

**RESOLUTION
ON
BURKINA FASSO**

International Democratic Centre (IDC) - Africa

Having regard to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948;

- Having regard to the European Convention on Human Rights of 1950;
- Having regard to the Charter of the African Union;
- Having regard to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights of 1981;
- Having regard to the Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance of 2007;

- A. Considering that the respect of human rights, of political and civil rights and also the respect of political pluralism which allow different sections of the people of Burkina Faso to have genuine freedom in exercising their democratic rights to engage in the political life of the country;
- B. Recalling that, after the end of President Blaise Compaore's regime the appointed Transitional Government was charged with the organisation of general elections in October 2015 and January 2016 with the support of the international community and taking care to ensure the participation of every citizen of Burkina Faso wishing to vote;
- C. Noting however that the Transitional Government is not working on the voting register which would enable the involvement of all the parties actively involved in the rollout of the electoral programme and the governance programme during the transitional period;
- D. Extremely concerned on this point by certain provisions in the Law no. 005-2015/NTC of 7 April 2015 passed by the National Transitional Council (NTC) which excludes a major portion of the population of Burkina Faso from the October 2015 elections ending the transition, going completely contrary to not only the rules of democracy but also the Charter governing the transition;
- E. Fearing that these amendments to the Electoral Law would radicalise the positions of the parties actively involved in the electoral process and would exacerbate divisions in society;
- F. Worried by the climate of hatred and intolerance that is developing with complete impunity across the country against the members of the former regime, and by the human rights violations manifested by the ban on freedom to demonstrate and by arbitrary arrests;

The CDI :

- Condemns the actions which, in the name of the fight against impunity, is excluding a section of the population from all democratic participation in the life of the National and fuels the feeling of ostracism of the members of the outgoing political majority;
- Invites the Transitional Government to put a stop to and to punish these obstacles to freedom of expression, assembly and association of the people of Burkina Faso;
- Calls upon the organisation of the elections ending the transitional period to be inclusive, calm and to be in conformity with the Constitution of Burkina Faso and the international Agreements which Burkina Faso has ratified;
- Invites all those engaged in politics to respect the rules of good conduct that enable elections to be held in tranquillity and transparency;
- Invites the international community, international organisations, the United Nations and the African Union to mediate with the Burkina Faso's Transitional authorities so that they may repeal the law being challenged and may respect the civil liberties of individual citizens;
- Encourages the African Union to continue its active monitoring so that the elections ending the transitional period in Burkina Faso should comply with international standards;
- Charges its President to transmit this resolution to the Security Council, to the Commission of the European Union, to the authorities of the ECOWAS countries and to the African Union.