

The hearing that will open on 26 September 2022 is a significant step in the fight against impunity with regard to superiors. It is in this context that ***the African Francophone Coalitions for the International Criminal Court urge the International Criminal Court to pursue the second and third parts of the investigations opened in the CAR and to continue to cooperate with other States in order to arrest other criminals who continue to commit crimes that shock the conscience and sow desolation among the peaceful population of the CAR.***

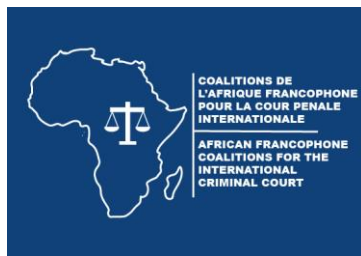
That is why ***the African Francophone Coalitions for the ICC are asking the ICC:***

- ***That the trial takes place with strict respect for the rights of all parties, namely the presumption of innocence and the rights of the victims to be represented,***
- ***That it be conducted expeditiously so as to avoid the slowness of the proceedings, as was the case in the BEMBA case, and so that the parties can be quickly determined.***

For the African Francophone Coalitions for the ICC

The Coordinator

Mr. Ali OUATTARA



Signatory organisations

1. The Burundian Coalition for the ICC
2. The Central African Coalition for the ICC
3. The Guinean Coalition for the ICC
4. The Ivorian Coalition for the ICC
5. The Malian Coalition for the ICC
6. The Moroccan Coalition for the ICC
7. The Chadian Coalition for the ICC
8. Burkina Faso: Nurukyor Association for Peace and Human Rights
9. DRC : Club des amis du droit du Congo
10. DRC : bureau d'études et de réflexions sur le bien être des communautés