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Press Release Abuja

## <u>Centre for Democracy and Development Condemns the Rising Political Unrest in</u> Guinea

The Centre for Democracy and Development (CDD) expresses concern over the ongoing political unrest in Guinea. We deplore the violence that has recorded several lives during political/opposition protests calling for transparency in the upcoming elections scheduled for June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2013. CDD particularly condemns the attack on unarmed protesters, journalists and other stakeholders during protests. We regret the recent killings of protesters and find worrisome the killings of opposition youths between the ages of 14 and 22 years old.

We enjoin the Guinean government to look into the argument of the opposition party that Waymark and its local partner engaged for the review of voters' list be dropped and another operator selected through an open bid tender process. This will not only prevent the boycott of the elections but reinforce the transparency and credibility of the electoral process.

CDD enjoins opposition parties, civil society organizations and the government to work together towards ensuring a free, fair, credible and violent free election.

## CDD further Demands the following;

- The Guinean government led by President Alpha Conde immediately set up investigations into the killings of protesters;
- The Guinean Electoral Commission ensures free, fair and credible elections are conducted during the June 30<sup>th</sup> elections.

- That the UN and its Mediator for the Guinea Crisis, Mr. Said Djinnit hastens the dialogue process amongst all parties for peace and security to prevail;
- That opposition parties be peaceful, maintain calm and refrain from acts likely to undermine the ongoing electoral process;
- The Guinean government under the leadership of President Alpha Conde ensures the human rights of protesters, oppositions and citizens alike are upheld;
- That the use of live bullets, tear gas etc. by security agencies against protesters is immediately halted.
- That all parties exercise restraint and work towards the conduct of a free, fair and credible elections in accordance with the Declaration on non-violence signed on April 23, 2013.

Signed

Jibrin Ibrahim, Ph.D.

Director