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REPORT OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL ON ITS ACTIVITIES AND THE STATE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. Article 7(q) of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) states that the PSC shall "submit, through its Chairperson, regular reports to the Assembly on its activities and the state of peace and security in Africa." The present report, prepared in conformity with the said Article, covers the activities undertaken by the Council during the period January to July 2010, and provides an overview of the state of peace and security in the Continent during the period.

2. The specific aspects covered include the signing and ratification of the PSC Protocol, membership of the PSC, rotation of the chairmanship of this Organ, activities undertaken by the PSC, other issues falling within the mandate of the PSC and the state of peace and security in Africa.

II. SIGNING AND RATIFICATION OF THE PSC PROTOCOL

3. Since the entry into force of the Protocol in December 2003, fifty (50) Member States have signed the PSC Protocol, while 44 have both signed and ratified it. Two Member States are yet to sign and ratify the Protocol, namely, Cape Verde and Eritrea. The following Member States have signed the Protocol, but have not yet ratified it: Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Liberia, Seychelles and Somalia.

III. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PSC

4. As stipulated in Article 5 (1) of the Protocol, the PSC is composed of fifteen (15) members with equal rights, who are elected as follows: 10 members elected for a two (2) year term and five (5) members elected for a three (3) year term.

5. It should be recalled that the two-year term and the three-year term membership and mandate of the former members of the PSC both expired on 31 March 2010. Ahead of the expiry, the Executive Council, during its fourteenth Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, from 28 to 29 January 2010, conducted elections for all the fifteen seats of the Council, in line with decision Assembly/AU/Dec.106(VI) by which the Assembly delegated its power to the Executive Council for election of members of the Peace and Security Council under Article 5 (2) of the Protocol, to the Executive Council for the current and future elections.

6. The current list of newly elected Council members in the English alphabetical order is as follows: Benin, Burundi, Chad, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa and Zimbabwe. The mandate of the newly elected members commenced on 1 April 2010, in line with the Conclusions of the July 2007 Dakar PSC Retreat on the working methods of the PSC.

IV. ROTATION OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PSC

7. In conformity with Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the PSC, the chairmanship of the PSC rotates among its members on a monthly basis following the English alphabetical order of the list of the PSC members. Furthermore, as provided for in the Conclusions of the July 2007 Dakar PSC Retreat on the working methods, a new list of PSC members was elaborated following the election of fifteen members of Council for a two-year term and a three-year term by the Executive Council in January 2010, on the basis of which a line up of the rotating chairmanship of the PSC was drawn up (see Annex I attached to this Report) covering the period from April 2010 to March 2012.

8. During the period under review, the chairmanship of the PSC rotated as follows:

-	Tunisia	January 2010
-	Uganda	February 2010
-	Zambia	March 2010
-	Burundi[1]	April 2010
-	Burundi	May 2010
-	Chad	June 2010
-	Côte d'Ivoire	July 2010

V. ACTIVITIES OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

9. During the period under review, the PSC held 24 meetings. All these meetings took place at ambassadorial level at the Headquarters of the Union in Addis Ababa to consider various conflict situations and related issues. Among the meetings were briefing sessions to receive updates on various situations and issues. As is the established practice of the PSC, and in conformity with the provisions of the PSC Protocol, the countries and other stakeholders concerned with a given issue were invited to these meetings and briefing sessions.

a) Meetings on conflict situations and related issues

10. Between January 2010 and July 2010, the PSC considered the following conflict situations: Burundi, Central African Republic, The Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, DRC Guinea Bissau, Madagascar, Niger, Republic of Guinea, Somalia and The Sudan. The list of meetings held by the PSC during the period and the issues discussed, as well as the outcomes of those meetings, are reflected in Annex II attached to this Report.

b) Briefing sessions

[1] Burundi chaired the PSC in April 2010, pending the arrival of the Permanent Representative of Benin in Addis Ababa.

11. Between January 2010 and July 2010, the PSC held various briefing sessions with a view to receiving updates on issues falling under its mandate. Press statements were issued, in conformity with Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure of the PSC, as a record of the discussions and outcomes of the sessions, as shown in Annex II. Among these sessions were briefings by the Commission on the Year of Peace and Security in Africa, and the President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) on ICRC activities in Africa. There was also a briefing on the review of the UN Peace Building Commission (UNPBC) by the Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations in New York, together with the representatives of Ireland and Mexico in Addis Ababa, in their capacity as the Facilitators designated by the President of the UN General Assembly to undertake a review of the UNPBC.

12. Some other briefings covered the evolving situations in The Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea Bissau, Niger, Republic of Guinea and Somalia, as well as the development of the African Standby Force. The various briefing sessions and their respective outcomes are reflected in Annex II attached to this Report.

c) <u>Other activities falling within the purview of the PSC</u>

(i) Briefings by the Chairpersons of the PSC to the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC)

13. In line with the Conclusions of the Dakar PSC Retreat on the Working Methods of the PSC, the Chairperson of the PSC for each month briefs the PRC at the end of his/her chairmanship on the activities undertaken by the PSC during the month. Notably, the successive Chairpersons of the PSC for the period under review, namely Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia, Burundi and Chad briefed the PRC on the activities undertaken by the PSC during the respective months of the period under review.

(ii) Participation of the Chairperson of the PSC in peace and security related activities

14. The Republic of Burundi, Chairperson of the PSC for April 2010, participated in the opening session of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP) in Midrand, South Africa, on 12 April 2010. The session, among other things, discussed various peace and security situations in Africa, as well as the strengthening of cooperation between the PSC and PAP in furtherance of peace in the Continent. The Republic of Burundi also participated in the AU Workshop on Women and Children in Armed Conflicts in Africa, held in Kinshasa from 19 to 21 May 2010. The Workshop, which received presentations from the representatives of the AU Panel of the Wise, high level officials from the AU Commission and Regional Economic Communities (RECs), as well as from African and international experts, including senior representatives from the civil society, called for the effects of conflict in Africa on women and children to be mitigated and for women to play a greater role in the prevention and resolution of conflicts in the Continent.

(iii) Meeting of the Panel of the Wise

15. In pursuance of its mandate as provided for in the PSC Protocol, the AU Panel of the Wise held its eighth meeting in Kinshasa, DRC, on 21 May 2010. The Panel reviewed the conflict situations in Southern Africa, the Great Lakes region as well as in West and Central Africa. It also discussed the developments in the Comoros and AU's efforts in the Archipelago. Furthermore, the Panel considered the conclusions and adopted the recommendations of the Experts' Workshop. The Panel seized the occasion to discuss its work programme for 2010. In addition, the Panel formally handed over the Flame of Peace to the Government of the DRC.

d) Convening of Consultative Meetings, New York, 8-9 July 2010

(i) Consultative Meeting between the Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Peace Building Commission (UNPBC), New York, July 2010

16. It should be recalled that, at its 208th Meeting held on 9 November 2009, the PSC had an exchange of views with a Delegation of the UNPBC on ways to enhance peace building efforts in Africa and strengthen the relationship between the PSC and the UN Peace-Building Commission. The two sides agreed to meet regularly in the perspective of promoting cooperation and synergy on peace building and post-conflict reconstruction processes in Africa.

