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Press Release

Mohamed Ibn Chambas calls on the safeguard of an environment conducive to the organization of peaceful elections

Dakar, 22 December 2015- The Special Representative of the UN Secretary General and Head of the United Nations Office for West Africa (UNOWA), Mr. Mohamed Ibn Chambas, is closely following the situation in Niger.

Mr. Ibn Chambas wishes to recall the rejection by the international community, including the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), of seizure of power by the use of unconstitutional methods, and the application of the zero tolerance principle regarding coups d'état.

At this crucial time when Niger and all the countries of the region are facing several security challenges including activities of various terrorist groups, Mr. Ibn Chambas encourages Niger stakeholders to safeguard peace in the country.

The Special Representative stresses in particular that eight weeks from the presidential and legislative elections scheduled to take place on 21 February 2016, it is essential that all parties in Niger ensure an environment which is conducive to the organization of peaceful, credible, transparent elections, which conform to international standards.

Mohamed Ibn Chambas is in contact with the parties in Niger and plans to undertake a mission in the country in the coming weeks.

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