

DR CONGO – STOP THE MASSACRES IN BENI

To Secretary-General of the United Nations

To United Nations Security Council

To President of the European Parliament

To the International Criminal Court

To the International Court of Justice in The Hague

To African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights

To the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

- In Beni area, located in the north-east of Democratic Republic of Congo, frightful massacres have taken place recently and are still going on: many civilians of the Nande ethnic group have been slaughtered, arms have been lopped off children, women have been ripped open after having been raped, entire families have been massacred and ruthlessly killed.
- On 14th May 2016 local coordinators of the different civil society groups of Beni, Lubero and Butembo denounced with a public letter the slaying of 1,116 people, while the abductions officially registered during last two years amount to 1,470.
- The uninterrupted series of brutal murders carried out against the defenseless population in many villages of the area, despite the UN peacekeeping forces and the Congolese military, is highly worrisome and adumbrates a dreadfully cruel criminal plan to wipe away all civilians with much terror and violence.

We ask:

1. that the international community, and particularly the UN Security Council under pressure by its European member States, implements every action to put an end to the massacres as soon as possible;

2. that the International Criminal Court, the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights and the International Court of Justice in The Hague promote an inquiry about the crimes accomplished in this part of the Democratic Republic of Congo
3. that the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy promotes an inquiry about these massacres, both in the European and international community;
4. that the European Union considers sending a special delegate in the Beni area, to draw up with utmost urgency a formal report to be addressed to European Parliament, to member States Governments and to the most relevant European organizations;
5. that to the present monitoring aim of the UN Stabilization Mission MONUSCO, it is quickly added the authority to intervene in the Beni area, so that it is enabled to indeed protect and safeguard effectively the civil inhabitants from the expanding violence of fighters;
6. that, given the fact that illegal mineral trade is the main source of support for armed groups, the European Union promptly approves and puts into practice the “conflict minerals” regulation, whose framework has recently been negotiated, so that trades are carefully tracked, and contrast to illegal funding of conflicts becomes more effective.

Made in Rovereto (Italy), July 30th 2016

To see the promoters' list and sign the petition, please visit the following link:
<https://www.change.org/p/stop-the-massacres-in-beni-dr-congo>