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**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
FIFTEENTH ORDINARY SESSION
24 – 30 June 2009
Sirte, Libya**

EX.CL/518 (XV)

**REPORT ON THE SIXTH MEETING OF AFRICAN CHIEFS
OF DEFENCE STAFF AND HEADS OF SECURITY
(ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 14 MAY 2009)**
AND
**THE THIRD ORDINARY MEETING OF AFRICAN
MINISTERS OF DEFENCE, SAFETY AND SECURITY
(ADDIS ABABA, 15 MAY 2009)**

**REPORT ON THE SIXTH MEETING OF AFRICAN CHIEFS OF DEFENCE
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DEFENCE, SAFETY AND SECURITY
(ADDIS ABABA, 15 MAY 2009)**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At their 2nd Ordinary Session, held in Addis Ababa on 28 March 2008, the African Ministers of Defence, Safety and Security (AMDSS) reviewed the progress made in the operationalization of the African Standby Force (ASF). The Ministers adopted ASF policy documents on doctrine, Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs), logistics, training and evaluation, command and control. The Ministers accepted, in principle, the new documents formulated with respect to the ASF Rapid Deployment Capability (RDC), as well as the Logistics Depot Study Report. The Ministers also agreed the meet each year to take stock of efforts aimed at making the ASF fully operational and deciding on the way forward.

2. At its 13th Ordinary Session held in Sharm-El-Sheikh, in Egypt, from 24 to 28 June 2008, the Executive Council ratified the recommendations contained in the Declaration adopted by the Second Ordinary Session of the AMDS, and requested the Commission to work in close collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Mechanisms, as well as Member States, towards the implementation, as soon as possible, of the recommendations made for the operationalization of the ASF by 2010. In order to better monitor progress made in this regard, the Ministers decided to meet regularly each year.

3. In keeping with this decision, the 3rd Ordinary Session of the Specialized Technical Committee on Defence, Safety and Security (STCDSS), composed of African Ministers of Defence, Safety and Security (AMDSS), was held in Addis Ababa on 15 May 2009. This meeting was preceded by a meeting of experts, from 11 to 13 May 2009, and the Meetings of African Chiefs of Defence Staff and Heads of Security (ACDS) on 14 May 2009.

4. This report gives an account of the conduct of the meeting as well as its conclusions.

**II. CONDUCT OF THE MEETING OF AFRICAN MINISTERS OF DEFENCE,
SAFETY AND SECURITY AND PREPARATORY MEETINGS**

5. As indicated above, the STCDSS meeting was preceded by the Meeting of Experts, from 11 to 13 May 2009, and the ACDS Meeting on 14 May 2009. Representatives of Member States, ECOWAS, ECCAS and SADC, as well as the Eastern African Brigade Standby Coordination Mechanism (EASBRICOM) and the North African Regional Capability (NARC) also participated in the meeting.

6. The meeting of experts reviewed the progress made towards the operationalization of the ASF and examined the second ASF Roadmap. After

discussions, the meeting adopted a report to be submitted to ACDS. The report of the experts is annexed hereto.

7. The ACDS meeting, which held on 14 May 2009, endorsed in its Conclusions the recommendations of the experts and highlighted the following points:

- necessity of setting up a Finance Committee to examine modalities for financing peacekeeping missions by the AU;
- statement of the financial requirements for setting up information and communication systems;
- development of the strategic lift concept, in close cooperation with the regions;
- conduct of the continental Exercise AMANI-AFRICA within schedule (March – April 2010);
- development of the police component, with special emphasis on setting up databases, bringing staff strength under control and stating training needs ; and,
- development of the civilian component, with emphasis on recruitment, coordination between AU and RECs/RMs as well as harmonization of procedures.

8. With regard to the continental logistics base, the meeting decided to refer the matter to the Meeting of Ministers. For its part, the Commission recommended that a new study be conducted to determine the :

- estimated costs of transportation and of protection measures against humidity;
- expenses to be borne by the AU Commission to fully operationalize it;
- time frame for setting up the base;
- participation of regional brigades staff in the evaluation and formulation of recommendations.

