

3 November 2014

## News release

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### **Burkina Faso citizens reject military rule**

More than six in 10 Burkina Faso citizens reject military rule as a system of government, according to the most recent Afrobarometer survey.

In the 2012 survey, 62% of respondents disapproved – including 27% who “strongly” disapproved – of a system of government in which the army governs the country, compared to just 24% who approve (see Figure 1 below). This finding reflects a 12 percentage point increase from the 2008 Afrobarometer survey, when 50% rejected military rule (Figure 2).

Across 34 African countries surveyed during Afrobarometer's Round 5 (2011-13), an average of 73% rejected military rule (Figure 3).

Burkina Faso's army took power on 31 October after President Blaise Compaore was forced to resign amidst widespread public protests. Demonstrations have continued since then, now demanding civilian rule. The African Union has given the military two weeks to transfer power to a civilian government before sanctions will be imposed.

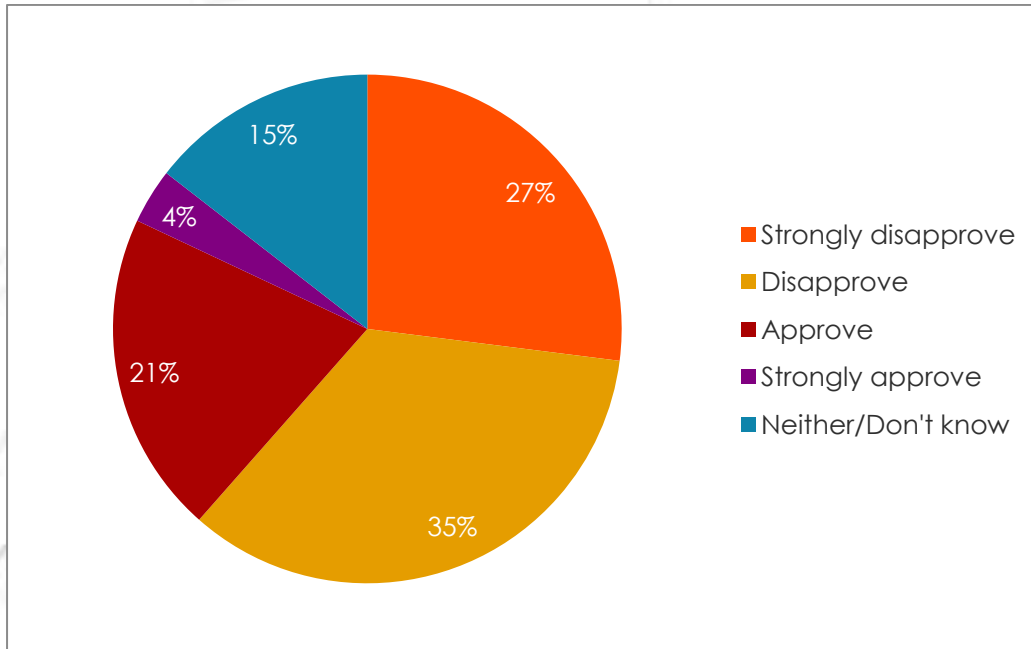
### **Afrobarometer**

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.

