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Guinean head of state and president of the Comité National de Redressement et du Développement (CNRD) military council Col. Mamadi Doumbouya (2021-present) has appointed Dr. Dansa Kourouma as head of the Conseil National de la Transition (CNT) (national transition council) and confirmed members of the 81-member body. Former president Alpha Condé (2010-2021) undertakes medical check-ups in Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates). Cour d'Appel de Conakry (Conakry court of appeal) attorney general Charles Wright submits several corruption-related files for investigation by the Cour de Répression des Infractions Économiques et Financières (CRIEF) (economic and financial crimes court) and other judicial bodies across Guinea. The health ministry has confirmed the presence of the Omicron variant of Covid-19 in Guinea and initiated a mass Covid-19 vaccination programme for 12-17-year-old children in Conakry and Kindia regions to boost faltering vaccination rates.

Transition council president and membership confirmed

Guinea's head of state and president of the **Comité National de Redressement et du Développement (CNRD)** military council, Col. **Mamadi Doumbouya** (2021-present), has appointed **Dansa Kourouma** as head of the **Conseil National de la Transition (CNT)** (national transition council).¹ Doumbouya also confirmed the 81 members of the CNT, which will serve as a provisional legislative body and formulate the draft constitution. The CNT will also collaborate with the CNRD to establish an electoral timetable, amongst other responsibilities.² **Maïmouno Yombouno** will serve as first vice president and **El Hadj Sény Facinet Sylla** second vice president.³

President Doumbouya announced Kourouma's appointment as CNT head by decree on 22 January.⁴ Kourouma, a medical doctor, was president of the **Conseil National des Organisations de la Société Civile de Guinée (CNOSC-G)** at the time of his designation as CNT leader.⁵ The establishment of the CNT was stipulated in the **Transition Charter**, a 13-page document released in September that outlines the legal and organisational framework for the transition period (see *ARC Briefing Guinea Oct 2021*). According to Article 57 of the Transition Charter, the CNT will serve as an 81-member consultative body, comprising representatives from Guinea's societal components who will be referred to as advisers.⁶ The CNT will be tasked with drawing up a draft constitution, which will be tabled at a referendum and, in collaboration with the CNRD and "forces vives" (living forces), confirm the duration of the transition.⁷

Kourouma's appointment occurred after months of speculation regarding the eventual establishment of the CNT. Prime minister **Mohamed Béavogui** assured delegates to the **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)** 60th Ordinary Summit in **Abuja (Nigeria)** on 12 December that the CNT members would be confirmed by the end of December (see *ARC Briefing Guinea Dec 2021*). However, the CNRD's failure to adhere to this deadline raised doubt about its willingness to return

¹ Africa Guinée, 22 Jan 2022

² Anadolu Agency, 23 Jan 2022

³ Jeune Afrique, 23 Jan 2022

⁴ GuinéeNews.org, 22 Jan 2022

⁵ Africa Guinée, 22 Jan 2022

⁶ Anadolu Agency, 23 Jan 2022

⁷ Jeune Afrique, 23 Jan 2022

power to a civilian-led government.⁸ The CNRD justified the delay in the membership confirmation saying the territorial administration ministry had to “*meticulously*” study the files of the 700 applicants for CNT representation.⁹

Kourouma’s selection was not a surprise. Since the 5 September coup, he has served as one of Doumbouya’s closest allies, without an official position in his cabinet or in the CNRD.¹⁰ Within the CNRD, Kourouma is also a protégé of Guinea’s army chief of staff, Col. **Sadiba Coulibaly**, and an associate of territorial administration minister **Moury Condé**, with whom he worked in civil society activities.¹¹ However, Kourouma has ties to the former regime, as he had close relations with former prime minister **Ibrahima Kassory Fofana**.¹² While Kourouma did not endorse former president **Alpha Condé**’s (2010-2021) decision to change the 2010 constitution, he did not align himself with the civil society opposition consortium, the **Front National Pour La Défense De La Constitution (FNDC)**.¹³ Unlike the FNDC, Kourouma and the CNOSC-G recognised Condé’s victory in the October 2020 presidential election.¹⁴ Nevertheless, Kourouma appears to possess the requisite experience for his new role, having served as the rapporteur for the commission that drew up the 2010 constitution.¹⁵

