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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
32nd MEETING
17 JUNE 2005
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/ Decl. (XXXII)

DECLARATION OF THE 32ND MEETING
OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE INTERNATIONAL
CONFERENCE ON THE GREAT LAKES REGION

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1. The Peace and Security Council of the African Union, at its 32nd meeting, held in open session on 17 June 2005, considered the report of the Chairperson on the Commission on the Process of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region [PSC/PR/2 (XXXII)]. The Council was also briefed by the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General to the Great Lakes Region, Ibrahima Fall, and the Special Envoy a.i of the Chairperson of the Commission to the Great Lakes Region, Mamadou Bah. In addition, the Council also received communications from representatives of the co-Chairs of the Group of Friends of the Great Lakes Region.
2. The Council **notes with satisfaction** the progress made during the first phase of the Conference, which culminated in the adoption of the Dar-es-Salaam Declaration on Peace, Security, Democracy and Development, by the Heads of State of the member countries of the Conference, during the Summit that took place from 19 to 20 November 2004. The Council **urges** all the member countries to immediately implement the specific and pertinent clauses of the Declaration, notably those related to the restoration of security at their common borders; voluntary repatriation of refugees; disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of ex-combatants; and the principles of non-subversion and non-intervention.
3. The Council **notes also with satisfaction** the progress made in the preparation of the second phase of the Conference, which shall culminate in the convening of the Nairobi Summit, on 14 and 15 November 2005, during which the Heads of State of member countries of the Conference shall adopt the Security, Stability and Development Pact for the Great Lakes Region. In this respect, the Council **encourages** the Joint AU/UN Secretariat to mobilize all the necessary support for the successful holding of the second Summit.
4. The Council **expresses appreciation** at the sustained diplomatic, political, technical and financial support to the process of the Conference and to the joint AU/UN Secretariat by the Group of Friends, co-chaired by Canada and the Netherlands, and which includes, among other members, Gabon, Nigeria and South Africa. The Council **encourages** the Group of Friends to continue to support the process.
5. The Council **commends** the reinforced cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in the process of the Conference, as well as the involvement of the Regional Economic Communities (RECs), NEPAD and the African Development Bank (ADB). It also **welcomes** the inclusiveness of the preparatory process of the Conference in which various segments of the population take part, in addition to government representatives.
6. The Council **welcomes** and **supports** the decision to declare the Great Lakes Region 'Specific Reconstruction and Development Area' endowed with a 'Special Fund for Reconstruction'. In that regard, the Council **calls** on the United Nations, the

European Union (EU), the G8, the Group of Friends of the Great Lakes Region, as well as the other development partners, to contribute substantially to the said Fund. The Council **welcomes** the commitment expressed by the countries of the Region to mobilize the resources available in the Region within the framework of the said Fund.

7. The council **requests** the current Chairperson of the African Union and the Chairperson of the Commission to sensitize the rest of the international community, in particular the United Nations, the Group of Friends, the EU, the G8, and other development partners, during forums and other appropriate frameworks, for them to provide all the necessary support to the Conference, including the mobilization of the required resources to respond to the huge reconstruction needs in the framework of the Security, Stability and Development Pact for the Great Lakes Region.

8. The Council **further urges** the RECs active in the Region to integrate the recommendations that will be adopted by the Nairobi Summit into their respective work plans in order to facilitate their effective implementation.

2005

Declaration of the 32nd Meeting of the Peace and Security Council on the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region

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