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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
143RD MEETING
24 JULY 2008
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

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PRESS STATEMENT

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The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 143rd meeting held on 24 July 2008, received a briefing on the implementation of the Ouagadougou Political Agreement and the Additional Agreements, from the AU Special Representative for Côte d'Ivoire, Ambassador Ambroise Nyonsaba. Council also received a statement from the Representative of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire.

Council noted with satisfaction the progress made, concerning the funding of the electoral process. Council encouraged all concerned actors to do their utmost to resolve the logistical problems, in order to enable the presidential election to take place by the 30 November 2008 deadline.

Council encouraged the Ivorian parties, as well as their partners, to address, with the same determination, other aspects of the peace process, including the provision of the necessary financial resources to assist the process of disarmament, demobilization and re-integration, as well as the effective functioning of the national civic service, essentially to avoid a pre-election and post-election crisis.

Council renewed its gratitude to all actors, both Ivorians and representatives of the international community, for their commitment to the peace process in Cote d'Ivoire, and in particular, pays tribute to His Excellency President Blaise Compaore of Burkina Faso, Facilitator of the Direct Inter-Ivorian Dialogue and current Chairman of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Addis Ababa, 24 July 2008

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