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**AFRICAN-LED INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT MISSION IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC  
(MISCA)**

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**PRESS STATEMENT**

**MISCA APPREHENDS LEADERS OF THE ANTI-BALAKA GROUP IN BANGUI**  
*The Mission pursues also its operations of escorting convoys along the corridor  
linking the Central African Republic with Cameroon*

**Bangui, 15 February 2014:** The African-led International Support Mission in the Central African Republic (MISCA) and elements of the Sangaris operation have today carried out a joint action to disarm criminal groups in the area of Boy Rabe, located in the 4th district of the Bangui city. This operation was carried out at the request of the CAR judicial authorities.

Elements of the MISCA police component, including criminal investigation police officers, started search, disarmament and arrest operations at 0600 hours local time, while military units from the two Forces cordoned the area.

Four (4) leaders of the anti-balaka group, whose names were on the list forwarded by the Public Prosecutor to the First Instance Court of Bangui to the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission and Head of MISCA, General Jean-Marie Michel Mokoko, were apprehended. Other individuals carrying illegally weapons and war ammunitions were also apprehended during that operation, which ended at 09h30. These individuals will be handed over to the CAR Judiciary.

During this disarmament operation, the MISCA and Sangaris elements seized several weapons of war, as well as an important quantity of ammunitions, artifices and other various types of military equipment.

Furthermore, it should be pointed out that MISCA also conducted, today, an escort mission along the Bangui-Beloko corridor, at the border with Cameroon. This escort mission, which was the fifth of its kind since 23 January 2014, made it possible to protect about 150 vehicles, including trucks for the transportation of commercial goods, which returned to Cameroon after unloading their cargoes.

MISCA reiterates its firm determination to fulfill its mandate in full impartiality and to put an end to the abuses of all the illegal armed groups which terrorize the civilian population. Thus, operations such as the one conducted today in the Boy Rabe area will be pursued and intensified in Bangui but also over the rest of the country. In so doing, the objective is to assist the CAR authorities restore public law and order and State authority throughout the CAR territory.

***For more information, please contact***

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