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March 15, 2012

PRESS RELEASE

Presidential Elections in Guinea-Bissau March 16, 2012

As Bissau-Guineans go to the presidential polls on March 18, we encourage all registered voters to make their voices heard by casting their ballot, and doing so peacefully. We also call on Bissau-Guinean authorities to uphold internationally-recognized electoral standards to ensure that these elections reflect the will of the people of Guinea-Bissau.

We call on all Bissau-Guineans, including security forces, to exercise restraint in the days leading up to, and following, the elections.

The United States remains a long-standing friend of the Bissau-Guinean people, and we will continue to support their aspirations for peace, stability, and prosperity. Regardless of the outcome, we look forward to working with the government and people of Guinea-Bissau to ensure progress and lasting peace in the region.

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