

SOCIALIST MOVEMENT OF GHANA (SMG)

7th January 2024

Condemnation

Akufo-Addo's Betrayal of the People of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic & Africa

Our attention has been drawn to a note stamped on 6 January 2025 (yesterday) with reference number *SCR/PO/SADR*, purporting to be from Ghana's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Relations. The Note purports to "..suspend diplomatic relations with SADR" as part of "an effort to find an acceptable solution to the Western Sahara dispute under the auspices of the United Nations".

This document is another dastardly parting shot from the Akufo-Addo Administration to the Mahama Administration that assumed office today, 7 January 2025. It seeks to disrupt long-standing national, subregional, and continental solidarity with SADR in its anti-colonial struggles. It aims to advance the interests of the Western imperialist bloc, particularly France and Israel, along with its agent (Morocco), who have held the People of the Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic in colonial slavery since the European colonialists (principally Spain) pulled out of Western Sahara on February 28, 1976.

The Polisario Front's declaration of a Saharawi Arab Democratic Republic in February 1976 precipitated a bloody military campaign by a new coloniser, Morocco, against the People of Western Sahara and domestic suppression of widespread dissent in Morocco itself. Eventually, the two sides agreed a ceasefire on September 6, 1991. Several UN resolutions have called for a peaceful referendum amongst the People of the SADR to settle the territory's status. For over three decades, Rabat has frustrated all efforts to hold such a referendum and has increased the intensity of its repression of the Saharawi People, many of whom are forced to live in concentration camps in the Sahara desert. After endless betrayals by the Moroccan monarchy, the People of Saharawi Republic, on November 13, 2020, announced the resumption of armed struggle to achieve final independence from Moroccan colonialism. Continental revulsion at Morocco's violent colonialism is the reason why that country cannot participate in the African Union.

In recent years, France (which is struggling tooth and nail to maintain its own failing neo-colonial position in Africa and seeks to exploit SADR mineral and fishery resources) has urged an "approach" that promotes Morocco's colonial claims. President Macron is manoeuvring for continued Moroccan sovereignty over Western Sahara with a "measure" of self-governance for the area's people and "guarantees" of human rights protection. No credible African government has shown support for this desperate French move. Indeed, it is evident that more and more African countries seek to end French influence in our affairs, except the Akufo-Addo administration. President Akufo-Addo (recently honoured for his treachery by "elevation" to the rank of "Grand Officer" of the French "Legion of Honour") and his Foreign Minister are happy to be used by France to promote imperialist interests above the aspirations of the Saharawi People and the oft-confirmed, anti-colonial and proplebiscite position of the African Union and the United Nations. They should bow their heads in utter shame.

The Socialist Movement of Ghana condemns this rank betrayal of fellow Africans fighting for the right to self-determination and against violent oppression. We call on the Mahama Administration to reverse this position as a priority. Our nation was founded on the principle that all peoples have a right to self-determination and freedom from rule by colonial exploiters. This has been the cornerstone of our foreign policy since 1957. We will not surrender this principle so that Akufo-Addo can deck himself in foreign bling as a faithful servant of French colonialism.

LONG LIVE THE SAHARAWI ARAB DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC!

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LONG LIVE ANTI-COLONIALISM AND SELF-DETERMINATION

Kwesi Pratt Jnr

General Secretary

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