

Accra II (Ghana) Agreement on the Côte d'Ivoire crisis

1. At the invitation of His Excellency Mr John Agyekum KUFUOR, President of the Republic of Ghana, current President of CEDEAO, a Round Table of Ivorian political groups, signatories to the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement, met in Accra on March 6-7, 2003.
2. The following groups participated in this round table: FPI, MFA, MJP, MPCI, MPIGO, PDCI-RDA, PIT, RDR, UDCY, and UDPCI. The following persons joined as facilitators: the President of the Marcoussis Agreement Monitoring Committee, Professor Albert TEVOEDJRE, the Executive Secretary of CEDDEAO, Doctor Mohamed Ibn CHAMBAS, the CEDEAO Executive Secretary's Special Representative, Mr Raph UWECHUE-FCHIIE, the Special Representative of the International Organisation of La Francophonie, Mr Lansana KOUVATE, and the African Union Special Representative, Mr André SALIFOU. President KUFUOR presided over the meeting, assisted by His Excellency Mr Hackman OWUSU AGYEMANG, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ghana.
3. Following the presentation by the consensus Prime Minister, His Excellency Seydou Elimane DIARRA, on progress in implementing the Marcoussis Agreement, the different political groups discussed at length the difficulties encountered by the Prime Minister in trying to form the government.
4. The Round Table reaffirmed its support for the Marcoussis Agreement, unanimously considered to be a sustainable framework for resolving the Ivorian crisis. To achieve this the participants undertook to collaborate with President Laurent GBAGBO and the Prime Minister Seydou DIARRA, in order to establish a balanced government of national reconciliation.
5. Referring to the Marcoussis Agreement, the Round Table reaffirms the need to preserve the territorial integrity of the Côte d'Ivoire, to respect its institutions and to restore State authority. It recalls its support for the principle of acceding to and exercising power by democratic means. The Round Table also reaffirms the authority of President Laurent GBAGBO, as Head of State, Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces, and guarantor of the Constitution and republican institutions.
6. It notes the desire of the Head of State to implement the Marcoussis Agreement, in particular by applying, by March 14, 2003, the provisions relevant to: a) delegation of powers to the Government; b) formation of a Government of National Reconciliation.
7. Regarding the formation of a Government of National Reconciliation, and in order to move on from the current impasse, the Round Table recommends: a) The immediate formation of a National Security Council with fifteen (15) members including the President of the Republic, the Prime Minister, a representative of each of the political groups signatory to the Marcoussis Agreement, a FANCI representative, and a representative of the National Gendarmerie and the National Police to assist effective management by the Ministers of Defence and of Interior Security. As soon as possible, at the Council's suggestion, the Prime Minister will nominate to the President of the Republic, persons chosen by consensus for the posts of Minister of Defence

- and Minister of Security; b) The nomination of two Ministers of State to the MPCl: the Minister of Territorial Administration and Minister of Communication; c) Respect for the choices made by the political groups for their government representatives.
8. The Round Table invites the Ivorian Government, together with French and CEDEAO troops, to take all necessary measures to ensure the protection and security of members of the Marcoussis Round Table, of members of the Government in particular and of the population in general.
 9. The Round Table reminds all the groups present of the importance of an immediate cessation of all massacres, killings and extortions in their zones of operation.
 10. Furthermore, in the spirit of promoting national reconciliation, the Round Table extends a serious appeal to all socio-political actors and media for their resolute support in implementing the Marcoussis Agreement. It also demands the immediate release of all political prisoners and prisoners of war.
 11. The Round Table pays tribute to President John Agyekum KUFUOR for having proposed this meeting and for his wise advice to the participants that they place the greater interests of the Ivorian nation above individual needs.
 12. The Round Table extends its sincere thanks to the CEDEAO Executive Secretary for his personal investment and determination in resolving the Ivorian crisis.
 13. The Round Table conveys its profound gratitude to the President and members of the Monitoring Committee for the key role they have played in resolving the conflict. They ask that the terms of the Marcoussis Agreement be scrupulously respected and request the full cooperation of all parties.
 14. They extend their sincerest thanks and deepest gratitude to President KUFUOR, to the government and the people of Ghana, for their warm welcome and generous hospitality.

Done at Accra, March 7, 2003

Signatures