



PRESS RELEASE

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Directorate of Communication

ECOWAS AND UNOWAS TO DEPLOY HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL MISSION TO GUINEA BISSAU TO SUPPORT POLITICAL EFFORTS TOWARDS PEACE AND STABILITY IN THE COUNTRY

from February 23 – 28, 2025.

The President of the Commission H.E. Dr Omar Alieu TOURAY is deploying a high-level political mission to Bissau from February 23 to 28, 2025, to support national efforts towards peace and stability. The mission is in line with the directive of the 66th Ordinary Session of the Authority of Heads of States and Government held on 15th December 2024 in Abuja, Nigeria, to “deploy a high-level political mission to the country to support efforts by the political actors and stakeholders towards political consensus on the electoral calendar” and “to accompany Guinea Bissau with the requisite technical support towards a successful electoral cycle and the promotion of peace, security, and stability in the country”.

The Mission will be led by **Ambassador Bagudu HIRSE**, former Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Nigeria and will be jointly undertaken with UNOWAS. The High-level Political Mission will comprise **H.E. Kalilou TRAORE**, Ambassador of Cote d'Ivoire to Nigeria, representing the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC); **H.E. Babatunde O. AJISOMO**, Special Assistant to the Head of Mission; **Mr. Cherno Mamoudu JALLOW**, Former Senior Political Advisor, Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General in the DRC & MONUSCO and **Mr. Papa Birame SENE**, Head of Communication and Public Relations Division, Directorate of Elections, Senegal.

A technical team, including **H.E. Ngozi UKAEJE**, ECOWAS Resident Representative in Guinea Bissau, and staff of the Directorate of Political Affairs of the ECOWAS Commission, will provide technical assistance to the Mission.

While in the country the mission will hold consultations with the government and other critical stakeholders in the political and security developments in the country.

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