Opposition parties have welcomed Kourouma’s appointment. **Union Démocratique de Guinée (UDG)** president and head of opposition in the previous **Assemblée Nationale** (national assembly) **Mamdou Sylla** congratulated Kourouma, acknowledging his credentials and expressing hope that CNT members would work in the interests of the nation.¹⁶ **Bloc Libéral** leader **Faya Millimouno** echoed Sylla’s sentiments, suggesting Kourouma’s abundant knowledge and experience qualify him for the position and will help in drafting the new constitution.¹⁷

While there is consensus regarding the head of the CNT, this is less evident concerning the CNT membership.¹⁸ Among the societal stakeholders allocated CNT membership, political parties have the largest representation with 15 members, followed by civil society’s 13 members. Defence and security have nine representatives.¹⁹ Each of Guinea’s major political parties, including the **Union des Forces Démocratiques de la Guinée (UFDG)**, **Union des Forces Républicaines (UFR)**, **Parti de l’Espoir pour le Développement National (PEDN)** and the former ruling party the **Rassemblement du Peuple de Guinée (RPG) Arc-en-Ciel (RPG-AEC)**, was granted a single representative.²⁰ However, this equal partition of membership has not pleased all political parties. The **Alliance Nationale pour l’Alternance Démocratique (ANAD)** political coalition, through its leader **Cellou Dalein Diallo**, expressed surprise that only one party, the UFDG, out of ANAD’s 24 member parties, was selected, despite the ANAD having been promised four representatives.²¹ **Collectif des Partis Politiques (CPP)** political alliance spokesperson **Kéamou Haba** also expressed anger at the inclusion of the RPG-AEC, which he claims does not deserve membership.²² RPG-AEC secretary general **Saloum Cissé** also expressed dismay that his party’s preferred candidate was not selected.²³

The establishment of the CNT is likely to reduce pressure from the international community, most notably, ECOWAS, the **European Union (EU)** and the **United States (US)**, which had all called for the

⁸ ARC Guinea analyst

⁹ Jeune Afrique, 23 Jan 2022

¹⁰ Jeune Afrique, 25 Jan 2022

¹¹ Jeune Afrique, 25 Jan 2022

¹² Jeune Afrique, 25 Jan 2022

¹³ Jeune Afrique, 25 Jan 2022

¹⁴ Jeune Afrique, 25 Jan 2022

¹⁵ Jeune Afrique, 25 Jan 2022

¹⁶ GuinéeNews.org, 23 Jan 2022

¹⁷ GuinéeNews.org, 23 Jan 2022

¹⁸ ARC Guinea analyst

¹⁹ Africa Guinée, 22 Jan 2022

²⁰ Africa Guinée, 22 Jan 2022

²¹ GuinéeNews.org, 23 Jan 2022

²² GuinéeNews.org, 23 Jan 2022

²³ Africa Guinée, 22 Jan 2022

institution to be formalised. It remains to be seen if this development will be sufficient for ECOWAS to remove the sanctions it has imposed on the CNRD.²⁴

Condé travels to UAE for medical treatment

Former president Alpha Condé has left Guinea to undertake medical check-ups in **Abu Dhabi (United Arab Emirates, UAE)**.²⁵ Condé's departure was his first public appearance since his overthrow on 5 September. During a televised speech broadcast on 31 December, President Doumbouya declared that the 83-year-old Condé had been authorised to leave Guinea to carry out medical examinations.²⁶ Doumbouya said the decision had been taken following discussions with ECOWAS and that Condé's trip would not exceed one month, unless doctors deemed it necessary.²⁷ Condé boarded a private aircraft on 17 January, along with his personal doctor and two bodyguards.²⁸ There was speculation that Condé's final destination could be **Côte d'Ivoire, Qatar, Turkey** or the UAE.²⁹

