



STATEMENT N° 064 BY THE TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT

The Transitional Government notes with deep concern the increasing number of unfriendly acts, cases of hostility and interference in Mali's internal affairs by the authorities of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria, which undermines Mali's national security and sovereignty.

The cases we condemn include, inter alia:

1. The unilateral imposition of a transition period on the Malian authorities;
2. The reception, without prior consultation or notification at the highest level of the Algerian state, of subversive Malian citizens and Malian citizens prosecuted by the Malian justice system for acts of terrorism;
3. The existence on Algerian territory of offices representing certain groups that signed the **Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation in Mali resulting from the Algiers process** and have now become terrorist actors;
4. The willingness of the Algerian authorities to maintain the United Nations sanctions regime concerning Mali, at a time when the Non-Aligned Movement and the Russian Federation were opposed to it in the interests of Mali, which was calling for the regime to be lifted;
5. The Algerian authorities' hidden hand in a maneuver to impose a chapter on Mali in the outcome document of the Non-Aligned Movement summit in Kampala, Uganda, without the consent of the Malian authorities.

In response to the Algerian authorities' argument that they did not initiate the contested Chapter on Mali, it is worth asking them why they were the only ones to oppose, at expert level, the amendment proposed by Mali, asserting that any modification to the contested drafting would first have to be approved by the highest Algerian authorities.

Analysis of these cases reveals a misperception on the part of the Algerian authorities, who regard Mali as their backyard or a doormat state, against a backdrop of contempt and condescension.

Furthermore, the Transitional Government calls on national and international opinion to witness the discrepancy between the hostile maneuvers of the Algerian authorities on the one hand, and on the other, the responsibility incumbent upon them at a time when they sit on the United Nations Security Council, the body primarily responsible for maintaining international peace and security.

The Transition Government, while condemning this attitude, demands that the Algerian authorities immediately cease their hostility.

Moreover, good neighborly relations require responsible behavior, guided by a sense of empathy and mutual respect.

The Transitional Government would be curious to know the feelings of the Algerian authorities, if Mali were to welcome representatives of the Movement for the Self-Determination of Kabylia at the highest level of the State.

The Transitional Government takes this opportunity to remind the Algerian authorities of the secular and fraternal relations that exist between the Malian people and the Algerian people. One of the major points of the friendship between the two brotherly peoples dates back to the Algerian war, during which Mali notably:

- offered its territory as a rear base to the Mujahedeen, opening up a southern front;
- took part in the armed confrontations against the French colonizer, deploying Malian fighters alongside the Mujahedeen on Algerian territory to defend the freedom and dignity of the Algerian people;
- defended the Algerian cause in all diplomatic forums, until the recovery of their independence.

Mali invites the Algerian authorities to remember their responsibility for the deterioration of the security situation in the Sahel. While it's true that the intervention of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) has exacerbated the terrorist threat, the fact remains that it was the installation in the Sahara of the Algerian Salafist Group for Preaching and Combat (GSPC), and its subsequent allegiance to Al-Qaeda that marked the advent of international terrorism in the region.

Mali reaffirms its commitment to the promotion of friendly and harmonious relations with all States in world, subject to respect for the principles guiding

public action in Mali, defined by His Excellency Colonel Assimi GOITA, President of the Transition, Head of State, namely:

- respect for Mali's sovereignty;
- respect for the partnership and strategic choices made by Mali;
- taking into account the vital interests of the Malian people in all decisions.

May God bless Mali and protect Malians!

Bamako, January 25, 2024

Signed by:

The Minister of State, Minister of Territorial Administration and Decentralization, Spokesperson for the Government,

Colonel Abdoulaye MAIGA