



This is not an official translation of the peace agreement. The translation has been carried out by an independent translator on behalf of the UCDP

THE JOINT DECLARATION OF FOMBONI 26 AUGUST, 2000

In the process of negotiations initiated on 1 July, 1999 in Mohéli and founded on the Inter-Comorian Dialogue as a privileged framework for the resolution of the Comorian crisis,

The Signatories of the present declaration,

- animated by the firm will to come out quickly of the crisis through a just and durable solution, taking into account the legitimate aspiration of the populations of the islands,
- taking note of the contribution of the International Community,

Have agreed about the establishment of a “Nouvel Ensemble Comorien” (New Comorian Unity), sole Subject of international right, within its frontiers acknowledged by the “Communauté développement par le renforcement et la priorité de la coopération décentralisée” (Community of development by the reinforcement and priority of decentralized development assistance) and whose fields of competence are enumerated below:

- Religion,
- Nationality,
- Currency,
- Foreign relations,
- External defence.

The exercise of these prerogatives must take into account the following considerations:

For:

RELIGION:

The Unity must be rooted within Islam in the respect of the principles of tolerance, peace, social cohesion and solidarity characterizing it.

NATIONALITY:

It is subjected to the Unity.

It must be represented on all pieces of identity, particularly the passport where the island of delivery must be stated.

CURRENCY:

The parties are of the opinion that a joint currency is a factor of development of exchange within the Unity.

They recommend the maintaining of the Comorian Franc in the “Franc Zone” as a factor promoting the accomplishment of the integration of the Unity.

FOREIGN RELATIONS:

They are subjected to the Unity.

For the development of the parts which make it up, these parts remain the source, the purpose and the “architect” of the development aid in all its dimensions.

EXTERNAL DEFENCE

It is subjected to the Unity.

In this matter, the external defence should fulfil, except its missions of protecting the frontiers, missions of conceiving, defining, organizing and accomplishing policies of military cooperation with its external partners.

The Parties convene that this list is not exhaustive and that shared fields could be defined.

Therefore the Parties decide to initiate a Tripartite Committee, benefiting from the help of experts, charged with the definition of the mechanisms and modes of functioning of the New Comorian Unity with the help of the International Community.

For the continuation of the process an annexed time-table is established fixing the coming stages leading up to the submission to a referendum of the “Acte Fondamental” (Fundamental Act) which will rule the Unity.

With account taken of the significant results obtained during the Inter Comorian Dialogue, which unequivocally show the joint engagement to create favourable conditions for the reinforcement of a favourable climate for the pursuit of the process which has thus begun

The Parties agree about the necessity to lift the embargo concerning Anjouan already at the signing of the present Declaration.

The Parties insistently ask the International Community to accompany these dynamics and to act with them for the total lifting of the embargo.

Time-table of the process of settling the crisis

This time-table, annexed to the Joint Declaration signed by the two Parties for the settlement crisis will spread over a period of 12 months maximum to be counted from the date of the signing of the Joint Declaration.

The stages and the respective length of each one of them are as follows:

1. Initiation of a Follow-Up Committee in charge of the decision upon the practical arrangements and of supervising their application during the period going from the signing of the Declaration to the initiation of the Institutions of the New Comorian Unity.
2. Initiation of the Tripartite Committee and search for international expertise: ... 2 months.
3. Drawing up of the Pre-Project of the “Acte Fondamental” by the Tripartite Committee: ...3 months.
4. General debate on the Pre-Project of the “Acte Fondamental” : ... 3 months.
5. Definitive editing of the Pre-Project: ...1 month.
6. Campaign for the adoption of the “Acte Fondamental” : ...1 month.

In its transitory stipulations, the “Acte Fondamental” will set the time-table of the initiation of the new institutions within a period which will not exceed six months after the date of its adoption.

For the Governmental Party

For the Anjouanaise Party

Colonel AZALI Assoumani

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