



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

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**NOTE**

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from:	General Secretariat of the Council
to:	Delegations
Subject:	Council conclusions on Mali

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1. At its meeting on 27 May 2013, the Council adopted the conclusions set out in the Annex to this note.

**Council conclusions on Mali**

1. The European Union (EU) welcomes the outcome and the conclusions of the high-level donor conference for development in Mali held on 15 May in Brussels in support of the Plan for the Sustainable Recovery of Mali. The EU calls on Mali and all international partners to implement their mutual commitments as part of an effective and coordinated follow-up to the conference. The EU emphasises that Mali is entirely responsible for implementing the Transition Roadmap.
2. The EU is encouraged by the efforts made by the Malian authorities to accelerate the implementation of the Transition Roadmap, in particular the adoption of a revised legal and administrative framework for the presidential elections in July. The EU reiterates its support for the preparation of a credible electoral process and its readiness to continue to provide technical and financial assistance for such a process, in close coordination with the United Nations, under the direction of the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the United Nations for Mali, and the other parties involved on the ground. In that context, the Council supports the decision of the High Representative to deploy an election observation mission at the request of the transitional authorities.
3. The EU recalls the importance it attaches to the protection of civilian populations, to the observance of human rights and to compliance with international humanitarian law. The fight against impunity and the full implementation of justice must constitute a fundamental element of reconciliation.
4. The EU reiterates its support for the National Dialogue and Reconciliation Commission and encourages it to start work as soon as possible in order to ensure a national, inclusive dialogue open both to civilian representatives and to non-criminal and non-terrorist armed groups that have laid down their weapons. The EU also welcomes the appointment of a Government representative to lead talks with those groups provided that they are committed to respecting Mali's unity, territorial integrity and sovereignty. It is of the utmost importance that conditions should exist for State administration to be re-established throughout the territory of Mali and for elections to be held, including in the Kidal region and in refugee camps.

5. The EU welcomes the crucial contribution made by the African-led International Support Mission in Mali (AFISMA) to the full restoration of Mali's territorial integrity and supports its conversion into a United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilisation Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) under United Nations Security Council resolution 2100 (2013). MINUSMA will make a significant contribution to the protection of civilian populations throughout the country's territory.
6. The Council reiterates its readiness to discuss, in the context of the CSDP and other relevant instruments and in the light of the conclusions of the donors' conference, the options for urgent support for the Malian authorities in the area of internal security and justice in order to contribute to the lasting stabilisation of the whole country, in close collaboration with MINUSMA.
7. The Council welcomes the progress made by the EUTM Mali military mission in providing advice and training to the Malian Armed Forces, including in the areas of human rights and international humanitarian law. The Council encourages the Member States and Mali's international partners to provide or increase their support in order to endow the African and Malian forces with the resources and equipment necessary for the performance of their assignments. It welcomes the commitments already made and the contributions received in this context.

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### *Niger*

8. Regarding the region as a whole, the EU reaffirms its commitment to the fight against terrorism and to fostering, in coordination with its international partners, security and development in the Sahel. In this regard, the Council condemns in the strongest possible terms the terrorist attacks of 23 May 2013 in Agadez and Arlit, in Niger.

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