

## Press release 008/2014

### Human rights: the independent expert visits the CAR

**Bangui, March 4, 2014** - the Independent Expert on the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic (CAR), Mrs Marie Thérèse Keita Bocoum, has started, on 4 March 2014, a ten day visit in the CAR.

During this visit, the first of its kind since her appointment by the Human Rights Council on 21 January in Geneva, the independent expert will meet with key stakeholders in the country, including the Head of State of the Transition, Mrs Catherine Samba-Panza, members of the transitional government, religious leaders, and representatives of the civil society.

Mrs Marie Thérèse Keita Bocoum will also meet with some international partners, including members of the Diplomatic Corps and International Organizations, as well as MISCA and Sangaris Force Commanders. The program of Mrs Keita Bocoum also includes regional trips to Ndele (North) and Kaga- Bandoro (Centre).

At the end of her visit, the Independent Expert will present an oral update on the situation to the Human Rights Council at its twenty-fifth session, and will submit a preliminary report to the Council at its twenty-sixth session, pursuant to Council resolution 24/34 of 27 September 2014.

The mandate of the Independent Expert is to closely monitor the situation of human rights in the Central African Republic in order to make recommendations for an appropriate technical assistance programme to the country.

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