17. It was against this background that the PSC and the UN Peace Building Commission held their first consultative meeting in New York, on 8 July 2010. The meeting exchanged views on peace building processes in Burundi, Central African Republic, Guinea Bissau and Sierra Leone, the progress made in these four post-conflict countries on the UNPBC agenda, the existing challenges and the potentials for enhancing peace building processes in those countries. The meeting also exchanged ideas on how the PBC and the PSC could work together in advancing peace building activities in these countries.

18. Furthermore, the UN Assistant Secretary-General for peace building support provided a summary on how the UN system provides support to the UNPBC in its activities in the above-mentioned countries. The AU Commissioner for Peace and Security gave an overview of the progress made and the challenges faced in the implementation of the AU Policy Framework for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, and the potential areas for collaboration between the PSC and the PBC. The possibility of undertaking joint collaborative missions to post-conflict areas for needs assessment was discussed.

19. The two sides stressed the need for joint action, particularly the development of joint mechanisms for resource mobilization for peace building activities in Africa and the undertaking of joint field missions to Africa to carry out needs assessment of countries emerging from conflict. At the end of its deliberations, the meeting issued a Joint Chair's Summary of the Discussion as attached to this Report.

(ii) Consultative Meeting between the Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC)

20. In line with the decisions taken at the first consultative meeting held in Addis Ababa in 2007, and following an invitation by the Federal Republic of Nigeria, President of the Security Council for July 2010, the African Union Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council held their fourth consultative meeting in New York, on 9 July 2010.

21. The consultative meeting provided an opportunity for the two Organs to exchange views on ways and means to strengthen cooperation between them, including on the modalities for the organization of consultations. They discussed strategies for strengthening and enhancing cooperation in support of regional and sub-regional conflict prevention and resolution efforts, including the maintenance of constitutional order.

22. The two organs expressed the need for both national and regional authorities to fully implement the African Peace and Security Architecture. They reviewed their cooperation with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, maintenance of constitutional order, the promotion of human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Africa. In this respect, the two Organs called for enhanced support to the Year of Peace and Security in Africa.

23. Addressing specific conflict and crisis situations, the meeting considered the challenges for the PSC and UNSC in supporting peace efforts in the Horn of Africa in the foreseeable future, particularly, in relation to the issues of Somalia, Sudan and Djibouti/Eritrea. The two organs lauded the ongoing peace efforts in these situations, including the work of the AU High Level Implementation Panel in The Sudan.

24. Notably, the two Organs agreed on the mechanisms, including channels of communication between the Chairperson of the Peace and Security Council and the President of the UN Security Council, for the convening of the consultative meeting annually, on a rotational basis, not later than the end of June each year. At the end of its deliberations, the meeting adopted a Communiqué as attached to this Report.

VI. STATE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

25. The Assembly will recall that, at its Special Session held in Tripoli on 31 August 2009, on the Consideration and Resolution of Conflicts in Africa, it proclaimed 2010 “The “Year of Peace and Security in Africa”. There are various types of objectives pursued: infusing new impetus in the peace initiatives on the Continent, giving greater visibility to AU action, and ensuring synergy between official efforts to promote peace and efforts undertaken at grassroots level and by the civil society. That decision was taken in a context characterized by the persistence of the scourge of conflicts, despite the tremendous progress made in recent years, thanks to the efforts deployed by the leaders and institutions of the Continent with the support of international partners.

26. The PSC endeavoured to contribute towards the realization of these objectives mainly through regular consideration of conflict and crisis situations in the

Continent, as well as other related activities. The following paragraphs hereunder provide an overview of the situations on the ground, some thematic cross-cutting issues with implications for peace and security in the Continent.

a) Situations on the ground

(i) Ongoing processes

27. During the review period, efforts geared towards the successful completion of the different peace processes in the Continent continued. Although progress was made in some situations with which the AU was seized, impasses persist in others.

28. **In The Comoros,** there were positive developments with the signing of the Agreement for the Management of the Interim Period, which ended the crisis linked to the institutional reform introduced by the new Constitution of the Union, adopted by referendum on 17 May 2009. The Referendum Act provided for 4 to 5 years extension of the mandate of the President of the Union, and conferred on the Assembly of the Union and the Councils of the Autonomous Islands, meeting in congress, the constitutional power to set the date for harmonization for the election of the Governors of the Autonomous Islands and that of the President of the Union. On 1 March 2010, the Congress enacted a law harmonizing with effect from 27 November 2011, the mandates of the President of the Union and the Governors of the Islands. That law, which was boycotted by the Comorian opposition, had the effect mainly of extending the tenure of the President of the Union (which expired on 26 May 2010) by 18 months, and postponing for the same period the exercise of the rotating presidency of the Union by the Island of Mohéli, after Grande Comore and Anjouan.

29. Following an unconstitutionality petition filed by the Comorian opposition, the Constitutional Court of the Union of the Comoros, on 8 May 2010, made a ruling which, *inter alia,* declared unconstitutional and annulled the provisions setting the date of election of the President of the Union and the Governors of the Islands. The Court declared that the interim period would commence with effect from 26 May 2010, a period during which the President and the Vice-Presidents of the Union shall exercise their powers consensually, until the new President of the Union and the elected Governors take office. For his part, the Chairperson of the Commission dispatched his Special Envoy to the Comoros, to assist the parties in overcoming the difficulties they faced in the implementation of the constitutional reform of May 2009. The Commissioner for Peace and Security also visited the Archipelago on two occasions, in April and May 2010. These culminated in an Agreement for the Management of the Interim Period, which was signed in Moroni, on 16 June 2010, by the President of the Union and the Governors of the Autonomous Islands of Anjouan, Ngazidja and Mohéli. The Agreement provided essentially for the organization of harmonized elections for the President of the Union and the Governors of the Islands (7 November 2010 for the 1st round and 26 December 2010 for the 2nd round). The conclusion of this process should lead to the election of a new President native of the Island of Mohéli.

30. The Assembly may wish to call upon the Comorian parties to exhibit a sense of responsibility and implement their commitments in good faith. It should also urge Member States and the international community to provide the financial and technical assistance required for speedy implementation of the Agreement on the Management of the Interim Period, particularly the holding of elections.

31. **In Somalia**, during the period under review, the Transitional Federal Government (TFG), with the support of the international community, made notable efforts to widen the scope of reconciliation and dialogue among the Somali people. On 15 March 2010, in Addis Ababa, the TFG signed a Framework of Cooperation Agreement with Ahlu Sunna wal Jama'a (ASWJ). In a further effort to reach out to other Somali stakeholders, on 12 April 2010, the TFG signed, an Agreement with the semi-autonomous state of Puntland, which calls for the strengthening of law and order in the mainland and at sea, the creation of employment opportunities, the cleaning of toxic waste along Somalia's coastline, and the sensitization of the public against the dangers of piracy.

32. However, despite the progress achieved, the work of the TFG has been hampered by various internal factors, including some rifts within the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs). I am pleased to report that, despite the wrangling that occurred within and between the Cabinet and the Transitional Federal Parliament (TFP) in May 2010, the situation has now improved. In June 2010, the Prime Minister, with the approval of the TFG President, reconstituted his Cabinet by appointing 39 Ministers, including four Ministers from the ASWJ. The TFP also has elected a new Speaker, and is in the process of reviewing its House Rules to enable it to continue usual parliamentary business in line with the transitional arrangements.

