

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Office of the Spokesperson

For Immediate Release

September 16, 2015

STATEMENT BY SPOKESPERSON JOHN KIRBY

Recent Actions By Elements of the Presidential Guard in Burkina Faso

The United States is deeply concerned about the unfolding events in Burkina Faso. We call for the immediate release of President Kafando, Prime Minister Zida, and all other officials being held.

The United States strongly condemns any attempt to seize power through extra-constitutional means or resolve internal political disagreements using force.

We call for an immediate end to violence, urge the military personnel involved to return to their primary mission, and reaffirm our steadfast support for the civilian transitional government to continue its work of preparing for free, fair, and credible elections on October 11.

###

Approved: AF/FO

Drafted: AF/W Nachama Rosen ext. 7-0033, after-hours: 312-860-0378

Cleared: AF/W: V. Trim (ok)
AF/W: D. Yeboah (ok)
AF/W: J. Hughes (ok)
Embassy Ouagadougou: D. Young (ok)
P: E. Anderson (ok)
S/P: J. Temin (ok)
D: K. Pappas (ok)
D-MR: C. Temen (ok)
DRL: C. Laprise (ok)
L/FO: M. Banos (ok)