Before the CNRD granted Condé's travel authorisation, ECOWAS had explicitly requested the release of the former president who had been held incommunicado for 12 weeks after the coup.³⁰ In November, he was transferred from the **Palais Mohamed V** and placed under house arrest at the private Conakry residence of his wife and former first lady, **Hadja Djéne Kaba**. A collective called the **Forum National pour la Libération du Prof. Alpha Condé (FONAL-PRAC)** was created in November to lobby for his release and organised protests to this end in December (see *ARC Briefing Guinea Nov-Dec 2021*). The CNRD reportedly stipulated several conditions before Condé was allowed to travel, including obtaining guarantees from ECOWAS that he would return and would not make any public pronouncements while seeking medical care.³¹ Condé was issued with a new passport, as his old passport described him as head of state.

Most of the Guinean political class view the travel authorisation as a humanitarian gesture, with the CNRD having stated that it would treat Condé with the respect that a former head of state deserves.³² RPG-AEC spokesperson **Souleymane Keita** said the photos of Condé were reassuring to his supporters.³³ However, FNDC head of operations **Ibrahima Diallo** expressed concern about whether the former head of state would return to Guinea to face trial for the alleged crimes committed during his presidency.³⁴ **Alseny Sall**, spokesperson the **Organisation Guinéenne des Droits de l'Homme (OGDH)** (Guinean human rights' organisation), said it is up to the CNRD to ensure Condé returns to Guinea within the timeframe stipulated, so he can appear before a court of law.³⁵

Attorney general launches anti-corruption investigations

The **Procureur Général** (attorney general) at the **Cour d'Appel de Conakry** (Conakry court of Appeal) has submitted several files for investigation by the newly established **Cour de Répression des Infractions Économiques et Financières (CRIEF)** (economic and financial crimes court).³⁶ Attorney general **Charles Wright** said the investigations are part of the country's attempt to improve public administration and transparency as well as fight corruption.³⁷ On 21 January Wright instructed the **Tribunaux de Première Instance** (courts of first instance) within the jurisdiction of the Conakry

²⁴ ARC Guinea analyst

²⁵ Africanews, 17 Jan 2022

²⁶ Jeune Afrique, 1 Jan 2022

²⁷ Jeune Afrique, 1 Jan 2022

²⁸ Jeune Afrique, 17 Jan 2022

²⁹ Jeune Afrique, 17 Jan 2022

³⁰ Africanews, 5 Jan 2022

³¹ Jeune Afrique, 17 Jan 2022

³² RFI, 19 Jan 2022

³³ RFI, 19 Jan 2022

³⁴ RFI, 19 Jan 2022

³⁵ RFI, 19 Jan 2022

³⁶ Vision Guinée, 21 Jan 2022

³⁷ Africa Guinée, 26 Jan 2022

Court of appeal to initiate legal proceedings against directors general and accountants at state entities including:

- **Fonds d'appui à la promotion du gaz butane** (butane gas promotion support fund)
- **Administration Générale et Contrôle des Grands Projets (ACGP)** (general administration and control of major projects)
- **Office Guinéen de Publicité (OGP)** (Guinean publicity office)
- **Fonds National de l'Urbanisme et de l'Habitat** (fund for town planning and housing)
- **Bureau Guinéen de Droit d'Auteur (BGDA)** (Guinean copyright office)
- **Office National du Tourisme (ONT)** (national tourism office)
- **Fonds d'Investissement Minier (FIM)** (mining investment fund)
- **Institut National d'Assurance Maladie Obligatoire (INAMO)** (national institute of compulsory health insurance)
- **Bureau national d'expertise des diamants, or et autres matières précieuses** (national expertise office for diamonds, gold and other precious materials).³⁸

