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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
86TH MEETING
10 AUGUST 2007
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/Comm(LXXXVI)

COMMUNIQUE

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The Peace and Security Council of the African Union, at its 86th Meeting held on 10 August 2007, adopted the following Communiqué on the status of implementation of the 7 September 2006 Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and Palipehutu-FNL:

Council,

1. **Recalls** communiqué PSC/PR/Comm(LXXXI) of its 81st meeting held on 20 July 2007, on the implementation of the Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement of 7 September 2006 between the Government of the Republic of Burundi and the Palipehutu-FNL of Agathon Rwasa;
2. **Expresses** serious concern with the deterioration of the political situation in Burundi resulting from the differences which emerged recently between the Government and the opposition parties;
3. **Deplores** the withdrawal of Palipehutu-FNL from the Joint Verification and Monitoring Mechanism (JVMM) for the implementation of the 7 September 2006 Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement between the Government of Burundi and Palipehutu-FNL. Council **urges** the Palipehutu-FNL to immediately resume its participation in the Joint Verification and Monitoring Mechanism and to engage on the path of dialogue in the spirit of the Dar es Salaam meeting held on 17 June 2007, between President Pierre Nkurunziza and the leader of Palipehutu-FNL, Agathon Rwasa;
4. **Encourages** the Facilitation to, once again, undertake the necessary contacts to reenergize and speed up the process of implementing the Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement;
5. **Expresses** its gratitude to South Africa for its generous contribution to the African Union Special Task Force in Burundi;
6. **Reiterates** its call upon the parties to honor their obligations and commitments with a view to accelerating the implementation of the Comprehensive Ceasefire Agreement which should be concluded at the latest by December 2007;
7. **Invites** the Government, political opposition and all other stakeholders, to follow the path of dialogue to resolve the differences bearing in mind the interest of Burundi and the need to safeguard the institutions before everything else and **expresses** its support and encouragement to all those who deploy efforts on the ground, including representatives from the civil society and the international community, to promote a solution to the situation;
8. **Commends** the Regional Initiative and the Facilitation for the efforts they have deployed to assist the people of Burundi in regaining peace. Council **appeals** to the Regional Initiative to urgently examine the situation in Burundi with a view to addressing

the challenges facing the peace process so as to ensure that the gains achieved after the protracted efforts and sacrifices by the people of Burundi, the Region and the Continent as a whole, with the support of the international community, are preserved and consolidated;

9. **Expresses** its concern at the severe socio-economic situation in Burundi and encourages the Government, working together with its partners, to create conditions for addressing the situation;

10. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.

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