9. The SCDSS met on 15 May 2009. This meeting provided an update on the progress made towards the establishment of the ASF and underscored the need to intensify efforts to fully operationalize it. In that regard, the meeting particularly:

- decided that a Finance Committee should be set up to make proposals in respect of finding predictable and sustainable means of funding for peacekeeping missions;
- took note of the fact that the technical evaluation team had not submitted a report and decided to delay the decision on the location of the Continental Logistics Base until details of the technical evaluation become available;
- requested the Commission to come out with cost implications of the information and communication systems, and recommended that Africa look inwards in

provisioning for the requirements, because of its responsibilities and the sensitive nature of the information involved;

- took note of ongoing activities relating to the development of the ASF's rapid deployment capacity (RDC) concept, and invites the Commission to continue its efforts and to conduct the other regional seminars on that concept;
- took into account the ongoing activities in the development of the Strategic Lift concept; and,
- urged the Commission to ensure that Exercise AMANI-AFRICA is conducted within schedule and encouraged Member States to second officers to the Commission for that exercise and to sustain them during the period of their secondment.

10. The meeting also made recommendations relating to the police and civilian components of the ASF. It further discussed the issue of belonging to one or several regional brigades. It was felt that this is a matter of national sovereignty and choice, and that it depends on the capacity of the countries concerned to fulfill their obligations to both brigades at the same time. The Declaration of the Specialized Committee on Defence, Security and Safety (SCDSS) is annexed

III. OBSERVATIONS

11. . The SCDSS meeting marked a new stage in the establishment of the ASF. It is important for the Executive Council to endorse the Declaration of the meeting to enable the Commission to proceed with the implementation, in conjuncture with all the actors involved.

12. Significant progress was recorded, especially as concerns the establishment of the regional brigades and the police component of the Force. Furthermore, preparations in view of the conduct of Exercise AMANI-AFRICA are underway. This Staff exercise will make it possible to test the actual state of readiness of the ASF and to review some of the hypotheses on which it was founded. The aim is to make it easy to introduce the required adjustments so that the ASF can effectively address the challenges confronting the continent in the promotion of peace, security and stability.

13. However, there is still much to be done for the ASF to become fully operational. This concerns notably the development of the civilian component of the ASF, funding of peace support operations undertaken by the AU, the establishment of adequate structures within the Commission and the adoption of appropriate procedures.

14. The establishment of the ASF entails even stronger political will, while Member States have to lend the necessary support, both financial and human. Substantial financial resources, which should not be provided solely by external partners, are needed to render the ASF operational. Hence the necessity to find appropriate solutions that can enable Member States to take full ownership of the African Standby Force (ASF).

EX.CL.518 (XV)
Annex I

REPORT OF THE EXPERTS MEETING

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**EXPERTS MEETING FOR THE SIXTH MEETING OF AFRICAN CHIEFS
OF DEFENCE STAFF AND THE THIRD ORDINARY MEETING OF THE
SPECIALIZED COMMITTEE OF DEFENCE, SAFETY AND SECURITY**

**11-15 MAY 2009
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

REPORT OF THE EXPERTS MEETING

REPORT OF THE EXPERTS MEETING

I. INTRODUCTION

1. It will be recalled that on 28 March 2008, in Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia, the African Ministers of Defense and Security (AMDS) met during their 2nd Ordinary Session to review the progress made in the operationalization of the ASF and the Military Staff Committee (MSC). The Meeting was preceded by the 5th Meeting of Chiefs of Defence Staff (ACDS) and Heads of Security and the Meeting of Experts from 24 to 27 March 2008.