33. In recent months, there has been further demonstration of commitment by the international community to support the Djibouti Process. In this regard, the United Nations, in collaboration with the Government of Turkey, convened a Reconstruction and Development Conference for Somalia, in Istanbul, from 21 to 23 May 2010. Recent developments in Somalia were also reviewed at the Consultative Meeting between the AU, the Ministers of Defence of AMISOM Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) and Partners, held in Addis Ababa on 2 June 2010. On its part, the IGAD Assembly of Heads of State and Government, at its 15th Extraordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa, on 5 July 2010, took a number of decisions aimed at speeding up the restoration of peace, security and stability in Somalia. These include the decision immediately to deploy 2,000 peacekeepers under AMISOM. In this regard, consultations are currently underway between the UN, the AU, IGAD and other partners, to facilitate the implementation of this decision. In further support to the TFG, AMISOM and other members of the international community are prioritizing the rebuilding of the Somali security sector institutions, particularly the Somali security forces.

34. The security situation remains unstable. In Mogadishu, Al Shabaab and other armed opposition groups (AOGs) have continued to attack AMISOM and TFG positions. Other regions of the South continue to experience violence. With the recent deployment of additional troops from Uganda, the current troop strength of AMISOM now stands at 6,120. AMISOM has also increased its presence on the ground in Mogadishu, with the deployment of police officers to Mogadishu to support

the monitoring, training and mentoring of the Somali Police Force (SPF). As a result of the unfavourable security conditions, the humanitarian situation in Somalia remains precarious, with thousands of civilians at risk of violence and in need of assistance; and access by humanitarian agencies is extremely limited.

35. In spite of the tremendous efforts made, the situation in Somalia remains particularly precarious. The threat posed by this situation has now been compounded with the terrorist attacks perpetrated in Uganda for which Al Shabab claimed responsibility. There is a need for renewed efforts to address the situation in Somalia. In this respect, the Assembly should reiterate its appreciation to the TCCs, namely Uganda and Burundi, for the sacrifices made, and call on other AU Member States to make the required contributions in troops and force enablers in support of AMISOM. The Assembly should also appeal to the Somali stakeholders to display the required unity of purpose to meet the challenges facing their nation. Finally, it is important to remind the United Nations and the larger international community of their responsibilities vis-à-vis Somalia and to once again call on them to take the actions expected of them, including the early deployment of a UN operation to take-over AMISOM and support the long-term stabilization of Somalia.

36. There has been no movement in the peace process between **Eritrea and Ethiopia** during the period under review. Against this background, the need for more sustained and coordinated efforts to help the parties overcome the current stalemate and normalize their relations cannot be over-emphasized.

37. Progress has been made towards the resolution of the dispute between **Djibouti and Eritrea**. As the Assembly will recall, the AU, both at its level and that of the PSC, adopted a number of decisions regarding this dispute. On its part, on 23 December 2009, the Security Council, adopted resolution 1907(2009), in which it, *inter alia,* reiterated its serious concern at the refusal of Eritrea to engage in dialogue with Djibouti, or to accept bilateral contacts, mediation and facilitation efforts by sub-regional or regional organizations, and decided, on that ground and other considerations related to Somalia, to impose an arms embargo on that country, in addition to travel restrictions and a freeze on the assets of its political and military leaders.

38. On 6 June 2010, Djibouti and Eritrea signed an Agreement by which they mandated the Emir of Qatar to undertake a mediation aimed at resolving the border dispute between them and, to that end, to make a proposal of settlement, which the two parties committed themselves to accept. The Assembly may wish to welcome this positive development, and express the hope that this endeavour would have a positive impact on the overall situation in the Horn of Africa.

39. **In Sudan**, one of the highlights of the period under review was the convening of the inaugural meeting of the Sudan Consultative Forum in Addis Ababa, on 8 May 2010. This meeting took place within the context of the follow-up of the decision of the 207th Meeting of the PSC held in Abuja on 29 October 2009, which endorsed the Report of the AU High-Level Panel on Darfur (AUPD) and the Recommendations contained therein. The Forum brought together the major international actors working on the Sudan, and provided an opportunity to review the situation in the aftermath of the April general elections and in light of the progress made and

challenges encountered in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), as well as in the search for peace, security, justice and reconciliation in Darfur. The Consultative Forum will meet at least every two months.

40. On its part, the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) chaired by former President Thabo Mbeki and comprising former Presidents Abdusalami Abubakar and Pierre Buyoya, established in pursuance of the Abuja decision of the PSC, has pursued its efforts in support of the search for peace in Darfur and the implementation of the CPA. The AUHIP should be commended for its outstanding work and contribution.

41. In line with the CPA, the general elections took place from 11 to 15 April 2010. It should be noted that the SPLM withdrew its presidential candidate from the national race, as well as its candidates in Darfur owing to the restrictive environment in that region. Several other parties also decided to boycott the polls. In the period preceding the elections, the AUHIP worked with the parties in a bid to create a conducive environment for their holding. The AUHIP produced an Electoral Code of Conduct, which was signed by a number of political parties, including the SPLM and the NCP.

42. The National Elections Commission (NEC) declared Omar Hassan Al Bashir, the ruling NCP presidential candidate, winner. In the South, SPLM Chairman Salva Kiir won the presidential election for the Government of Southern Sudan (GoSS). In the legislative, as well as in the gubernatorial elections, the NCP, in the North, and the SPLM, in the South, emerged as the overwhelming winners. The AU Election Observer Mission stated that, taking into consideration the fact that the country had not had a multi-party-election in almost a generation, what happened was a historical event and a great achievement for the Sudanese people. It should, however, be pointed out that, during and after the election period, the security situation in South Sudan was of concern. There were also reports, especially by civil society organizations, of incidents of intimidation and harassment of opposition parties and independent candidates in the North.

43. There still exist a number of outstanding issues in the implementation process of the CPA, especially in view of the referenda scheduled to be held in South Sudan and Abyei, on 9 January 2011. Key amongst these are the setting up of the Referendum Commission Abyei, the modalities for the organization of popular consultations in Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan States, and the completion of the demarcation of the North-South border as it stood on 1 January 1956.

44. The CPA directs that, in preparation for the referenda that are scheduled to take place in January 2011, the parties must conclude agreements on a number of issues related to their post-referendum relationship, regardless of the outcome of that exercise. The AU, through the AUHIP, is actively engaging the parties on the post referendum issues. On 21 June 2010, in preparation for formal negotiations on the post referendum arrangements, the AUHIP convened “talks about talks” between the NCP and the SPLM in Mekelle, Ethiopia. This meeting produced the Mekelle Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), which, among other issues, requested the AUHIP to serve as Facilitator of this process. At the time of finalizing this report, the AUHIP was making arrangements to convene, in Juba, a Joint Exposure Session for

the two delegations on the post referendum issues and arrangements. The substantive negotiations are expected to commence immediately after the Exposure Session.

