

29 October 2014

News release

Burkina Faso citizens voice strong support for two-term limit

Two-thirds of Burkina Faso citizens favour a two-term limit on presidential mandates, according to the most recent Afrobarometer survey.

In the 2012 survey, 65% of respondents agreed – including 42% who “strongly agreed” – with the statement that “The Constitution should limit the president to serving a maximum of two terms in office” (see Figure 1 below). This finding reflected an 11 percentage point increase from the 2008 Afrobarometer survey, with majority support in both urban (77%) and rural (60%) areas.

Burkina Faso's Parliament is set to vote on a constitutional amendment to allow the president to stand for a third term.

Among 34 African countries surveyed during Afrobarometer's Round 5 (2011-13), all but one (Algeria) expressed majority support for term limits (Figure 2).

Afrobarometer

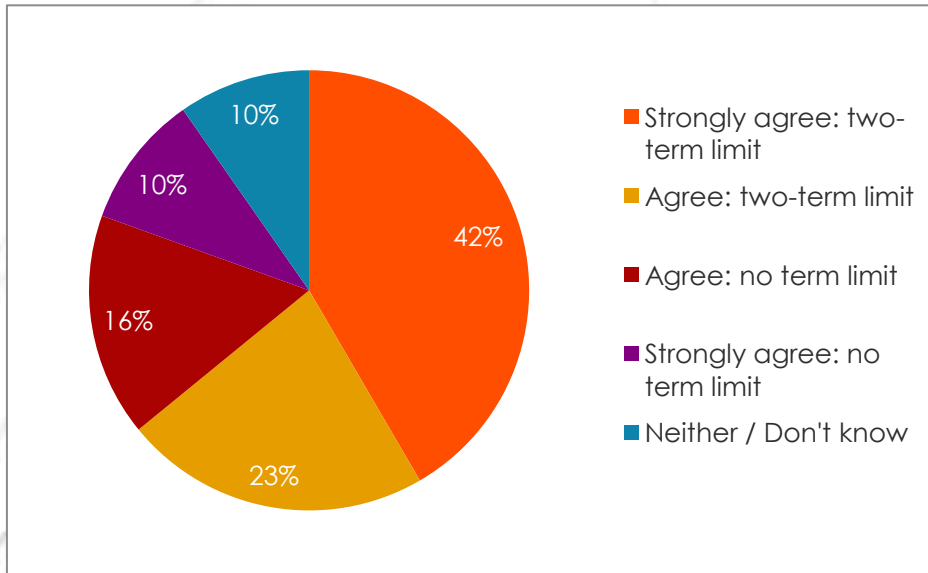
Afrobarometer is an African-led, non-partisan research network that conducts public attitude surveys on democracy, governance, economic conditions, and related issues across more than 30 countries in Africa. Five rounds of surveys were conducted between 1999 and 2013, and Round 6 surveys are currently under way (2014-2015). Afrobarometer conducts face-to-face interviews in the language of the respondent's choice with nationally representative samples of between 1,200 and 2,400 respondents.

The Afrobarometer team in Burkina Faso interviewed 1,200 adult Burkinabé in December 2012. A sample of this size yields results with a margin of error of +/-3% at a 95% confidence level. A previous survey was conducted in Burkina Faso in 2008.

For more information, please visit www.afrobarometer.org.

Charts

Figure 1: Support for two-term limit on president | Burkina Faso | 2012

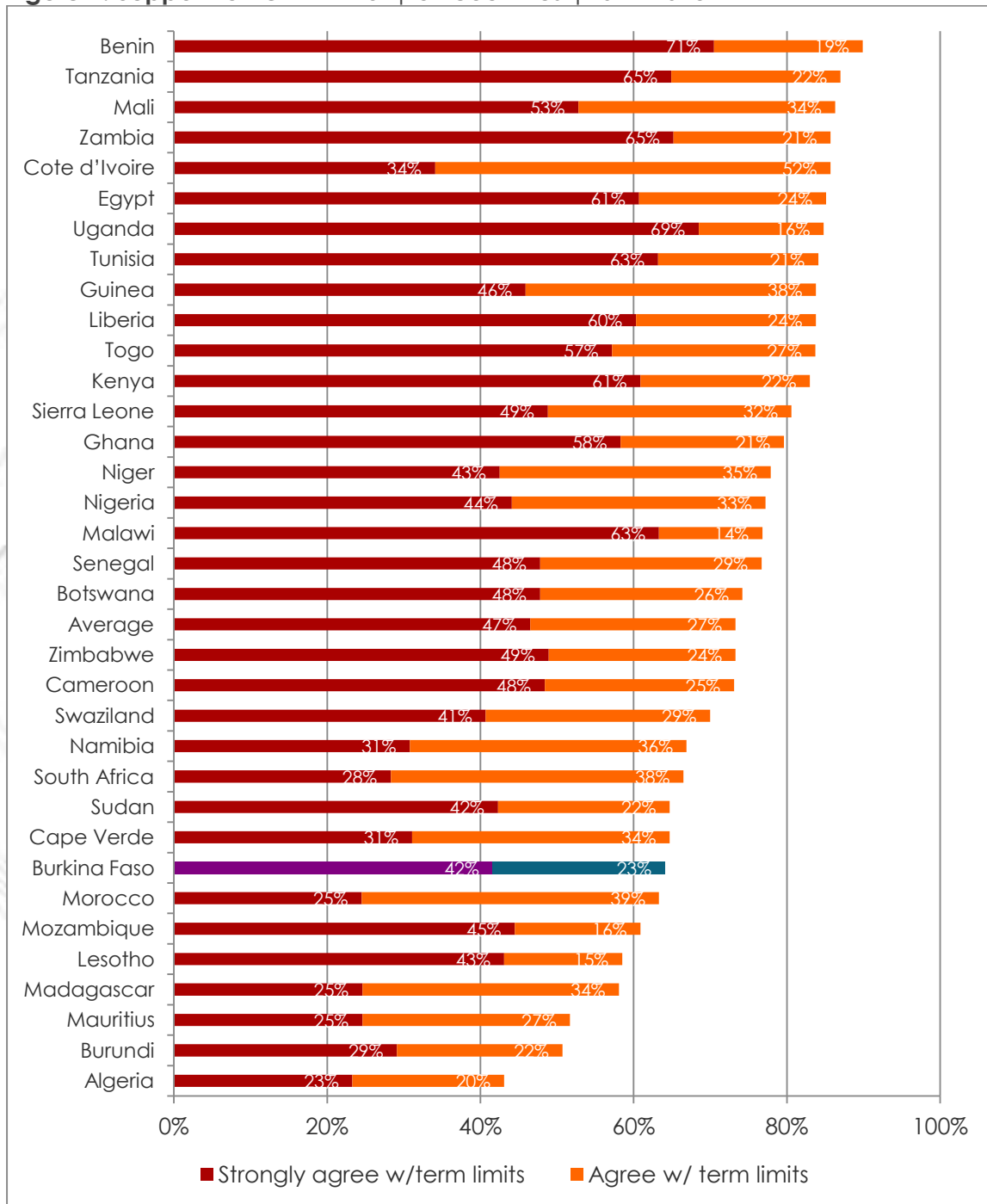


Respondents were asked: Which of the following statements is closest to your view? Choose Statement 1 or Statement 2.

Statement 1: The Constitution should limit the president to serving a maximum of two terms in office.

Statement 2: There should be no constitutional limit on how long the president can serve.

Figure 2: Support for term limits | 34 countries | 2011-2013



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