2. The AMDS adopted the ASF policy documents on Doctrine, SOPs, Logistics, Training and Evaluation, Command, Control, Communication and Information Systems (C³IS) and accepted, in principle, the additional documents formulated with respect to the ASF Rapid Deployment Capability (RDC) and the Logistics Depot Study Report and requested the Commission, in liaison with the Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs) and Member States, to further continue developing these areas and submit proposals by 2010.

3. In line with the conclusions of the 5th Meeting of the African Chiefs of Defence Staff and Heads of Security (ACDS) and the Declaration of the Ministers of Defence and Security (ADMS), the AUC adopted Roadmap II for the operationalization of the ASF in July 2008. The ASF Roadmap II was aimed at finalizing the issues outstanding from Roadmap I, consolidate the achievements, and focus on developing the ASF's capacity to meet the challenges of AU Peace Support Operations (PSO).

4. Among other issues, the ACDS urged the AUC to convene, once a year, a meeting of the ACDS and Heads of Security and RECs/RMs, to discuss matters relating to the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA). The name "Specialized Committee on Defence, Safety and Security" was endorsed in June 2008 during the Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Sharm El Sheikh, in replacement of "African Ministers of Defence, Safety and Security".

5. Against this background, the AUC convened the 3rd Ordinary Meeting of African Ministers of Defence and Security (AMDS) on 15 May 2009, at Addis-Ababa, Ethiopia. This meeting was preceded by an Experts' Meeting, from 11 to 12 May 2009, and the 6th Meeting of Specialized Committee on Defence, Safety and Security, on 14th May 2009. The Experts Meeting was held at the Conference Centre of African Union Commission and was attended by representatives of Member States of the AU and Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs).

II. OPENING

6. The meeting was formally opened by the AUC Acting Director for Peace and Security, Mr. El Ghassim Wane. He welcomed the participants on behalf of the Commissioner for Peace and Security, and recalled the outcome of the previous meeting of the AMDS held in Addis Ababa on 28 March 2008. He indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to take stock of the progress made in implementing those recommendations. He urged the participants to bear in mind that the ASF was only one aspect of a complex machinery of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) that required coordination and cooperation among its various components.

7. The Acting Director pointed out that operationalization of the ASF required predictable and sustainable funding. In this regard, he referred to the report of the Prodi Panel that was convened at the instance of the UN Secretary-General and said that there was an ongoing debate between the AU and the UN on the report, to see how best it could be implemented.

III. ELECTION OF THE BUREAU

8. Following consultations, the following members were elected:

- | | | |
|--------------------------------|---|------------------------------------|
| - Col. Alhadi Rahuma | - | Chair (NARC) |
| - Maj General Hamedi Abdalla | - | Vice Chair |
| - Brig. Gen. Rizogo Rousseelot | - | Vice Chair (ECCAS) |
| - Col. Benson Omoyugbo | - | Vice Chair (ECOWAS) |
| - Brig. Gen. SM Dlamini | - | Vice Chair (SADC) |
| - Maj. Gen. Hanfii Abdalla | - | Vice Chair/Rapporteur (EASBRICOM). |

IV. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

9. After the election of the Bureau, Colonel Alhadi Rahuma assumed his position as Chairperson of the Experts' Meeting of the Specialized Committee on Defence, Security and Safety. He noted that with the formation of the Specialized Committee on Defence, Security and Safety, there was need to develop a rule of procedure for the Committee to enable it to deliberate on issues in a proper and expeditious manner. Subsequently, the following agenda was adopted:

- a. Organization of Work;
- b. Update on the progress in the operationalization of the ASF;
- c. Consideration of ASF Roadmap II;
- d. Consideration of other matters;
- e. Consideration and adoption of recommendations addressed to the ACDS;
- f. Closing session.

