

DECLARATION
OF
COMMITMENTS BY THE MOVEMENT OF MARCH 23 AT THE CONCLUSION
OF THE KAMPALA DIALOGUE

12th December 2013

Nairobi, Kenya



The Movement of March 23 (hereafter referred to as M23):-

Considering the Declaration of the Heads of State and Government of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR) signed at Kampala on 24 November 2012, requesting the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo, hereinafter referred to as the Government, to give the M23 a hearing, to evaluate its grievances and to respond to those which proved legitimate;

Recalling the request of H.E. Joseph Kabila Kabange, President of the Republic of Congo and that of H.E. Ban Ki Moon, Secretary General of the United Nations to President Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda and current Chair of the ICGLR, to assist in finding a political solution to the conflict between the DRC Government and the M23; and that H.E. President Museveni has appointed as Facilitator of the talks the Honourable Dr C.W.C.B. Kiyonga, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Uganda;

Having concluded the Dialogue between the M23 and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) (hereafter referred to as "the Government" that has been taking place in Kampala, Uganda, under the mediation of H. E. Yoweri K. Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda, and on instruction of President Museveni, under the facilitation of Hon. Dr. C. W. C. B. Kiyonga, Minister of Defence of the Republic of Uganda;

Taking into account the outcome of the review of the status of implementation of the Agreement of March 23, 2009 between the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and the Congrès National pour la Défense du Peuple (CNDP);

Recalling its declaration at Kampala, Uganda, on 5th November 2013 that it had renounced rebellion and requested its ex-combatants to prepare for the process of disarmament, demobilization and social reintegration;

Considering the declaration made by the Government at Kinshasa, DRC, on 6th November 2013 taking note of the renunciation of rebellion by M23 and announcing measures to facilitate and render irreversible the renunciation of the rebellion;

Recalling the Communiqué of the Joint ICGLR-SADC Summit that took place on 4th November 2013 in Pretoria, South Africa, which, inter alia, commended H.E. Yoweri K. Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda and Chairperson of the ICGLR for his efforts in facilitating the Kampala Dialogue and noted that all the 11 issues under discussion in the Kampala Dialogue had been agreed upon;

Further recalling the Communiqué issued at the conclusion of the Summit between H. E. President Joseph Kabila Kabange and H. E. President Yoweri K. Museveni at Entebbe, Uganda, on 2nd December 2013 to the effect that the Kampala Dialogue should be brought to a conclusion in order to facilitate the peaceful return of M23 ex-combatants and the completion of the process of demobilization.

DECLARES as follows:

1. End of rebellion

M23 confirms that it has renounced its rebellion.

2. Amnesty

- 2.1. The M23 accepts that to benefit from the amnesty, each member of M23 shall be required to make a personal commitment in writing to refrain permanently from the use of weapons or from participating in an insurgency movement to ensure the success of any demand.
- 2.2. Any violation of this commitment shall automatically render the amnesty thereby granted null and void and would disqualify the perpetrator of the violation from any subsequent amnesty.

3. Transitional security arrangements

- 3.1. The M23 commits itself to comply with and implement the transitional security arrangements, the details of which will be defined by the proposed Annex A as adjusted to reflect the changed situation on the ground, including the fact that some members of M23 fled to Uganda where they were received.
- 3.2. Disarmament, demobilization, social reintegration and the granting of amnesty shall follow the order shown in Annex B.

4. Release of prisoners

- 4.1. Upon the signing of this Declaration, the M23 undertakes to produce a list of its members who are imprisoned for acts of war and insurrection so that they may be released.
- 4.2. The said prisoners shall be handed over to the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC).

4.3. The ICRC shall be responsible for reuniting them with their families.

5. Transformation of M23

M23 members reserve the right to change its name and become a political party in accordance with the Constitution and laws of the DRC.

6. Return and resettlement of refugees and internally displaced persons

In order to encourage the return of refugees, M23 representatives shall be included in the national structure responsible for handling refugee issues.

7. Despoiled, extorted, stolen, looted and destroyed property

M23 representatives shall be included in the Commission that the Government shall set up, tasked with identifying despoiled, extorted, stolen, looted and destroyed property, to examine every case and to refer them to the competent courts, for the purpose of restoring their rights to the legitimate owners.

8. National reconciliation and justice

8.1 By virtue of the principle of inclusion, M23 representatives shall participate in the National Reconciliation Commission which shall be established by the Government.

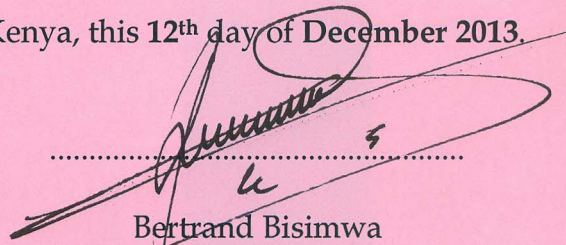
8.2. The M23 agrees that, given the atrocities and other massive violations of human rights perpetrated in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, and with a view to putting an end to impunity, prosecutions for war crimes, genocide, crimes against humanity, sexual violence and recruitment of child soldiers shall be initiated against any presumed author thereof.

9. Mechanism for implementation, monitoring and evaluation

M23 shall designate, for the implementation of its commitments, a Coordinator in charge of following-up the said implementation with the National Oversight Mechanism established under the Framework Agreement for Peace, Security and Cooperation for the DRC signed in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 24 February 2013.



DECLARED at Nairobi, Kenya, this 12th day of December 2013.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, written over a horizontal dotted line. The signature is highly cursive and difficult to decipher, but it appears to be the name of the signatory.

Bertrand Bisimwa
Chairman of M23 Movement
FOR AND ON BEHALF OF M23