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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
187th MEETING
8 MAY 2009
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/BR(CLXXXVII)

PRESS STATEMENT

PRESS STATEMENT OF THE 187th
MEETING OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 187th meeting held on 8 May 2009, received briefings from the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Chad and the Commission on the incursions by armed elements in Eastern Chad and the situation on the ground.

Council strongly condemned the attacks perpetrated on 4 May 2009 by armed groups in Eastern Chad. In this regard, Council reaffirmed the rejection and condemnation by the AU of any destabilization attempt and unconstitutional change of Government.

Council endorsed the communiqué issued by the Chairperson of the Commission on 5 May 2009 on the situation in Eastern Chad, and welcomed the efforts that he continues to deploy, as well as those of the current Chairperson of the African Union.

Council expressed its serious concern at the deterioration of the situation deeply regretted the loss of lives and made an urgent appeal for the cessation of hostilities.

Council noted with regret that this escalation has occurred in the aftermath of the Agreement between Sudan and Chad, in Doha, Qatar, on 3 May 2009, as part of efforts to contribute to the normalization of relations between the two countries.

Council requested the strict respect of the commitments made and the relevant principles of the AU, particularly non-interference and good neighborliness, so that the region can overcome the current difficulties and persevere in the search for peace, stability and security. Council demanded that the States of the region take, without delay, the necessary steps to prevent their territories from being used by armed groups involved in criminal and destabilization activities.

Council agreed to meet again for further consideration of the situation and the relations between Sudan and Chad.

Addis Ababa, 8 May 2009

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