V. ORGANIZATION OF WORK

10. The meeting adopted the following working hours:

- | | | | | |
|----|-------------|---|------------|-----------------|
| a. | 11 May 2009 | - | Morning : | 09.00 to 1300. |
| | | | Afternoon: | 14.00 to 1800. |
| b. | 12 May 2009 | - | Morning: | 09.00 to 13.00. |
| | | | Afternoon: | 14.30 to 18.00. |

VI. ITEM 1: UPDATE ON PROGRESS OF ASF OPERATIONALIZATION

OVERVIEW OF ASF PROGRESS

11. A representative of the Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD) of the AU Commission gave an update on the operationalization of the ASF since the AMDS 2nd Ordinary Meeting. The following challenges were highlighted:

- a. Lack of funding;
- b. Lack of common understanding between the AU Commission and the RECs/RMs on mandating of missions, especially RDC deployment;
- c. Lack of reliable communications at the strategic level to link the RECs/RMs, coupled with problems of equipment interoperability.

DEVELOPMENTS IN THE REGIONAL BRIGADES

12. Representatives of the regional brigades took turns to brief the meeting about the developments in their respective brigades. The summary of the presentations are as follows:

- a. **ECCASBRIG:** ECCAS has a Planning Element (PLANELM) and a brigade HQ. Pledged assets are yet to be certified. Similarly, a civilian component database is yet to be created. The brigade conducted two Map Exercises in 2008, but may be able to conduct the Command Post and Field Training exercises only between May and July 2010, due to a number of political and technical constraints within the region. The Early Warning Mechanism of Central Africa (MARAC) is at an advanced stage of development and they intend to establish a regional logistics depot in Douala, Cameroon.

The ECCAS representative used the opportunity to inform the meeting about the efforts being made to police the Gulf of Guinea in order to prevent the occurrence of piracy as is currently the case in the Gulf of Eden. He called on ECOWAS to do the same to complement the efforts of ECCAS.

- b. **ECOWAS Standby Force:** The ECOWAS Standby Force (ESF) has a PLANELM, a Task Force HQ and pledged assets that have been verified. The Task Force has conducted Map and Command Post Exercises over the period, using the pledged assets. It is preparing to conduct their FTX in June 2009 in Burkina Faso, after which efforts will be focussed on the capacity of the main brigade. The PLANELM has no civilians. The police component is gradually being set up, whilst efforts are being made to put in place the civilian component. Efforts are being made to establish an ECOWAS Logistics Depot in Freetown, Sierra Leone, but more capital injection is required to quicken the process.

- c. **EASBRIG:** EASBRIG also has a PLANELM and a brigade HQ. The pledged military/police contributions are yet to be made available. Apart from civilian and police representation in the PLANELM, the civilian and police components of the brigade are yet to be established. The brigade has conducted its Map and Command Post exercises and is getting ready to conduct its Field Training Exercise in November 2009. The major challenges of the brigade include raising funds for the conduct of its FTX and setting up its regional Logistics Depot.
- d. **SADCBRIG:** SADCBRIG has a PLANELM with civilian and police representation. It does not have a standing brigade HQ, but intends to establish one only when called to duty. The brigade has conducted its Map exercise and Command Post Exercise and is preparing for its FTX in September 2009 in South Africa. SADC indicated that it had decided to fund its exercises and not rely on partners due to the issue of ownership, although the issue of funding remained a major problem.
- e. **NARC:** The Defence Ministers of the North African Regional Capability approved the establishment of the North African Regional Capability (NARC) in Tripoli, Libya, on 21 December 2008. NARC has since established a brigade HQ and a PLANELM of police and military officers. The setting up of the brigade and regional depots (Cairo and Algiers) is under way.

13. **Discussions:** Following the discussions concerning the presentations on the ASF progress, the participants recommended that the Specialized Committee on Defence, Security and Safety should set up a Finance Committee to make proposals in respect of finding predictable and sustainable means of funding AU missions.

VII. ITEM 2: CONSIDERATION OF ASF ROADMAP II

LOGISTICS DEPOTS

14. A member of the AU Technical Assessment Team presented the general state of proposed Continental Logistics Bases (CLB) in Douala, Cameroon and Jijel, Algeria. Both locations were assessed to be suitable to host the CLB. The striking peculiarity about the two is that Jijel is not geographically centrally located and the humidity in Douala is high.

