

FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR PEACE IN ITURI

between the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo

and the ITURI Armed Groups (MRC, FNI and FRPI)

Following negotiations between the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo and the ITURI armed groups, facilitated by MONUC, three bilateral agreements were signed. The present agreement presents the points previously agreed, in a single document. Thus the different parties agreed the following:

I - Commitments of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Congo

1. To propose a law of amnesty, for all members of the signatory groups. This law shall be presented as soon as the Parliament is in place, under terms similar to those already voted in 2003.
2. To recognise by assigning the rank of officer, the competence of Chiefs of Staff and heads of battalions in the armed groups.
3. To facilitate awareness raising and the regroupment of contingents in each group.

II - Commitments of the Armed Groups (MRC, FNI and FRPI)

1. Accept to comply with the principles of the National Programme of Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reinsertion (Programme National de Démobilisation, Désarmement et Réinsertion, PNDDR), with all that this implies, such as the principle of voluntary and individual choice of ex-combatants (reinsertion in civilian life or integration in FARDC). The groups undertake to respect the timetable already established for reaching the transit sites (FNI week 48, from 27 November to 3 December, MRC week 49, from 4 to 10 December, and FRPI week 50, from 11 to 17 December 11 2006). Entry into the process should start no later than 31 December 2006.
2. Accept to the voluntary handover of arms and to their verification and storage at the regroupment points, as a precondition of the process, in the presence of the FARDC and in collaboration with the MONUC.
3. Accept to the immediate and unconditional presence of child protection agencies at the regroupment points in order to identify and take into care any children so identified.

4. Accept to facilitate the movement of Congolese officials, of the MONUC and of humanitarian organisations, in the zones where contingents of the three groups are deployed. To forego any armed deployments throughout Ituri territory and to ensure that all elements respect the principles of “Bunia, Aveba and Kwandroma weapon-free towns”.

5. Accept to end, from today, all forms of harassment and maltreatment [tracasseries] towards the civilian population.

6. To appoint immediately two non-armed liaison officers per group who will liaise with the Commander of the ITURI Operational Zone, which shall provide the necessary resources for their movements with travel documents.

III. General provisions

1. The signatory parties agree to recognise the MONUC as facilitator and observer of the present process.

2. This agreement shall take effect upon signing by the relevant parties. It combines and supersedes all previous provisions.

3. The present agreement shall be signed in five original copies. Only the French version shall be valid.

4. Failure to comply with this agreement by all or any part of an armed group shall result in its exclusion from the process and any appropriate action to be taken against it.

Done at BUNIA, Wednesday 29 November 2006

Signatures

Pour le Gouvernement de la République Démocratique du Congo

M. Alexandre Mwarabu

Pour le Mouvement Révolutionnaire Congolais (MRC)

Colonel Mathieu Ngudjolo

Pour le Front des Nationalistes et Intégrationnistes (FNI)

Colonel Peter Kharim

Pour les Forces de Résistance Patriotique en Ituri (FRPI)