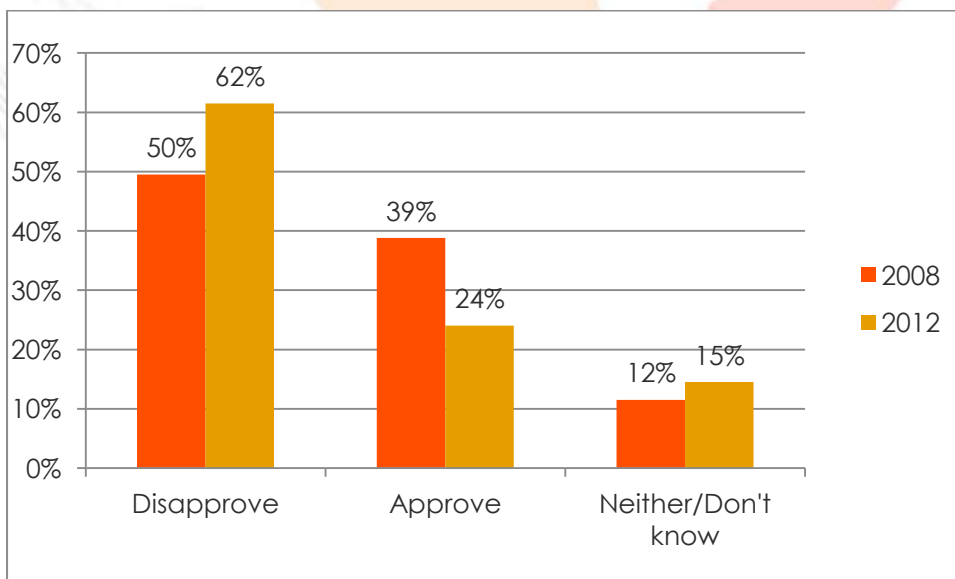
**Charts**

**Figure 1: Rejection of military rule | Burkina Faso | 2012**

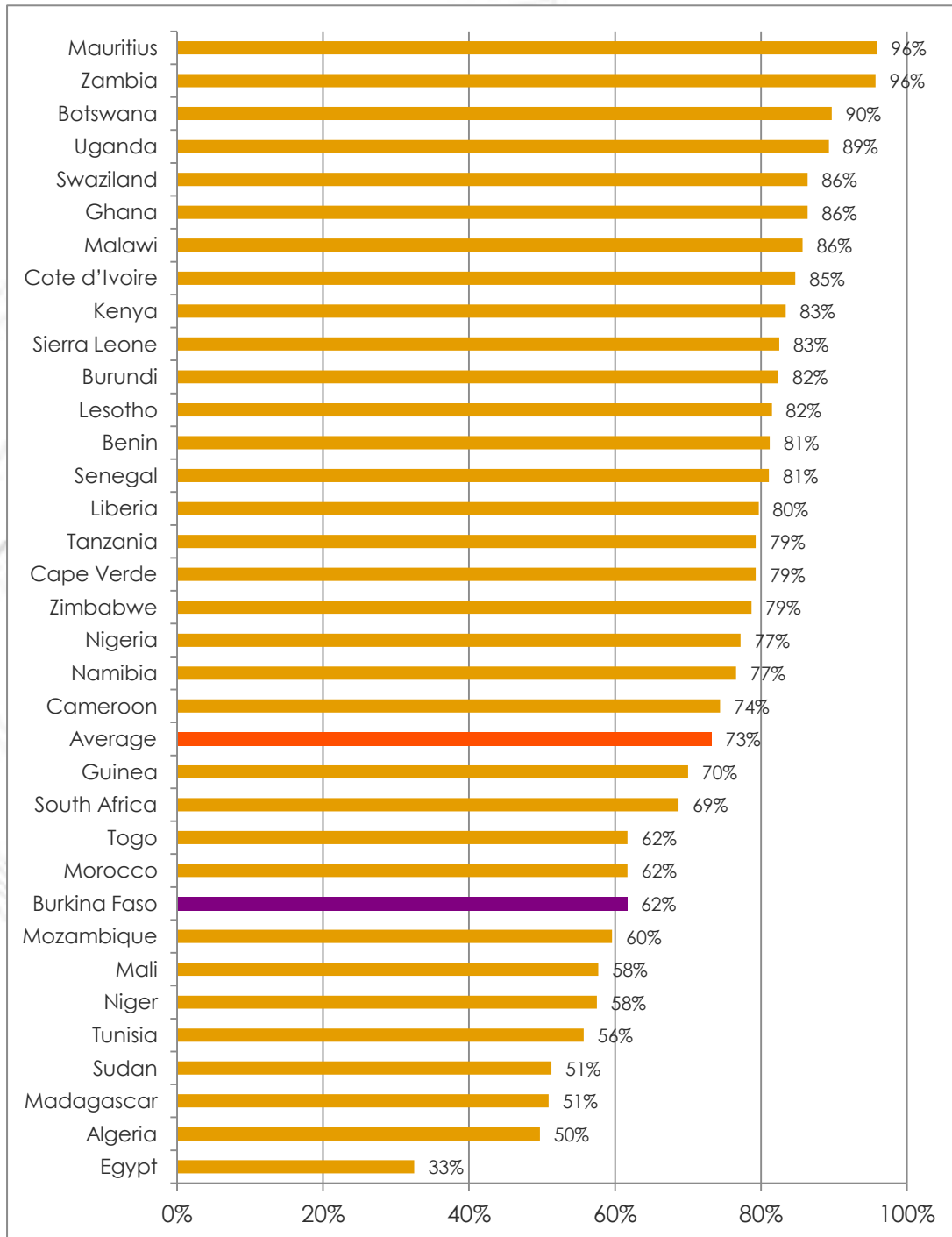


**Respondents were asked:** *There are many ways to govern a country. Would you disapprove or approve of the following alternatives: The army comes in to govern the country? (Note: Percentages may not total 100 due to rounding.)*

**Figure 2: Increasing rejection of military rule | Burkina Faso | 2008-2012**



**Figure 3: Rejection of military rule** | 34 countries | 2011-2013



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