15. **Discussions:** The meeting recognised the efforts of the assessment team, but expressed divergent views concerning the choice of the CLB location. It therefore recommended that a third assessment mission be constituted to determine the cost implications of all aspects, on the basis of the experiences of the UN. However, due to time constraints, the AUC should be given the prerogative to take a decision on the location thereafter.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION SYSTEMS

16. The experts were updated on the communication challenges of the ASF. It was stressed that the challenges require immediate attention in view of Exercise AMANI AFRICA, which would be difficult to conduct in the absence of reliable strategic

communications to link the Regional Brigades with the AU. The following requirements were highlighted, among others:

- a. Need to have autonomous ASF communications arrangements apart from the existing network of AU Management Information Systems (MIS), which does not meet the special needs of the ASF;
- b. Need to establish basic communication links with the PLANELMs/Regional Brigades using existing resources, as a matter of urgency;
- c. Establish a basic ASF Operations/Command Centre at AU HQ, with a view to upgrading the same progressively as resources become available;
- d. In line with point "c" above, recruit a minimum of three radio operators/technicians to run the Operations/Command Centre 24/24, on the basis of three 8-hour shift arrangements. These staff should be increased as the system becomes fully operational;
- e. Dire need to have appropriate High Frequency (HF) Radio systems to provide backup to the Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) network. This will be essential in providing real time monitoring of events on the ground. Such Radio systems should have inbuilt encryption devices such as **frequency hopping** and other features such as **Automatic Link Establishment** (ALE).

17. **Discussions:** The meeting took note of the CIS requirements and requested that the Commission should be asked to come out with the cost implications of the requirements and that Africa should look inwards in provisioning for the requirements, taking into consideration the confidential nature of information.

RAPID DEPLOYMENT CAPABILITY (RDC)

18. The Commission conducted workshops in EASBRICOM, SADC and ECCAS between October 2008 and April 2009, to inform and get regional views on the RDC concept, in order to update the concept. These workshops underscored the need to:

- a. Have a common understanding of who mandates an RDC mission and the need to employ a simple command and control regime for RDC operations;
- b. Establish MOUs between the AUC and RECs/RMs and between RECS/RMs and Member States;
- c. Identify pledged assets, verify and put them on a standby roster;
- d. Generate the required logistics support for the RDC;
- e. Establish a predictable and sustainable funding mechanism to support the RDC.

19. The two remaining workshops in ECOWAS and NARC are yet to be conducted after which a harmonization workshop will be conducted to finalize the concept.

20. **Discussions:** The experts took note of the ongoing attempt to further the RDC Concept and recommended that the Commission be given the opportunity to conduct the rest of the workshops to harmonize the concept.

STRATEGIC LIFT CAPABILITY

21. **A Maritime Strategic Lift Concept** was developed during a technical meeting held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 2 to 6 March 2009. The concept will be presented to the RECs/RMs and Member States later in the year for their inputs.

22. The Algerian National Defence Force was requested to develop the Strategic Air Lift Capability Concept, in conjunction with other players in NARC, while the South African National Defence Force was also requested to develop the Road/Rail Strategic Lift Concept in conjunction with other role players in SADC. Both draft concepts are expected to be completed by 30 November, 2009.

23. **Discussions:** Delegates deliberated on the issue of strategic lift concept and recommended that:

- a. Those tasked with developing the concept should closely work with the regions that have already started working on the concept to enrich their final product;
- b. The study should cover legal aspects as well.

ASF TRAINING AND AMANI AFRICA

24. The meeting was briefed about the ASF Training Implementation Workshop, held on 17-18 December 2008, which had produced the ASF Training Plan 2009 to 2010. The meeting was also informed about Training Directive 2009 to 2010 that had been produced to guide ASF training. The speaker indicated that the AUC and brigades were generally adhering to the plan and directive but drew attention to the fact that most of them were not submitting their Quarterly Training Reports as required of them. He also said that participation of the staff of brigades in each others' training exercises was a necessary requirement for exchange of ideas and creation of synergy within the ASF but some of the brigades had so far not invited others to benefit from their exercises.

