



Weekly Report

Mali

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**MAY 30 – JUNE 5,
2014**

- 1** International Crisis Group pens letter to UN Security Council
- 2** Mali government and rebels meet

International Crisis Group pens letter to UN Security Council

- International Crisis Group (ICG) urged the UN Security Council to establish a UN-led mediation mechanism.
- ICG suggested two ways this could be done: to amend the mandate of the UN mission to include mediation, and not only facilitation, of the talks between the two sides of the conflict; or to appoint an independent envoy to act as mediator.
- In either situation, the mediator will need the support of Mali's partners, including France and Algeria.
- Meaningful talks between the two parties of the conflict are essential for the restoration of peace in Mali.
- Source: International Crisis Group

<http://www.crisisgroup.org/en/publication-type/media-releases/2014/africa/open-letter-to-the-un-security-council-on-mali.aspx>

Malian government officials and Tuareg (NMLA) representatives meet

- Representatives from both sides met in the capital of Burkina Faso late last week.
- This was a preliminary meeting with a goal of gauging the situation after the recent fighting in the north.
- NMLA spokesperson Moussa ag Attaher, who participated in the meeting, said it was a "positive first step".
- Source: Voice of America

<http://www.voanews.com/content/mali-government-meets-with-rebels-/1926135.html>

"For months, MINUSMA has played a vital role in calming tensions between the army and the northern movements, but without political progress, this can only delay new violence."

– Louise Arbour, President and CEO, International Crisis Group