45. **In Darfur**, the reporting period witnessed outbreak of hostilities between the Sudan Armed Forces (SAF) and the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM), in West Darfur, which caused a sharp rise in the number of fatalities. Also worth noting is the resurgence of inter-ethnic conflicts. These clashes heavily affected the populations, leading to further displacement. Also worth mentioning are the recurrent attacks targeting UNAMID.

46. The peace process continues to face major challenges. On 23 February 2010, in Doha, the Government of the Sudan and JEM signed a Framework Agreement to Resolve the Conflict in Darfur, which was negotiated and initialed in N'djamena, on 20 February, under the auspices of President Idriss Déby Itno. However, this process has since been seriously undermined, with the parties failing to agree on a ceasefire implementation Protocol or a final Agreement, followed in May by an outbreak of fighting and JEM's withdrawal from the peace process. However, on 18 March 2010, the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM), which merged members of the Tripoli and Addis Ababa Groups into a single new movement, and the Government of the Sudan signed a Framework Agreement to resolve the Conflict of Darfur, as well as a Ceasefire Agreement. Discussions between the Government of the Sudan and the LJM have resumed in Doha on 6 June 2010. The Joint AU-UN Mediator, Djibril Bassolé, and the Government of Qatar have also taken steps to bring in representatives of IDPs and refugees, as well as the civil society, for consultations. In this regard, mention should be made of the convening of the 2nd Darfur Civil Society Conference in Doha, from 12 to 15 July 2010.

47. In line with the report and recommendations of the AUPD, as endorsed by the PSC and the Assembly, there should be an inclusive political process in Darfur, involving all stakeholders and covering all relevant issues. To this end, the AUHIP and UNAMID are working together to convene, within Darfur, an inclusive Darfur-Darfur Conference (DDC), at a date shortly to be determined. The Government of the Sudan has indicated its willingness to facilitate the early holding of the DDC, as part of the overall efforts to domesticate the peace process and make it more inclusive.

48. Significant progress has been made in the deployment of UNAMID: the deployment of troops has reached 87.80% of the authorized strength, while that of the police component has reached 79.10% of the authorized strength. With this progress, efforts are now focused on ways and means to optimize the "employment" of UNAMID assets and resources, in order to further enhance security, recovery and development in Darfur.

49. Sudan, this microcosm of Africa, is entering one of the most critical phases of its history. For the region and the African Continent, the successful completion of the ongoing processes is of utmost importance. The AU is confident that, with genuine support from the international community, the Sudanese people have the capacity to seize this historic opportunity to overcome the challenges facing them. It is crucial

that at this present session of the Assembly, which is the last one before the holding the self-determination referendum for Southern Sudan, the Heads of State and Government renew their commitment to assist the Sudanese parties and people to successfully meet the challenges facing them and develop a clear vision of the implications of the new situation that will arise from the referendum on the region, as well as on the Continent as a whole.

50. The normalization of **relations between Chad and The Sudan** continued and was consolidated, thanks to the political will shown by the leaders of both countries. The Assembly will recall that meetings between experts of the two countries, one in Khartoum in December 2009, and another in N'djamena in January 2010, led to the signing, on 15 January 2010, of the "N'djamena Agreement on the normalization of Relations between Chad and The Sudan" as well as an "Additional Protocol on the Securing of their Border". On 8 February 2010, President Idriss Déby Itno paid an official visit to Khartoum, where he held talks with his Sudanese counterpart, Omar Hassan Al Bashir. On 26 May 2010, President Déby Itno again travelled to Khartoum to attend the swearing-in ceremony of President Al Bashir. Furthermore, in the spirit of the Accord Agreement, negotiations were set in motion between JEM (Justice and Equality Movement) and The Sudanese Government under the auspices of the Chadian Facilitation, and resulted in a Framework Agreement endorsed in N'Djamena on 20 February 2010, and officially signed in Doha on 23 February 2010. The Sudan, for its part, took measures to facilitate a meeting between Chad and its "armed groups".

51. The Assembly may wish to commend Presidents Idriss Déby Itno and Omar Hassan Al Bashir for their courageous political decision to normalise relations between their two countries, and encourage them to persevere on the path of dialogue and consultation. Thus, the developments in their relations square perfectly with the Tripoli Plan of Action of 31 August 2009, which set forth a number of measures for normalising relations between the two countries.

52. **In Côte d'Ivoire**, the crisis exit process has been mired in a deadlock since January and Frebruary 2010, due to the deficient functioning of the independent Election Commission (IEC), a situation denounced by the Office of the President of the Republic. This situation culminated in the dissolution on both the IEC and the Government on 12 February, followed by protest marches by opposition youths in several localities of the country.

53. During his visit to Abidjan on 22 February 2010, the Facilitator of the Inter-Ivorian Dialogue, President Blaise Compaoré, helped the Ivorian parties to reach an agreement on measures to reactivate the electoral process, in particular, the installation of an Independent Electoral Commission run by a new management team, formation of a new Government, resumption of consideration of petitions regarding the voters' register and elaboration of an election calendar paving the way for the first round of the Presidential elections to be held by late April/early May 2010. The new IEC indeed installed on 25 February, while the new Government was fully constituted on 4 March 2010. However, conflicting positions relating to the verification of the voters' register, disputes, disarmament of former combatants and the reunification of the country prior to the elections, continued and delayed the adoption of an election calendar. The new provisional electoral roll, which includes

about 5.7 million petitioners, was submitted to the IEC on 12 July by the technical operators. Consideration of the "grey list" is to begin on 20 July 2010 and the new date of the Presidential elections set in a few weeks.

54. It would be appropriate for the Assembly to once again make an urgent appeal to the Ivorian parties to spare no effort to rapidly bring the crisis exit process to conclusion and promote an enabling environment for the rapid holding of elections, especially by finding solutions to pending issues.

55. The protracted impasse in the peace process **in Western Sahara** continues to show no signs of yielding, in spite of the efforts being made by the Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Western Sahara, Ambassador Christopher Ross. From 10 to 11 February 2010, the Personal Envoy convened a second informal meeting between Morocco and Frente POLISARIO in Westchester County, in New York. These talks did not result in any progress. The Personal Envoy also visited the region in March 2010 to solicit the parties' ideas on how to move beyond the present impasse. Subsequently, the Personal Envoy undertook visits to London, Paris and Madrid, for consultation with relevant officials.

56. In his report on the situation concerning Western Sahara dated 6 April 2010, the UN Secretary-General stated that *"neither party is prepared to accept the proposal of the other as the sole basis of future negotiations and that nothing in their relations or in the regional or international environment is likely to occur to change this for the foreseeable future."* On its part, the Security Council, on 30 April 2010, adopted resolution 1920, which, among other things, welcomed the parties' commitment to continue the process of holding small, informal talks, in preparation for a fifth round of negotiation, and called upon them to continue negotiations without pre-conditions, to achieve a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara. It also extended MINURSO's mandate by an additional year, until 30 April 2011.

57. The Assembly may wish to express its support to the efforts aimed at resolving the dispute on Western Sahara on the basis of relevant Security Council and General Assembly resolutions, as well as the Tripoli Plan of Action. This Plan of Action reiterated Africa's commitment to the holding of a referendum of self-determination that would allow the people of Western Sahara to choose between the independence of the Territory and its integration within the Kingdom of Morocco.

