

AFRICAN UNION
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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
180TH MEETING
17 MARCH 2009
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.(CLXXX)

COMMUNIQUE

**COMMUNIQUE OF THE 180TH MEETING
OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL**

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 180th meeting held on 17 March 2009, adopted the following decision on the situation in Madagascar in the light of recent developments in this country:

Council,

1. Recalls the Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM./CLXXIX) of its 179th meeting on 16 March 2009;
2. **Notes** the resignation by decree, today, of President Marc Ravalomanana, under pressure from the civilian opposition and the army;
3. **Demands** that the Malagasy parties comply scrupulously with the provisions of the Constitution of Madagascar on interim arrangements in the event of resignation;
4. **Urges** the Malagasy parties to uphold the spirit of dialogue and compromise in order to find, as soon as possible, a peaceful and consensual solution to the crisis, with the assistance of representatives of the international community in Antananarivo, in particular, the Special Envoys of the AU, UN and la Francophonie;
5. **Reiterates** its support to the Chairperson of the Commission of the AU and his Special Envoy, Mr. Ablassé Ouédraogo, for their efforts aimed at finding a solution to the current crisis that is consistent with the Malagasy Constitution and relevant AU instruments;
6. **Requests** that all necessary measures be taken to ensure the safety of the President and his family, his associates, respect for individual and collective freedoms and prevent any act of violence or intimidation and protect property;
7. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.

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Commission de l'Union africaine

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