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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
128TH MEETING
26 MAY 2008
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/Comm(CXXVIII)

COMMUNIQUE

COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE 128TH MEETING OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 128th meeting held on 26 May 2008, adopted the following decision on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire:

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire and the statements made by the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the Commission for Côte d'Ivoire, the Principal Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Côte d'Ivoire and the Representative of the Government of Côte d'Ivoire;

2. **Reiterates** the AU's support for the Ouagadougou Political Agreement of 4 March 2007 and for the Additional Agreements of 26 March and 28 November 2007 signed within the framework of the Direct Dialogue facilitated by President Blaise Compaoré of Burkina Faso, current Chairperson of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS);

3. **Notes with satisfaction** the progress recorded in the peace process and **commends** particularly the measures taken, by consensus, to schedule the date of the presidential election for 30 November 2008;

4. **Urges** the Government, the political leadership and all Ivorian parties to step up their efforts in order to speed up the implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and the Additional Agreements, and to take all the necessary measures to settle pending issues in the peace process, particularly the disbarment if ex-combatants and the dismantlement of militia so that the presidential election can be organized and held under conducive conditions on 30 November 2008;

5. **Requests the concerned Ivorian** parties to do everything possible to conclude the special accelerated operations envisaged within the context of the mobile court hearings, in areas where they will be deemed necessary, the recompilation of civil status registers that were lost or destroyed during the conflict, the issue of new identity documents for any person enrolled in the final electoral register, as well as to finalize all military and para-military issues relating to effective restoration of state authority and the redeployment of government services;

6. **Encourages** the Ivorian parties to maintain and consolidate the momentum of peace existing in the country. Accordingly, Council requests all the Ivorian parties as a whole to ensure strict respect for the Code of Good Conduct during the elections, signed on 24 April 2008, under the auspices of the United Nations Secretary-General, according to which the parties pledged, inter-alia, to support the holding of democratic, free, open and transparent elections, and to respect the results of the poll and in case of any disputes, to abide by judicial and legal procedures;

7. **Pays tribute** to the Facilitator of the Direct Dialogue, President Blaise Compaoré of Burkina Faso, current Chairperson of the ECOWAS for his unrelenting efforts which have made possible the progress achieved in the peace process in Cote d'Ivoire, **encourages** him to remain involved until the successful conclusion of the ongoing progress, and **requests** the parties to lend him their total cooperation;

8. **Appeals** to ECOWAS, the United Nations and the international community at large to continue supporting the efforts of the Facilitator and the Ivorian parties;

9. **Commends** the international partners' commitment and **requests** them to lend the necessary support for the success of the peace process, particularly for the components where funding needs are not yet totally covered;

10. **Encourages** the Commission to continue providing support for the implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and the Additional Agreements. In this respect, Council **commends** the decision taken by the Chairperson of the Commission to dispatch a pre-electoral evaluation multi-disciplinary mission to Côte d'Ivoire that will carry out an evaluation of the situation and recommend the type of support the AU may provide to the electoral process, including observation of elections of 30 November 2008;

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

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