(ii) Restoration of Constitutional Order

58. The restoration of legality in the countries that have experienced a breakdown in constitutional order continued to be a priority for the AU. While the deadlock in Madagascar persists, significant progress has been made in Guinea and Niger.

59. During the period under consideration, no progress was made in terms of the process of restoration of constitutional order in **Madagascar.** The Assembly will recall that on 21 January 2010, the Chairperson of the Commission submitted to the Malagasy parties, compromise proposals designed to facilitate implementation of the Maputo Agreements of August 2009 and the Addis Ababa Additional Act of November 2009. Whereas the other political movements generally accepted these

proposals, the Rajoelina Movement provided an answer that was deemed unsatisfactory. It was against this background that the PSC decided, on 17 March 2010, that the sanctions imposed on 19 February 2010 against members of the Rajoelina Movement and other individuals or bodies impeding the return of constitutional order should enter into force.

60. As part of the resumed efforts at exiting from the crisis and promoting the restoration of constitutional order, President Chissano, with the support of South Africa and France, and in consultation with SADC and the AU, convened a meeting of the leaders of the Malagasy political movements in Pretoria, from 28 April to 1 May 2010. Unfortunately, the meeting did not yield the expected outcomes. The Mediator is presently continuing with his efforts to arrive at an agreement on a consensual and inclusive transition in Madagascar. However, this initiative has continued to come up against the will of the Rajoelina Regime to proceed with the legislative elections in disregard of the spirit and letter of the Maputo and Addis Ababa Agreements. At the time of finalizing this report, preparations were underway to hold a PSC meeting in order to consider the situation in Madagascar on the basis of the report to be presented by the SADC Mediator.

61. The situation in Madagascar constitutes a real challenge for Africa and our Organization. No effort should be spared to achieve a return to constitutional order. Attainment of the set objectives calls for the commitment of all Member States and the unwavering support of our international partners, including the United Nations Security Council, which should throw its full weight behind African efforts.

62. **In Niger**, the major element of the review period was the coup d'état which occurred on 18 February 2010, against a backdrop characterized by a political stalemate arising from the decision of President Mamadou Tandja to revise the country's constitution, in violation of the provisions of the country's basic law and its commitments to ECOWAS. The mediation efforts initiated by ECOWAS with the support of AU, designed to overcome the stalemate were unsuccessful given that the former Government of Niger rejected the draft peace agreement presented by the ECOWAS Mediator. It is worth emphasizing that at the meeting held in Abuja on 29 October 2009, the PSC expressed its full support for ECOWAS initiatives and decisions on Niger. In accordance with relevant AU instruments, the Chairperson of the Commission and the PSC condemned this seizure of power by force, calling for a speedy restoration of constitutional order and underscoring the availability of the AU to facilitate such a process, working closely with ECOWAS. In addition, the PSC decided to suspend Niger from participating in the activities of the AU until restoration of constitutional order. In its Communiqué, the PSC emphasized the importance and relevance of the Decision of the 14th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union on the Prevention of Unconstitutional Changes of Government, which reposes on zero tolerance not only of coups d'état but also of violation of democratic standards, the persistence and recurrence of which could lead to unconstitutional changes of government.

63. Immediately after the *coup*, a joint AU/ECOWAS/United Nations mission proceeded to Niamey to meet with the new authorities in a bid to obtain from them a firm commitment to speedy return to constitutional legality. In addition, the Special

Envoy of the Chairperson of the Commission to Niger, Professor Albert Tevoedjre, Mediator of the Republic of Benin, has undertaken several missions to Niger. On 11 March 2010, General Salou Djibo, President of the Supreme Council for the Restoration of Democracy *(CSRD),* signed a decree by which members of the CSRD and the Transitional Government undertook not to stand in the presidential election. On 7 April 2010, the *de facto* authorities set up a National Advisory Council with responsibility to organize the transition. This Council has established a one-year transition programme which provides, among other things, for the organization of a constitutional referendum, municipal and legislative elections and presidential elections scheduled for 26 December 2010. The swearing-in ceremony of the President-elect was set for 1 March 2011.

64. The Assembly may wish to express satisfaction at the detailed transition programme prepared by the *de facto* authorities in Niger, and appeal to all the players concerned to place the higher interest of Niger above partisan considerations, which could delay or compromise the transition. The Assembly may also wish to express concern at the food shortage facing Niger and appeal to Member States and development partners to provide the necessary assistance. It remains clearly understood that the restrictive sanctions imposed against Niger will remain in force until the effective restoration of constitutional order.

65. Substantial progress has been made in the process of restoration of constitutional order **in Guinea**, in keeping with the Joint Ouagadougou Declaration of 15 January 2010. In this respect, mention needs to be made of the signing of the basic texts indispensable for the organization and holding of presidential elections. This legal arsenal, as well as the Guinean Government's disbursement of the totality of its financial contribution towards the electoral process, paved the way for the presidential and the other elections that should conclude the transition in Guinea. As a result, the first round of the presidential elections took place as scheduled on 27 June 2010. The elections were deemed to be transparent by all the election observer missions deployed in Guinea, including the AU Observer Mission led by Edem Kodjo, former Secretary General of the OAU. Due to the tension after the first round, the Chairperson of the Commission travelled to Conakry on 7 July 2010 in order to urge the Guinean political class to demonstrate maturity and refrain from any action that could undermine the remarkable progress made on the path to democratization and the return to constitutional order.

66. Furthermore, pursuant to the Decision of the PSC, which at its 220th Meeting held on 11 March 2010, appealed for support to the institutional reforms designed to consolidate democracy, national reconciliation and economic development, the AU alongside ECOWAS and the United Nations, participated in the mission to evaluate the security sector reform (SSR) in Guinea. The assessment report prepared on that occasion was officially handed to the Guinean Authorities on 4 May 2010, in the presence of the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the Commission.

67. The Assembly should appeal to the Guinean parties to demonstrate the spirit of responsibility and work together with a view to establishing conditions conducive to rapid holding of the second round of the presidential elections and the completion of the transition; furthermore, the Assembly may wish to express its appreciation and support to the President and other actors of the Transition, as well as the IEC, for the

efforts deployed and their commitment. The Conference may also wish to appeal to Guinea's bilateral and multilateral partners to lend their support to the realization of the SSR, and the necessary financial and economic assistance to facilitate the country's socio-economic recovery.

(iii) Post conflict reconstruction

68. Progress made in the resolution of several crisis situations on the Continent will only be sustainable if consolidated through post-conflict reconstruction and development programmes. The overall situation remains varied and characterized by a juxtaposition of situations of persistent fragility and others marked by the consolidation of the progress made.

