Religious Leaders Call for Peace in the Central African Republic

Francophone West and Central Africa Regional Initiative for Christian and Muslim Religious Leaders on Peace and Development Maroua, Cameroon 6 - 10 January 2013

TO HEADS OF STATES AND DELEGATIONS CURRENTLY IN LIBREVILLE FOR DIALOGUE ON THE POLITICO-MILITARY SITUATION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC

We, participants at the "Francophone West and Central Africa Regional Initiative for Christian and Muslim religious leaders for peace and development", held from 6 to 10 January 2013 in Maroua, Cameroon, organized by the Programme for Christian-Muslim Relations in Africa (PROCMURA).

- Considering the suffering of the people of the Central African Republic and the political, economic and social implications as a result of the politico-military situation in that country;
- Considering the commitment of both sides to seek peaceful solutions to the crisis that precipitated the ongoing dialogue currently being held in Libreville, Gabon;
- Considering the contribution of Heads of States from the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and other countries of the world aimed at preserving peace and harmony in Africa;
- Knowing that every human being is a noble and sacred person created by God;
- Are concerned about the political and military situation that is prevailing at the moment in Central African Republic.

Peace comes from God, God is peace. We pray and invoke God's peace on the country and the peoples of the Central African Republic.

We encourage the various sides in conflict to work towards dialogue and reconciliation, in love and in truth, to find consensual solutions so as to prevent the Central African peoples from physical, moral and spiritual suffering.

We call on the ECCAS and the international community to support the ongoing dialogue process, so as to strengthen the rule of law.

We appeal to all to ensure that the rights and dignity of individuals are protected, taking into account the specific needs of the most vulnerable in conflict situations such as women and children.

May the culture of neighbourly love, tolerance and acceptance of one another, be strengthened and consolidated in the heart of all stakeholders.

May God bless you and help you to make a commitment to a true and lasting peace in the Central African Republic.

May the peace of God be with the people of Central African Republic.

Peace be with you all.

Done in Maroua, January 9, 2013