



OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AFTER A WORKING VISIT TO GHANA BY THE
PRESIDENT OF CHAD AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF
CENTRAL AFRICAN STATES, PRESIDENT GENERAL IDRISSE DÉBY ITNO

1. His Excellency John Dramani Mahama, President of the Republic of Ghana and Chairman of ECOWAS Authority of Heads of State and Government, received His Excellency Idriss Déby Itno, President of Chad and Chairperson of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) at the Peduase Lodge, Aburi, on Wednesday 18th March, 2015.
2. HE President Mahama welcomed his Chadian counterpart H. E. Idriss Déby Itno and his delegation to Ghana and expressed appreciation for the warm and brotherly bilateral relations between the two countries.
3. With regards to the activities of Boko Haram and the ongoing operations of the Multinational Joint Task Force in the Chadian Basin and particularly North-Eastern Nigeria, President John Dramani Mahama commended the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) for its decision to support the fight against the terrorist group in collaboration with ECOWAS and other international partners.
4. H. E. President Mahama specifically commended H. E. President Idriss Déby Itno, the government and people of Chad, particularly the Chadian Armed Forces for their leadership role in the ongoing fight against Boko Haram in Nigeria, Niger and Cameroon;
5. He noted that the capabilities of Chadian troops to deal with terrorists was not in doubt considering their role in the fight to oust al-Qaida-linked militants and related terrorist groups in Mali in 2013 and their peaceful role in resolving the crisis in the Central African Republic;
6. He reiterated the unflinching support of Ghana and ECOWAS to the war against Boko Haram in the affected countries.



7. On his part the President of Chad and Chairman of ECCAS thanked President Mahama and the people of Ghana for the warm reception accorded him and his delegation since their arrival in the country. He further called for an avenue to be created for discussions to further deepen the relationship between the two countries.
8. He briefed his Ghanaian counterpart on the outcome of the Summit of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), under the umbrella of the Council for Peace and Security in Central Africa (COPAX), on 16th February 2015 in Yaounde, Cameroon on Boko Haram.
9. After thorough discussions relating to peace and security within ECOWAS and ECCAS as well as bilateral relations between Ghana and Chad, President Mahama and President Idriss Déby tasked the Foreign Ministries of the two countries to work out the framework for Cooperation.
10. In pursuance of lasting peace and security within ECOWAS and ECCAS, the two Chairmen agreed to the holding of a Joint Summit between the two regional blocs on 7th and 8th April 2015 to define a common strategy in their fight against the Boko Haram terrorist group.
11. The Summit will be preceded by a meeting of experts on 21st March 2015 and a Ministerial meeting on 23rd March 2015.
12. The two Presidents called for the total support and understanding of the international community towards the activities of the Multinational Joint Task Force in the Lake Chad Basin. They also called on member states of ECOWAS and ECCAS to reinforce surveillance in their respective territories, sensitize their nationals, reduce risks of infiltrations of Boko Haram members inside their national borders, and work to eradicate supplies network of the insurgents.



13. In conclusion they both agreed that the meeting had been fruitful in fostering relations between ECCAS and ECOWAS as well as between Ghana and Chad.

14. Present at the meeting were:

Ghana:

1. Ambassador Baba Kamara, National Security Advisor
2. Dr. Edward K. Omane Boamah, Minister for Communications
3. Mr. Alex Segbefia, Deputy Minister for Defence
4. Alhaji Salifu Osman, Deputy National Security Coordinator
5. Ambassador Leslie Christian, Chief Director Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Chad:

1. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Minister for Foreign Affairs & African Integration.
2. Mr. Benaïdo Tatola, Minister for Defence
3. Dr. Hassan Tchonaï Elimi, Chief of Staff
4. Ambassador Ahmad Allam-mi, Secretary General of ECCA
5. Loum Hinaïssou Laina, Security Adviser

Done in Accra, on the 18th Day of March 2015.