69. The situation **in Guinea Bissau** remains fragile. On 1 April 2010, elements of the Armed Forces of Guinea-Bissau moved against government officials and the country's institutions, resulting in the temporary detention of the Prime Minister Carlos Gomes Jr. and the subsequent arrest and imprisonment of the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces, Rear-Admiral José Zamora Induta. It was against this backdrop that the Chairperson of the Commission proceeded to Guinea-Bissau to assure the country's Authorities of AU support and exchange views with the stakeholders, including the military chiefs. Beforehand, on 23 February 2010, a joint AU/United Nations Mission visited Guinea-Bissau, where it held talks, mainly with the President and other Government officials. The recent appointment of General Antonio Indjai, one of the chief instigators of the events of 1 April 2010, as Army Chief of Staff confirmed the precariousness of the situation, resulting in another mission of the Commission to Bissau from 28 to 30 June 2010.

70. It is important that the Assembly strongly condemn the continued interference of the Guinea-Bissau Army in the political process and express regret particularly at the appointment of General Antonio Indjai as Army Chief of Staff, which confirms a *fait accompli* and undermines the credibility and effectiveness of the country's elected institutions, as well as impeding the work of the judiciary. The Assembly should appeal to all the stakeholders in Guinea-Bissau to contribute, each in his/her own area of competence, to the promotion of peace and security, and the consolidation of democratic institution, as well as the speedy implementation of security sector reform. Lastly, the Assembly may wish to reaffirm its support to the rapid deployment of a joint AU/ECOWAS Stabilization Mission, in accordance with the Plan of Action adopted at the special session held in Tripoli on 31 August 2009.

71. The overall security situation **in Liberia** has remained relatively stable. The various branches of Government continue to function within the rule of law, while the security agencies in the country, with the help of United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), are performing their functions creditably despite capacity and logistical challenges. The Liberia Poverty Reduction Strategy (PRS) continues to make steady progress, despite the global financial crisis which affected the flow of funds intended to meet deliverables designed to speed up the PRS process. The Governance and Economic Management Assistance Programme (GEMAP), initiated in 2006 by the Liberian Government, came to an end in June 2010, when Liberia reached its HIPC Completion Point.

72. The Assembly may wish to encourage the Government of Liberia to persevere in its efforts to consolidate and sustain the remarkable progress that has been made over the past years, including the implementation of the recommendations of the final Report of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, which was issued in December 2009, in a way that would balance the need to combat impunity with that of sustaining peace and promoting national reconciliation, as well as the passing of the required legislation for the successful holding of elections in 2011. The Assembly may also wish to urge the international community to continue to provide the necessary support.

73. **In Burundi**, the period under review was devoted mainly to preparations for the electoral process which will take place within four months approximately. Five elections have been slated for this period. 21 May saw the organization of Communal Council elections, followed by presidential elections on 28 June. Parliamentary will be held on 23 July, senatorial elections on 28 July and that of the *Conseil de collines ou de quartiers,on* 7 September 2010.

74. The provisional results of the Communal Council elections published on 28 May 2010 confirmed the victory of the ruling party – the National Council for Defense of Democracy/Forces for the Defense of Democracy *(CNDD-FDD),* with 64.03%. The nation-wide turnout was estimated at 90.67%. These results were promptly rejected by eight opposition parties, which denounced alleged irregularities, calling for the annulment of the elections. The Electoral Commission refuted these accusations. The opposition parties decided to withdraw from the presidential race. As a result, these elections, which were held on 28 June 2010, were conducted in a climate of tension. The outgoing President, Pierre Nkurunziza, who was the sole candidate, won the elections with 91.62% of the votes; and participation at 79.98%.

75. The Assembly may wish to make an urgent appeal to all the political players to draw lessons from the communal and presidential elections, and join hands to promote and protect the democratic process in their country by participating in the next election. No efforts should be spared to prevent undermine the political and democratic achievements made in the past few years.

76. **In the DRC,** the period under review was marked by the continued implementation of the Agreements signed in 2008 and 2009 and by the consolidation of the relations of cooperation with neighbouring countries. All this was taking place against a backdrop of persistent “residual” insecurity in the Kivus and in the Eastern Province, all at a time when the Congolese Authorities are actively engaged in managing the security and humanitarian consequences of the events that occurred earlier in the year in Equator Province.

77. The operations of the Congolese Armed Forces (FARDC), backed by the United Nations Mission in Congo (MONUC), against foreign armed groups (Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR) and the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) enabled the Congolese Government to neutralize a substantial number of the elements of the negative forces. At the same time with assistance of African and foreign partners, the efforts geared towards reform and building the operational capacities of the Army and security services continue. Furthermore, the Government is actively preparing for the 2011 general elections and subsequent ones. In this

respect, a Steering Committee was set up, while the two Houses of Parliament enacted a law on the establishment, organization and functioning of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC). The INEC presented a draft budget for the forthcoming elections as well as a draft electoral calendar setting the date for the first round of the presidential election for 4 September 2011.

78. On other major event in the period under review concerns the renewal of the MONUC mandate. The AU was actively involved in the consultations initiated in this regard. On 28 May 2010, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 1925 on the situation in DRC providing, *inter alia,* for the reduction of MONUC military personnel, the change of its title to United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo *(MONUSCO)* with effect from 1 July 2010, and the redefinition of its mandate.

79. Finally, it should be pointed out that preparations are underway for the convening of the meeting of the countries, organizations and communities concerned by the issue of Mbororo nomadic herdsmen. An AU mission was in Kinshasa to discuss with the Congolese Authorities the modalities of organizing this meeting pursuant to previous visits to the DRC and other countries concerned.

80. In addition, pursuant to the relevant decisions of the PSC and the Tripoli Plan of Action, the Commission dispatched from January 21 to 22 February 2010 a multi-disciplinary mission to **DRC and Burundi**. The mission was intended to assess the situation in both countries and identify measures to be taken by the AU and its Member States to support the process of reconstruction and post-conflict development in the two countries. The conclusions and recommendations of the mission were submitted to the 230th Meeting of the PSC, held on 27 and 31 May 2010. At the time of finalizing this report, the Commission was working to ensure the necessary follow-up. In the meantime, it should be noted that the DRC acceded on 1 July 2010, to the Initiative for Highly Indebted Poor Countries, thus benefiting from debate relief from the Breton Wood institutions.

81. During the period under review, the political and electoral process, in **the Central African Republic (CAR)** suffered setbacks and controversies that threatened to plunge the country into major political and institutional crisis and undermined the achievements made from the inclusive political dialogue (IPD) in December 2008. In January 2010, the political parties of the democratic opposition, and those of political-military movements, which later combined into "Collective Forces for Change/ CFC called into question the functioning of the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) and its local committees (dismemberment of the IEC), deciding to leave the Commission, which remained paralyzed for a month. It is within this context that President François Bozizé, on 25 February 2010, a decree convening the electorate for the first round of the presidential and legislative elections on April 25, 2010. On February 27, 2010, the CFC rejected the decree on the grounds that security and the material conditions were not met credible and transparent elections. On April 29, 2010, the IEC admitted that it was unable to hold elections as scheduled on 16 May 2010.

82. This situation presented the spectre of the risk of a potential institutional vacuum as from 11 June 2010, the date on which the mandate of the President of

the Republic was to end. Given that the constitution had no provision to address this issue, the National Assembly, after consultation with the various social and professional groups of the country, adopted on 10 May 2010, a law extending the mandate of the President of the Republic and Members of Parliament up to the organization of presidential and legislative elections. The IEC, meanwhile, managed to set new dates for the legislative and presidential elections respectively on 24 October and 19 December 2010 for the first and second rounds. But, the Commission still lacks financial resources to fulfil its mission.

