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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

34th MEETING

3 JULY 2005

SIRTE (LIBYA)

PSC/Min/Comm.(XXXIV) – (ii)

COMMUNIQUE

COMMUNIQUE ON THE PEACE PROCESS IN COTE D'IVOIRE

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 34th meeting held on 3rd July 2005, adopted the following decision on the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire:

Council,

1. **Welcomes** the progress made in the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire since its 23rd meeting, held in Libreville, on 10 January 2005, in particular the signing by the Ivorian parties, on 6 April 2005, in Pretoria, of the Agreement on the Peace Process in Cote d'Ivoire (the Pretoria Agreement) and the steps taken towards its implementation, including the announcement made by President Laurent Gbagbo, on 26 April 2005, that all candidates nominated by the political parties signatory to the Linas-Marcoussis Agreement of 24 January 2003 would be eligible for the presidential elections, in conformity with the decision taken by President Thabo Mbeki, the AU Mediator, with respect to the eligibility for the Presidency of the Republic, and the Agreement on the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) Process and on the Restructuring of the Armed Forces, signed on 14 May 2005, in Yamoussoukro, by the Chiefs of Staff of the National Armed Forces of Côte d'Ivoire (FANCI) and the Armed Forces of the Forces Nouvelles (FAFN);

2. **Further welcomes** the Declaration on the Implementation of the Pretoria Agreement (Pretoria Declaration), signed by the Ivorian parties in Pretoria, on 29 June 2005;

3. **Demands** that all the signatories to the Pretoria Agreement and Declaration and all the Ivorian parties implement the agreements reached in good faith and without delay and work together to remove all obstacles with a view to ensuring that elections are held as scheduled, in October 2005, in particular through :

- (i) the adoption of further measures to strengthen the Joint Declaration on the End of the War made on 6 April 2005 in Pretoria,
- (ii) the effective and immediate commencement of the disarmament and dismantling of the militia with a view to completing the process by 20 August 2005,
- (iii) the implementation of the DDR programme, and
- (iv) the adoption by the National Assembly, by 15 July 2005, of all the amendments to the seven laws pertaining to the ongoing process, as proposed by the Mediation;

4. **Stresses** the need for all the Ivorian parties to abide by the Constitution of the country, as part of the overall efforts to facilitate the conclusion of the peace process. Council **also expresses** its support to the National Reconciliation Government, and **reiterates** the need to ensure its effective functioning and promote greater cohesion among its members, to

enable it fully assume its responsibilities, as provided for in the Linas-Marcousis Agreement and subsequent agreements reached by the Ivorian parties;

5. **Calls upon** all the Ivorian parties to cooperate fully with the United Nations Operation in Côte d'Ivoire (UNOCI), to enable it discharge effectively its mandate and contribute to the early conclusion of the peace process in Côte d'Ivoire;

6. **Commends** President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa for his tireless mediation efforts and **requests** him to pursue these efforts with a view to facilitating the conclusion of the peace process. In this regard, Council **calls on** all the Ivorian parties to continue to extend full cooperation to the Mediator and seek his assistance in the event of difficulties in the implementation of the existing agreements;

7. **Condemns** the recent massacres in Duekoué, in the western part of Cote d'Ivoire, and **urges** the Ivorian parties to work together to prevent the recurrence of such incidents;

8. **Affirms** its determination, upon recommendation by the Mediator, to impose appropriate sanctions against those parties who would block the peace process by failing to implement their commitments under the Pretoria Agreement and to request the UN Security Council to proceed with the implementation of paragraphs 9 and 11 of resolution 1572 (2004), as agreed upon by the Ivorian parties in the Pretoria Declaration of 29 June 2005;

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

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