



ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Statement by the Co-Presidents ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly

Messrs Louis Michel and Musikari Kombo, Co-Presidents of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, have called for an immediate end to the persecution of political opponents, the release of all political prisoners, the Government's openness to opposition, the restructuring of the Transition institutions based on the principles of consensus, inclusiveness and political equity, freedom of the press, the independence of justice, the guarantee of an unconditional return for political exiles, including Marc Ravalomanana, in accordance with Article 20 of the Roadmap, among other things.

They stressed the need to bring the Malagasy people's suffering to an end.

They support the Southern African Development Community (SADC), as a neutral party, in the speedy and full implementation of a plan to lead the country out of crisis.

Only a transition that is consensual and inclusive, under the aegis and with the assistance of the international community, would give rise to a transparent and independent electoral process leading to democratic presidential elections.

They have called for the four party leaders to hold a summit as soon as possible.