



# General Assembly

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## Human Rights Council

### Twenty-first session

Agenda item 4

### Human rights situations that require the Council's attention

#### Senegal (on behalf of the Group of African States): draft resolution

21/...

#### Situation of human rights in the Republic of Mali

*The Human Rights Council,*

*Guided by the Charter of the United Nations, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other relevant international instruments,*

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution 60/251 of 15 March 2006 and Council resolution 5/1 of 18 June 2007,

*Reaffirming* that all States have an obligation to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the international human rights covenants and other relevant human rights instruments to which they are party,

*Reaffirming also* its commitment to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of the Republic of Mali,

*Reaffirming further* its resolution 20/17, adopted at its twentieth session, on the situation of human rights in the Republic of Mali, in which it welcomed the communiqués on the situation in Mali dated 6 April 2012 from the African Union, dated 23 March 2012, 3 April 2012, 12 June 2012 and 4 September 2012 from the African Union Peace and Security Council, and dated 6 June 2012 from the Commission of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), not least as regards their condemnation of the coup d'état of 22 March 2012 and the unilateral declaration of independence,

*Welcoming* the formation on 20 August 2012 of a Government of national unity,

*Deeply concerned* at the deterioration in the situation of human rights in the northern part of the Republic of Mali and at the humanitarian situation and its consequences for the countries of the Sahel,

1. *Condemns* the excesses, abuses and human rights violations committed in the Republic of Mali, particularly in the north of the country, by, among others, the rebels, terrorist groups and other organized transnational crime networks, and including violence against women and children, killings, hostage-takings, pillaging, theft and destruction of cultural and religious sites, and the recruitment of child soldiers;

2. *Takes note* of the measures taken by the Malian Government to bring the perpetrators of such acts to justice;
  3. *Repeats* its call for an immediate halt to the abuses and all these human rights violations and acts of violence, and for strict respect for all human rights and fundamental freedoms;
  4. *Calls for* an immediate halt to the destruction of cultural and religious sites;
  5. *Continues to support* current efforts by the African Union and ECOWAS to settle the crisis in Mali and bring about a definitive return to constitutional order, peace and security in Mali;
  6. *Emphasizes* the need to pursue humanitarian assistance to the population affected by the crisis and urges the international community, in conjunction with the Malian Government and the neighbouring countries concerned, to continue to deliver appropriate humanitarian assistance to refugees and displaced persons and respond to the challenges that the humanitarian crisis in the Sahel poses;
  7. *Renews* its urgent invitation to the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to submit to the Council at its twenty-second session a written report on the situation of human rights in the north of the Republic of Mali;
  8. *Decides* to remain seized of this matter.
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