Audit files of 16 institutions and state-oriented transactions have been sent to the CRIEF.³⁹ Organisations cited in the audit include **Air-Guinée**, **Banque Centrale de la République de Guinée (BCRG)** (central bank) and the **Fonds d'Entretien Routier (FER)** (road maintenance fund).⁴⁰ Wright also revealed that the **Inspection Générale d'Etat** (state inspectorate general) uncovered eight cases of money laundering, corruption, embezzlement of public funds, forgery and use of forgery in public writing and complicity.⁴¹ Also implicated in the investigations were **Djoma SA**, **Djoma Logistique** and **Djoma Groupe SA**, which are accused of various acts of corruption, with 185.4 billion GNF (\$20.5m) of allegedly ill-gotten funds found in the various company accounts.⁴² The Djoma firms, which were involved in mining sector activities, are reportedly owned by a former employee at the presidency during Condé's term of office.⁴³

Doumbouya appears to be making good on the CNRD's promise to tackle corruption and other economic crimes, noting at the 22 January swearing in of CRIEF officials that he would no longer allow Guinea to be violated.⁴⁴ Economy and finance minister **Lanciné Condé** issued a communique suspending 21 high-ranking officials identified by **Agence Judiciaire de l'État** (state judicial agency) head **Mohamed Sampil** on 13 December for alleged embezzlement of public funds and property, forgery and the use of property (see *ARC Briefing Guinea Dec 2021*).⁴⁵ Local reports also suggest that former Condé regime ministers could soon see their assets frozen.⁴⁶

Guinea confirms Omicron presence and launches mass vaccination campaign

Guinea's health ministry confirmed on 29 December that it had detected the Omicron variant of **Covid-19** in the country.⁴⁷ The **Agence Nationale de la Sécurité Sanitaire de la Guinée (ANSS)** (national health security agency) encouraged Guineans to get tested for Covid-19 if they experience flu-like symptoms.⁴⁸ The health ministry issued a statement on 3 January confirming a surge in Covid-19 cases which it blamed on the population's failure to respect social distancing guidelines as well as the low vaccination rate.⁴⁹ As of 24 January, Guinea had confirmed 36,013 cases of Covid-19 in its

³⁸ GuinéeNews.org, 21 Jan 2022

³⁹ Africa Guinée, 21 Jan 2022

⁴⁰ Africa Guinée, 21 Jan 2022

⁴¹ Africa Guinée, 21 Jan 2022

⁴² GuinéeNews.org, 21 Jan 2022

⁴³ RFI, 22 Jan 2022

⁴⁴ Africa Guinée, 22 Jan 2022

⁴⁵ GuinéeNews.org, 26 Jan 2022

⁴⁶ Africa Guinée, 22 Jan 2022

⁴⁷ Anadolu Agency, 30 Dec 2021

⁴⁸ Anadolu Agency, 30 Dec 2021

⁴⁹ ANSS, 3 Jan 2022

population of roughly 12 million, with 31,870 recoveries and 416 Covid-19-related deaths, while 4,673,214 doses of Covid vaccine had been administered.⁵⁰

In response to the surge in Covid cases, the health ministry provided a list of Covid-19 restrictive measures, including the presentation of a vaccine passport (seven days negative test or proof of vaccination) to access public buildings and the compulsory wearing of protective face masks.⁵¹ A vaccination campaign targeting children aged 12-17 took place in **Conakry** and **Kindia** regions from 7-21 January.⁵² The initiative, jointly coordinated by the health and education ministries alongside the ANSS, aims to vaccinate 85% of children in that age range by the end of February.⁵³

The ANSS on 20 January issued a new set of regulations for international travelers arriving at the **Aéroport Internationale Ahmed Sékou Touré**. Henceforth, all arriving passengers, from six years old and above, will have to present negative PCR tests not older than 72 hours.⁵⁴ All passengers, 18 years and above, will have to be fully vaccinated upon arrival in Guinea.