83. The DDR programme launched since February 2009 pursuant to the Comprehensive Peace Agreement of 21 June 2008 in Libreville, but which had been considerably delayed because of difficulties in its practical implementation, insecurity in certain areas of the country, the terms of its financing and inadequate resources, received a new impetus on 13 June 2010 with the launch of the campaign to verify lists, in Paoua. It is noteworthy, also to highlight the many abuses and attacks committed by the LRA elements of Joseph Koni's, which have increased since February 2010.

84. In this context, the Assembly should stress the need for CAR actors to do everything to ensure the holding of elections within the agreed timeframe. In this regard, the importance of the implementation of the DDR programme cannot be overemphasized. In addition, the Assembly should reiterate its call to Member States and the international community as a whole to provide the support required for the completion of the electoral process and ensure the socio-economic reconstruction of the CAR.

b) Cross-cutting issues

85. In addition to the situations on the ground as presented above, there are a number of cross-cutting issues that are relevant to the ongoing efforts to promote peace, security and stability on the Continent. During the period under review, particular attention was devoted to the following issues:

(i) Preventing and combating of terrorism

86. The African Union is endowed with legal instruments, with a Plan of Action for prevention and elimination of terrorism, as well as a tool for information exchange and coordination of cooperation which is the Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT). These tools are subject to continuous development, as illustrated by the publication "African Journal on Terrorism Studies".

87. The various events in the Sahel-Saharan region, including the increase in hostage taking and the payment of ransom to terrorist groups have continued to characterize the news with tensions. The efforts of consultation, coordination and cooperation of the concerned Member States of the AU have initiated a dynamic which include political, diplomatic, military and security, aspects as evidenced by the Ministerial meeting in Algiers and subsequent installation of a common operational structure in Tamanrasset.

88. The double terrorist attack of 11 July 2010 in Kampala, which claimed dozens of innocent victims, underscored the need for greater mobilization of Africa for the prevention and elimination of terrorism. The Commission intends, soon, to present a series of measures intended to increase the effectiveness of African collective action against terrorism.

(ii) Maritime Security and Safety

89. The Assembly will recall that, at its 13th Ordinary Session, held in Sirte in July 2009, it expressed serious concern at the mounting insecurity in the maritime spaces around Africa and Somalia, in particular; strongly condemned all illegal activities in these regions; and welcomed the initiatives undertaken by the Commission to develop a comprehensive and coherent strategy to combat these scourges.

90. As a follow-up to this decision, the Commission convened a Workshop on Maritime Security and Safety in Addis Ababa, from 6 to 7 April 2010. The Workshop, which was attended by AU Member States, RECs and other AU institutions, as well as by the UN and other multilateral and bilateral partners, provided an opportunity to review the challenges facing Africa in terms of maritime security and safety. In this respect, emphasis was placed on illegal, unreported and unregulated fishing (IUU Fishing), dumping of toxic wastes, arms and drugs trafficking, human trafficking, oil bunkering, piracy and armed robbery at sea, etc.

91. Given the importance of this issue to the overall security of the African Continent, the Assembly may wish to lend its support to the conclusions of the Workshop. In particular, the Assembly should call for renewed efforts at national, regional and continental levels to promote maritime security and safety and ensure that Africa takes responsibility and full advantage of its maritime domain, as part of the overall efforts towards the development of the Continent. On its part, the Commission is planning to undertake a series of other activities aimed at raising awareness among the key stakeholders of the Continent, mobilizing the indispensable political will, enhancing capacity at all levels, securing the required resources, as well as building partnerships. A "strategic framework for the security of Africa's maritime domain" will be developed to these ends.

(iii) Unconstitutional changes of Governments

92. Over the past few years, after years of steady progress towards democratization, our Continent has witnessed an unfortunate resurgence of the scourge of coups d'état and other forms of illegal seizures of, or maintenance in, power. Clearly, this trend undermines the ongoing democratization processes and constitutes a serious threat to peace and security on the Continent.

93. It is against this backdrop that the Assembly adopted, in January 2010, a landmark decision enhancing the AU instruments for dealing with unconstitutional changes of Governments. Significantly, this decision articulates a comprehensive approach based on zero tolerance for coups d'état, but also for violations of democratic standards, the persistence and recurrence of which could result in unconstitutional changes of Governments.

94. The successful implementation of this decision requires the full commitment of Member States both in ensuring an effective response to situations of unconstitutional changes, through the implementation of decisions taken in this respect by the PSC, as well as taking the required measures to deepen democratization processes and enhance governance. In this respect, the signature and ratification by Member States that have not yet done so of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance will go a long way in furthering democracy and improving governance on the Continent, thus contributing significantly to the structural prevention of conflicts. It is of great concern that, three and half years after its signature, the Charter has only been ratified only by five Member States.

95. On its part, and as requested by the Assembly in its above-mentioned decision, the PSC intends to take the required steps to fully exercise the powers entrusted to it pursuant to the provisions of Article 7(m) of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council, which stipulates that this body, in collaboration with the Chairperson of the Commission, shall *"follow up, within the framework of its conflict prevention responsibilities, the progress towards the promotion of democratic practices, good governance, the rule of law, protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, respect for the sanctity of human life by Member States".* The appointment, by the Chairperson of the Commission, of an Independent Rapporteur to prepare the report required, for consideration by a meeting to be held at ministerial level is actively considered.

(iv) Border Issues

96. Since the accession of African countries to independence, borders – which were traced during the colonial period - have been a recurrent source of conflicts and contention on the Continent. Close to half a century after the political liberation of the Continent, the delimitation and demarcation of the borders inherited from colonization continued to face major technical and financial problems. Subject to the results of the current inventory undertaken by the Commission, it is estimated that less than one quarter of African frontiers have been defined. This situation gives rise to "grey zoons" within which the exercise of national sovereignty can face problems. Within these zones, a small disagreement between two communities can quickly degenerate and lead to inter-State tensions. Where these zones are rich in natural resources, their management can be difficult and become a source of disagreements.

97. African leaders were quick to come to terms with this problem, conscious as they are, that the realization of greater unity and solidarity between the African countries and peoples requires that the burden of boundaries that separate them be reduced. It is within this context that Member States adopted a number of political and legal instruments to guide their efforts in the management of boundary issues, including the principle of the respect of frontiers inherited at the time of independence.

98. On 7 June 2007, the very first Conference of African Ministers in charge of border issues was held in Addis Ababa, which adopted the Declaration on the African Union Border Programme (AUBP) and the modalities of its implementation, a declaration which was later endorsed by the Executive Council meeting in June

2007. This Declaration is framed around the following axes: delimitation and demarcation of African borders not yet delimited and demarcated, development of trans-border cooperation; capacity building; mobilization of resources and partnerships. At their second Conference held in Addis Ababa on 25 March 2010, African Ministers in charge of border issues reviewed the progress made and the challenges faced. They adopted a Declaration on the AUBP and the modalities of accelerating its implementation.

