



REPOBLIKAN'i MADAGASIKARA

Tanindrazana - Fahafahana - Fandrosoana

PRESIDENCY OF THE REPUBLIC

The President

March 01, 2010

Excellency,

I am deeply concerned about the deterioration of the situation on the ground in Madagascar. The number of jobless people has increased dramatically because most companies have closed down. Soaring prices have compounded the situation.

The People of Madagascar suffer a lot because the situation is becoming unbearable day by day. However, although the country is facing a deeper and deeper crisis, Andry Rajoelina does not want to comply with the Maputo and Addis Ababa Agreements, firmly recommended by the last two important meetings of the International Contact Group and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union respectively held in Addis Ababa on February 18 and 19, 2010.

Andry Rajoelina's defiant attitude towards the AU and the International Community continues. As you can see in the enclosed copy of his statement delivered on February 25, 2010, he unilaterally called for a two-day broad consultative meeting on Thursday March 04 and Friday March 05, 2010.

How can Andry Rajoelina pretend that he can solve the political crisis in Madagascar in two days? His strategy is to make the Malagasy people and the International community believe that the two-day consultations are democratic and inclusive. In fact, he is manoeuvring to make the participants endorse his unilateral proposals and push for the elections to serve hidden agendas and vested interests.

His Excellency Jean Ping
Chairman of the AU Commission
ADDIS ABABA

We reiterate that the presidential elections should precede the parliamentary elections. But fair, free and credible elections cannot be held in a country where intimidation, persecution and arbitrary arrests and detention prevail. The elections will be rigged in advance. Therefore, it is unacceptable that a group of individuals driven by vested interests pretend to use democratic means to legitimize an unconstitutional change of government installed after a coup d'état.

Your Excellency, the situation in Madagascar is very worrying and the people are losing their patience. I thought I should bring these unfortunate developments to your kind attention with a request to the AU Commission to inform Andry Rajoelina that elections held outside the context of the Maputo and Addis Ababa Agreements will not be recognized by the International Community.

Moreover, in the present context of intimidation and non respect for Human Rights, it is advisable to have a small AU/SADC civilian and military observer force in Madagascar before, during and after the elections to play a monitoring role and to provide confidence and reassurance to the civilian population.

We strongly believe that the targeted sanctions against those who reject or block the Maputo and Addis Ababa Agreements should be applied immediately after the expiry of the notice given. There should be no more room for extension of delay if the Mouvanse Rajoelina are not willing to have a genuine inclusive approach to solve the crisis but persist with their unilateralism.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. Ravalomanana', written in a cursive style with a large loop at the top and a sharp downward stroke at the end.

Marc RAVALOMANANA