Planner

(Date TBA due to Covid-19) **Conakry (Guinea)** Transform Africa Conference;
 2023 **Conakry (Guinea)** Guinea Investment Forum;
 2026 **Conakry (Guinea)** Start of exploitation at the **Simandou** iron ore project;

Chronology

26 Jan 2021 **Conakry (Guinea)** *GuinéeNews.org*. Economy and finance minister **Lanciné Condé** issues a communique suspending 21 high-ranking officials for alleged embezzlement of public funds

22 Jan 2022 **Conakry (Guinea)** *Africa Guinée*. **Dansa Kourouma** is appointed head of the **Conseil National de Transition (CNT)** (national transition council), Guinea's 81-member provisional legislative body;

18 Jan 2021 **Conakry (Guinea)** *Panapress*. High-level **Malian** delegation visits Guinea, to discuss ways to strengthen bilateral ties following the pacing of sanctions on the Malian military junta by the **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)**;

17 Jan 2021 **Conakry (Guinea)** *GuinéeNews.org*. Former president **Alpha Condé** leaves Guinea to seek medical treatment in the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)** and makes his first public appearance since his overthrow in a September 2021 military coup

15 Jan 2021 **Conakry (Guinea)** *Africa Guinée*. Military council **Comité National du Rassemblement et du Développement (CNRD)** president Col. **Mamadi Doumbouya** and his prime minister, **Mohamed Béavogui**, meet political leaders to provide assurances concerning the establishment of the **Conseil National de la Transition** (national transition council), which will serve as the country's interim legislative body;

11 Jan 2022 **(West Africa)** *Koaci.com*. **Annadif Mahamet Saleh**, special representative for the **United Nations** secretary general for **West African and the Sahel**, says the rise in coups across the region is due to political activity that goes contrary to aspirations of the general public;

10 Jan 2022 **Conakry (Guinea)** *GuinéeNews.org*. The ruling **Comité National du Rassemblement et du Développement (CNRD)** announces it will not apply the sanctions that the **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)** has said its members should impose on the **Malian** military junta;

⁵⁰ ANSS, 26 Jan 2022

⁵¹ ANSS, 3 Jan 2022

⁵² RFI, 9 Jan 2022

⁵³ RFI, 9 Jan 2022

⁵⁴ ANSS, 24 Jan 2022

7 Jan 2022 **Conakry (Guinea)** *Africa Guinée*. During a meeting with leaders of press media associations, President **Mamadi Doumbouya** promises to uphold freedom of expression during the transition period, but notes he will not tolerate “*disorder*”;

5 Jan 2022 **Conakry (Guinea)** *GuinéeNews.org*. Former president **Alpha Condé** has reportedly received a diplomatic passport that will allow him to travel abroad for medical reasons in his first trip outside Guinea since the 5 September coup;

4 Jan 2022 **Conakry (Guinea)** *Agence Ecofin*. **Bureau Veritas** has awarded **Conakry Terminal**, a subsidiary of France-based **Bolloré Ports** and operator of the **Port Autonome de Conakry** container terminal, a Green Terminal label;

31 Dec 2021 **Conakry (Guinea)** *Africa Guinée*. The **Comité National du Rassemblement et du Développement (CNRD)** military junta has authorised deposed former president **Alpha Condé** to leave the country in order to receive medical care;

29 Dec 2021 **Conakry (Guinea)** *GuinéeNews.org*. President **Col. Mamady Doumbouya** appoints **Fodé Bangoura** president of the **Cour Suprême** (supreme court), **Noel Kolomou** head of the **Cour de Répression des Infractions Economiques et Financières (CRIEF)** (economic and financial crimes court) and **Alphonse Charles Wright** as **Procureur General** (attorney general);

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Getting in touch

Please contact us by email info@africariskconsulting.com or call + 44 (0) 20 7078 4080

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