

AFRICAN UNION

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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

78TH MEETING

9 JUNE 2007

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM (LXXVIII)

COMMUNIQUE ON THE SITUATION IN THE COMOROS

COMMUNIQUE OF THE 78TH MEETING OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL ON THE SITUATION IN THE COMOROS

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union, at its 78th meeting held on an emergency basis on 9 June 2007, adopted the following decision on the situation in the Comoros:

Council:

1. **TAKES NOTE** of the Decree of the President of the Union of the Comoros postponing to 17 June 2007 the election of the President of the Autonomous Island of Anjouan, which was scheduled to be held on 10 June 2007, and **ENDORSES** the assessment of the Comorian authorities that the prevailing conditions in Anjouan, notably security conditions, are not conducive for the holding of free, fair and transparent elections;
2. **URGES** all the parties concerned to exercise restraint and to extend the necessary cooperation to the African Union and to its Mission on the ground, the African Union Electoral and Security Assistance Mission to the Comoros (MAES), in order to create conditions conducive to the holding, on 17 June 2007, of free, fair and transparent elections in the Autonomous Island of Anjouan. In this respect, Council **WARNS** against any attempt by the Anjouanese authorities to organize the election this Sunday 10 June 2007, in violation of the Presidential Decree, and **STRESSES** that the African Union and the international community at large will not recognize the result of such an election;
3. **REQUESTS**, in the meantime, MAES to continue to provide the requisite assistance and support to facilitate the holding, on Sunday 10 June 2007, of the election of the Presidents of the Autonomous Islands of Grande Comore and Moheli;
4. **EXPRESSES** its appreciation to South Africa for its role as coordinator of the regional efforts on the Comoros and for its contribution to MAES. Council **ALSO EXPRESSES** its appreciation to Senegal, Sudan and Tanzania for having pledged civilian and military personnel to MAES, whose deployment in the mission area has already begun;
5. **REQUESTS** the Commission, working with the troop and police contributing countries, to take all the necessary steps to accelerate the deployment of MAES, including that of the military component of the Mission;
6. **EXPRESSES** its gratitude to the League of Arab States for the financial assistance extended to facilitate the deployment of MAES and for its contribution in support of the holding and the observation of the election of the Presidents of the

Autonomous Islands of the Union of the Comoros, and to the Indian Ocean Commission for its support to the ongoing process in the Comoros;

7. **REITERATES** its determination to take all necessary steps to assist in the effective establishment of the new institutional framework of the Comoros, as provided for in the Fomboni and Beit Salam Agreements of February 2001 and December 2003, respectively, including the restoration of the authority of the Government of the Union in Anjouan;

8. **APPEALS** to the United Nations Security Council and the African Union partners to fully support the present decision;

7. **DECIDES** to remain seized of the matter.

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