Letter dated 21 June 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions from my authorities, I have the honour to transmit herewith the letter of 21 June 2023 (see annex) by which the Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Mali confirms the request for the immediate withdrawal of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA), which was made on 16 June 2023 by the Government of the Republic of Mali at the 9350th meeting of the Security Council.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Issa Konfourou
Ambassador
Permanent Representative
Annex to the letter dated 21 June 2023 from the Permanent Representative of Mali to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to the 9350th meeting of the United Nations Security Council, held on 16 June 2023 in New York, during which I, among other matters, drew the attention of the members of the Council to the crisis of confidence that has developed, on the one hand, between the people of Mali and the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and, on the other, between the Government of Mali and MINUSMA.

I hereby confirm the request of the Government of the Republic of Mali for the immediate withdrawal of MINUSMA. However, the Government is willing to cooperate with the United Nations in that regard.

As you know, the complex crisis that Mali has been experiencing since January 2012, following the military intervention by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) in Libya in 2011, prompted the Government of Mali to seek support from regional and international partners.

However, it is necessary to acknowledge that, after a decade of support, the international response in support of national efforts has not succeeded in improving the security situation in Mali.

Consultations held in the context of the preparation of the report of the Secretary-General on the internal review of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) had raised hopes that a way would be found to remedy the Mission’s inadequacy in the face of the prevailing situation in Mali, which is characterized by the threat of terrorism. I regret to say that, despite our frank collaboration and our comments, the recommendations of the Secretary-General do not take into account the expectations of the Malian people and the priorities repeatedly expressed by the Government of Mali.

In this respect, and while the issue of MINUSMA is once again before the Security Council, the Government of Mali reiterates its commitment to working for the adoption of a resolution devoted exclusively to the logistics and plan for the immediate withdrawal of MINUSMA.

I would like to take this opportunity to restate the gratitude of the people and Government of Mali towards all partners, both bilateral and multilateral, including the United Nations, for the efforts and sacrifices they have made in seeking to establish peace and stability in Mali.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter brought to the attention of the members of the Security Council and issued as a document of the Council.

(Signed) Abdoulaye Diop
Minister for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation