

25<sup>th</sup> session of the Human Rights Council Item 10

## Interactive Dialogue with Independent Expert on Central African Republic (oral update) 26 March 2014 Delivered by Mr. Kizito Ssekitooleko

Thank you Mr. President

CIVICUS welcomes HC's report on the situation of CAR as well as the oral update of the Independent Expert. We wish to underline two particular aspects:-

- 1. CIVICUS notes that during the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR on CAR, a number of delegates were concerned about the humanitarian situation seen in grave abuses and violations, notably against the civilian population.
- 2. CIVICUS is deeply concerned that even after the Council adopted a Resolution at its 20<sup>th</sup> Special Session, these violations have continued and are now committed on large scale by ex-Seleka and anti-Balaka. There has been escalating bloodshed through use of machetes, torture, shootings, burning, explosions and lynching especially in Bangui, Boyali, Boda, Damara and Boboua. Over 2,000 people have died since December, 2013 and the conflict is degenerating into genocide. Further, there has been escalating use of hate speech and destruction of property, which has left half of the population in fear, displaced and in need of humanitarian aid.

## CIVICUS therefore demands the following:-

- a) An immediate halt on human rights violations.
- b) More deployment of regional and foreign troops to reduce on the violence and facilitate safe and free access to humanitarian aid by those in need.
- c) Technical assistance in rebuilding a functional state through restoring law and order, civil service, army, police and the judiciary.
- d) Establishment of a Truth and Reconciliation Commission to unite the worrying Muslims and Christians.
- e) CAR implements all recommendations it received and accepted during the 17<sup>th</sup> Session of the UPR.

Thank you Mr. President.