99. It is critical that Member States increase efforts to implement the AUBP, especially as in recent years, there have been an increase in border disagreements. Fortunately, and thanks to the wisdom of the countries concerned, these disagreements have not degenerated into conflicts.

VII. CONCLUSION

100. As can be seen from the report, the state of peace and security on the Continent is mixed and contrasting. Although significant progress has been made in the last six months, there are many challenges still to be addressed. In this regard, the critical role of the PSC and the need for Member States to provide it with their full cooperation in the execution of its mandate cannot be overemphasized.

101. The multifaceted actions of the AU, as it was the case in the past, embrace a wide variety of activities, ranging from prevention to conflict resolution and to post-conflict reconstruction. The general tendency is towards a reduction in conflicts and tensions, as well as reduction in the number of victims. It is necessary that this positive trend be maintained and strengthened so that significant and notable progress can be made in the efforts within the context "2010: Year of Peace and Security in Africa".

ANNEX I

ROTATING CHAIRMANSHIP OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL FROM APRIL 2010 TO MARCH 2012

COUNTRY	MONTH	YEAR
Benin	April	2010
Burundi	May	"
Chad	June	"
Cote d'Ivoire	July	"
Djibouti	August	"
Equatorial Guinea	September	"
Kenya	October	"
Libya	November	"
Mali	December	"
Mauritania	January	2011
Namibia	February	"
Nigeria	March	"
Rwanda	April	"
South Africa	May	"
Zimbabwe	June	"
Benin	July	"
Burundi	August	"
Chad	September	"
Cote d'Ivoire	October	"
Djibouti	November	"
Equatorial Guinea	December	"
Kenya	January	2012
Libya	February	"
Mali	March	"

2010 MAKE PEACE HAPPEN

ANNEX II

MEETINGS AND BRIEFING SESSIONS OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION, JANUARY 2010 – JUNE 2010

Meeting/ Briefing	Date	Agenda	Communiqué/ Other Output	Working Documents
214th 215th	8 January 2010	1. Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson on the situation in Somalia 2. Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson on the situation in CAR	Communiqué on Somalia : **PSC/PR/Comm.(CCXIV)** Communiqué on CAR: **PSC/PR/COMM(CCXV)**	1. Report of the Chairperson on the situation in Somalia 2. Report of the Chairperson on the situation in CAR
213th (continuation) 25 January 2010		1. Continuation of the Ezulwini Framework for the enhancement of the implementation of African Union sanctions in situations of Unconstitutional changes of government in Africa	Communiqué: **PSC/PR/COMM.2(CCXIII)**	Ezulwini framework for the enhancement of the implementation of African Union sanctions in situations of Unconstitutional changes of government in Africa. **[PSC/PR/(CCXIII)]**
216th	19 February 2010	1. Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Madagascar. 2. Briefing on the situation in Niger	Communiqué : **PSC/PR/COMM.1(CCXVI)** Communiqué : **PSC/PR/COMM.2(CCXVI)**	1. Report of the Chairperson on the situation in Madagascar **PSC/PR/2(CCXVI)**

217th	25 February 2010	Briefing on recent developments in the situation in Somalia.	Press Statement: **PSC/PR/BR.(CCXVII)**	
218th	5 March 2010	Briefing on recent developments in the situation in Côte d'Ivoire.	Press Statement : **PSC/PR/BR(CCXVIII)**	
219th	10 March 2010	Consideration of the Report of the Commission on the Pre-Election Evaluation Mission to Sudan.	Communiqué: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXIX)**	
220th	11 March 2010	1. Briefing on recent developments in the situation in Niger; 2. Briefing on recent developments in the situation in the Republic of Guinea.	Press Statements: **1. PSC/PR/BR.1(CCXX)** **2. PSC/PR/BR.2(CCXX)**	
221st	17 March 2010	1. Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on recent developments in the situation in Madagascar; 2. Engagement with the UN Peace Building Commission.	Communiqué on Madagascar: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXI)**	

222nd	29 March 2010	1. Briefing on the developments in Guinea Bissau 2. Briefing on the establishment of the African Standby Force (ASF).	Communiqué on Guinea Bissau: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXII)**	
223rd	30 March 2010	1. Consideration of the situation of Women and Children in armed conflicts in Africa; 2. Briefing to the PRC on the activities of the Peace and Security Council during the month of March 2010;	Press Statement on Women and Children in armed conflict in Africa: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXIII)**	Report entitled: Mitigating vulnerabilities of Women and Children in Armed Conflicts PSC and Panel of the Wise initiatives.
224th	9 April 2010	Briefing on the contribution of the PSC to the Year of Peace and Security in Africa and the distribution of the budget of the PSC.	Press Statement: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXIV)**	
225th	14 April 2010	Briefing on the activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross in Africa	Press Statement: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXV)**	
226th	19 April 2010	Briefing by the Facilitators of the Review of the UN Peace Building Commission	Press Statement: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXVI)**	

227th	22 April 2010	Briefing on the developments in the Comoros	Press Statement: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXVII)**	
228th	3 May 2010	Briefing on recent developments in Côte d'Ivoire.	Press Statement: **PSC/PR/BR(CCXXVIII)**	
229th	6 May 2010	Consideration of the programme of the PSC for 2010 - Year of Peace and Security in Africa.		
230th	27 May 2010	Consideration of the Report of the AU multidisciplinary evaluation mission on the post-conflict reconstruction needs in Burundi and Democratic Republic of Congo.		
231st	15 June 2010	Preparation for the joint consultative meeting between the AU PSC and UN Security Council.		Exchange of Letters between the Chairperson of CPS and the Chairperson of UNPBC
232nd	17 June 2010	1. Briefing on recent developments on the situation in Niger 2. Briefing on the developments on the situation in the Republic of Guinea	Press Statements on : Guinea: **PSC/PR/BR.1(CCXXXII)** Niger: **PSC/PR/BR.2(CCXXXII)**	
233rd	24 June 2010	Continuation of the preparation for the Joint Consultative Meeting between the AU PSC and the UN Security Council.	Draft joint Communiqué of the UN Security Council and AU Peace and Security Council	

234th	28 June 2010	Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire	Communiqué of the PSC: **PSC/PR/COMM(CCXXXIV)**	Report of the Chairperson: **PSC/PR/2 (CCXXXIV)**
235th	2 July 2010	Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the activities of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) on Sudan	Communiqué of the PSC: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXXV)**	Report of the Chairperson: **PSC/PR/2(CCXXXV)**
236th	5 July 2010	1. Improving the method of considering conflict and crisis situations and the formulation of communiqués 2. Briefing on recent developments in the situation in Comoros	Communiqué of the PSC: **PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXXVI)**	Documents: 1. Agreement of the Union of the Comoros for management of the Interim period 2. Programme proposal of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire (Chairperson of the PSC for the month of July 2010)

"*We are determined to deal once and for all with the scourge of conflicts and violence on our Continent, acknowledging our shortcomings and errors, committing our resources and our best people, and missing no opportunity to push forward the agenda of conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping and post-conflict reconstruction. We, as leaders, simply cannot bequeath the burden of conflicts to the next generation of Africans*." (Paragraph 9 of the Tripoli Declaration of 31 August 2009).