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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
224TH MEETING
9 APRIL 2010
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXXIV)

PRESS STATEMENT

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The Peace and Security of the African Union (AU), at its 224th meeting held on 9 April 2010, was briefed by the Commission on the Year of Peace and Security in Africa.

Council expressed its appreciation to the Chairperson of the Commission, Mr. Jean Ping, who took part in the meeting, following the election of the new members of the Peace and Security Council by the 14th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, and welcomed the support extended by the Commission in the fulfillment of its mandate. Council echoed the appeal made by the Chairperson of the Commission for renewed efforts towards the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa, notably in Somalia, with the provision of the required troops and other personnel in order to enable AMISOM to reach its authorized strength.

Council expressed its appreciation to the Commission for the initiatives already taken to implement the Year of Peace and Security, in accordance with the Tripoli Declaration on the Elimination of Conflicts in Africa and the Promotion of Sustainable Peace [SP/ASSEMBLY/PS/DECL.(I)], adopted by the Special Session of the Assembly of the Union on the Consideration and Resolution of Conflicts in Africa, and Decision Assembly/AU/Dec.275(XIV) on the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Year of Peace and Security in Africa - [Doc. Assembly/AU/5(XIV)], adopted by the 14th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Addis Ababa from 31 January to 2 February 2010. Council encouraged the Commission to pursue its efforts and do everything possible to ensure the involvement of the African people and civil society organizations in the implementation of the activities planned within the framework of the Year of Peace and Security.

Council urged Member States to urgently identify the activities they intend to undertake within the framework of the Year of Peace and Security, bearing in mind the elements contained in the report of the Chairperson of the Commission to the 14th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union and the decision adopted on this occasion. In addition, Council called on all stakeholders, including the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), civil society and private sector, as well as international partners, to join the AU in promoting the Year of Peace and Security in Africa.

In line with the Decision of the Assembly of the Union, Council agreed to undertake a number of activities to support the Year of Peace and Security, including field missions and meetings devoted to issues related to the promotion of peace and security on the continent, as well as a reflection on the causes of the difficulties encountered in the resolution of some conflicts. Council also agreed to take the opportunity of its annual meetings with the United Nations Security Council and the European Union Political and Security Committee to highlight the objectives of the Year of Peace and Security and the activities undertaken within this framework.

Addis Ababa, 9 April 2010

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