

## **RESOLUTION ON ANGOLA**

On 16 April 2015, elements of the National Police of the municipality of Calaa, under the leadership of its commander, moved to Monte Sumi in the province of Huambo, Angola, with the aim of arresting José Julina Kalupeteka, leader of the Christian Church of the 7th Day, who was there taking part in a spiritual retreat, accompanied by an estimated more than 3,000 followers.

The majority of the believers present were Angolan citizens from various provinces of the country, who violently reacted to the police attempt to take their leader in custody. Subsequently, the police reacted most violently against the attitude of the believers of the sect. In this spiral of violence, the police forces assassinated a number of believers by means of firearms. In turn, the latter caused the death of a number of policemen, including the commander, by means of sticks and batons. This caused disarray and fear among the police forces.

According to the available information, the following hours and days saw the mass assassination of members of the sect by the police forces, both within and outside the area of pilgrimage. Both the presumed and the declared numbers of persons assassinated are indicative of the violence that took place.

There are contradictions as to the number of deaths mentioned by the authorities as the number mentioned by the Secretary of the interior (20) differs from the number mentioned by the police commissariat (13).

Nevertheless, none of these numbers reflect the reality or the information provided by witnesses who speak of no less than approximately 1,000 victims.

After analyzing the above-mentioned events, the Parliamentary Group of Unita, which is the major opposition party, called for the opening of a parliamentary investigation foreseen by the law with the aim of establishing the reality of the facts. As no response was received, they took the decision to travel to the place where the facts took place, in order to investigate “in situ” what had happened in reality.

In spite of guarantees given by the government and the provincial governor, the delegation of members of parliament was not allowed to travel to the place of the facts.

**For this reason the IDC-CDI:**

Considering that the requested parliamentary investigation based on national law and on the internal regulations of the chamber of representatives, has not been carried through by the relevant authorities;

Considering that the Government of Angola has rejected the execution of an independent and credible investigation as demanded by the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights (UNHCHR), and taking into account the need to defend, promote and protect the fundamental rights, freedoms and guarantees enshrined in the Constitution of Angola as well as other national and international instruments to which Angola is a signatory;

Unita, in its capacity of full member of the Centrist Democrat International (IDC-CDI) proposes that the leaders of IDC-CDI meeting in Mexico City on 10 July 2015 decide:

- To strongly condemn the events of Monte Sumi and the following violent crackdown exhibited by the Angolan security forces which ended with the death of an still unknown number of civilians;
- To support the United Nations High Commissioner on Human Rights to:
  - Demand that the Republic of Angola, in its capacity of member of the United Nations, accepts the execution, by independent entities, of a transparent and credible investigation on the events of Monte Sumi.
  - Complies with and enforces the norms enshrined in the Constitution of the country and in the legal instruments on the respect of fundamental human right, freedoms and guarantees.