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**REPORT ON ELECTION OF FOUR (4) JUDGES OF THE AFRICAN
COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS**

REPORT ON ELECTION OF FOUR (4) JUDGES OF THE AFRICAN COURT ON HUMAN AND PEOPLES' RIGHTS

1. The elections of the Judges of the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Court) are based on the provisions of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the establishment of an African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (the Protocol) adopted in 1998 as well as the Rules of Procedure of the Executive Council.
2. Article 11 of the Protocol provides that the African Court shall be composed of eleven (11) Judges who should be jurists of high moral character and of recognized practical, judicial, or academic competence and experience in the field of human and peoples' rights.
3. In addition, Article 11 of the Protocol provides that no two (2) Judges should be nationals of the same State.
4. The current elections relate to the election of four (4) Judges as a result of expiry of the term of office, in July 2014, of the following Judges of the African Court:

NO.	NAME	COUNTRY	TERM OF OFFICE
1.	Mr. Kimelabalou ABA *	Togo	Elected in January 2013 for a 1½-year term
2.	Mr. Sylvain ORE *	Côte d'Ivoire	Elected in July 2010 for a 4-year term
3.	Ms. Sophia A.B. AKUFFO	Ghana	Re-elected in July 2008 for a 6-year term
4.	Mr. Bernard Makgabo NGOEPE	South Africa	Re-elected in July 2008 for a 6-year term

- **Only the first two (2) judges are eligible for re-election, only once.**

5. Article 14 of the Protocol stipulates that "*the judges of the Court shall be elected by secret ballot by the Assembly from the list referred to in Article 13(2) of the present Protocol*". However, the judges of the Court shall be elected by secret ballot by the Executive Council by virtue of delegation of power by the Assembly in accordance with Article 9(2) of the Constitutive Act of the African Union.

6. The Executive Council should ensure that in the Court as a whole, there is representation of the main regions of Africa and of their principal legal traditions. In addition, Council should ensure that there is adequate gender representation (Article 14 of the Protocol).

7. The Commission would like to draw to the attention of Member States that after the expiry of the terms of office of the four (4) Judges in July 2014, the regional and gender representation at the African Court will be as follows:

a) Regional representation

Central	:	One (1)
East	:	Two (2)
North	:	One (1)
South	:	One (1)
West	:	Two (2)
Vacancies	:	Four (4)
Total	:	Eleven (11)

b) Gender representation

Female Judges	:	One (1)
Male Judges	:	Six (6)

8. As can be seen from the numbers above, the challenge is to ensure both regional representation and adequate gender representation in the composition of the African Court.

9. The candidatures received by the Commission are the following:

LIST OF CANDIDATURES

NO.	NAMES	GENDER	COUNTRY	REGION
1	Kimelabalou ABA*	Male	Togo	Western
2	Awa BAH	Female	Gambia	Western
3	Rafaa BEN ACHOUR	Male	Tunisia	Northern
4	Justice L. O. BOSIELO	Male	South Africa	Southern
5	Solomy Balungi BOSSA	Female	Uganda	Eastern
6	Modibo Tounty GUINDO*	Male	Mali	Western
7	Alidah Maseshophe HLAJOANE	Female	Lesotho	Southern
8	Mthomeng MAJARA	Female	Lesotho	Southern
9	Angelo Vasco MATUSSE	Male	Mozambique	Southern
10	Martin K. NGOGA	Male	Rwanda	Eastern
11	Sylvain ORE*	Male	Cote d'Ivoire	Western
12	Elhassan SALEK ABBA	Male	SADR	Northern
13	Jean Emile SOMDA	Male	Burkina Faso	Western
14	Gaye SOWE	Male	Gambia	Western
15	Blaise TCHIKAYA	Male	Congo	Central

- 1 and 11 are seeking immediate re-election.
- 6 is seeking re-election (served from July 2006 to June 2012)

2014

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