

AFRICAN UNION

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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
82nd MEETING
23 JULY 2007
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

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**PRESS STATEMENT ON
THE SITUATION IN THE COMOROS**

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The Peace and Security Council of the African Union, at its 82nd meeting held on 23 July 2007, was briefed by the Commission, supplemented by the representative of South Africa, the country coordinating the regional efforts on the Comoros, on the outcome of the Meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Countries of the Region on the Comoros, held in Pretoria, South Africa, on 8 and 9 July 2007, and on the subsequent developments in the Comoros.

Council commended the countries of the region, under the leadership of South Africa, for their untiring efforts aimed at resolving the crisis that arose following the decision of the Anjouanese authorities to go ahead with the election of the President of the Island on 10 June 2007, in violation of the presidential decree postponing the said election. In this respect, Council recalled its decision of 9 June 2007 warning the Anjouanese authorities against the organization of the election and indicating that the African Union and the international community would not recognize the outcome of this election.

Council expressed its full support for the conclusions adopted by the meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the Countries of the Region.

Council welcomed the visit to the Comoros, starting from today, of the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the Commission, and assured him of its confidence and full support. Council expressed hope that this visit will result in the full and formal acceptance of the conclusions of the Pretoria meeting, as well as in their speedy and scrupulous implementation.

Council will meet in due course to review the situation in the Comoros and decide on the best way forward.

Addis Ababa, 23 July 2007

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