25. The meeting was also briefed on the progress in the implementation of the AMANI AFRICA Cycle that was expected to culminate in a Continental CPX. The latter would take place by March 2010 to enable the Commission to report back to Council on the state of operational readiness of the ASF by June the same year. The cycle activity is very tight in order to meet the March 2010 deadline. The attention of the meeting was also drawn to the fact that the PSOD requires an urgent staff strength boost from the current 25 to at least 83, to enable it to plan and conduct the exercise. In this regard, an appeal was made for Member States to second suitable officers to the PSOD and sustain them.

26. **Discussions:** The Experts came to the following conclusions after their deliberations:

- a. The Commission should be urged to ensure that Exercise AMANI AFRICA is conducted on schedule;
- b. Member states should be encouraged to second officers to the AU PSOD for Exercise AMANI AFRICA and to sustain these officers during their secondment, taking into consideration the principle of geographical distribution.

POLICE COMPONENT

27. The police working group gave a detailed report on the major activities carried out in the development of the police component over the current period.

28. **Discussions:** The experts took note of the work carried out and made the following recommendations:

- a. Police Standby Databases should be developed at the AU for strategic level police mission leaders and the RECs/RMS, for Individual Police Officers (IPOs) and Formed Police Units (FPU);
- b. Enhance Advocacy/sensitization of Police Contributing Countries (PCC) and Police Chiefs and Heads of Gendarmerie on ASF Police Activities;
- c. Make efforts to increase the staff levels at the AUC and the RECs/RMs. The Recruitment of Police Commissioners at the AU should be taken as a matter of priority;
- d. The Police Standby Arrangement should be reviewed from the 240 IPOs per REC/RM to 720: 240 operational (in mission) 240 on standby and 240 on training. The FPUs should also be reviewed from 2 to 6 per REC/RM: 2 operational (in mission), 2 on standby and 2 on training;
- e. Police Training Needs Analysis (TNA) should be conducted and curricula developed to enhance the operationalization of the ASF Police component;
- f. ASF Police RDC composition and capability should be urgently addressed by the AU and the RECs/RMs in cooperation with PCCs;
- g. The existing disparities between the police structure at the AU and that at the RECs/RMs should be eliminated and the two structures harmonized as a matter of urgency, in line with identified core functions.

CIVILIAN COMPONENT

29. The civilian working group considered and deliberated on the contents of the report of the ASF Civilian Staffing, Training and Rostering (STR) Workshop, held in

July 2008 in Kampala, Uganda. After general discussions and comments, the working group endorsed the recommendations of the workshop, with a few amendments.

VII. ITEM 3: OTHER MATTERS

RATIONALIZATION OF DUAL MEMBERSHIP OF REGIONAL BRIGADES

30. It would be recalled that the 5th Meeting of the AMDS requested the Commission to set up a task force to rationalise the issue of some Member States belonging to more than one regional brigade. The AU PSOD indicated that it had not been able to set up the task force and requested the meeting to consider the issue.

31. **Discussions:** The meeting was of the view that a decision on the matter had already been taken at the 5th AMDS meeting and that it was not appropriate for the current meeting to reconsider the issue. It was also felt that belonging to one or two RECs/RMs was a matter of national sovereignty and choice, and should depend on the capacity of the States concerned to fulfil their obligations to both brigades simultaneously.

REDESIGNATION OF THE AFRICAN STANDBY FORCE

32. On the issue of the redesignation of the ASF, it was agreed that the name “African Standby Force be retained for the continental mechanism, while the capabilities at the regional level should be changed to “regional standby forces”, to reflect a common nomenclature for the force at all levels. Each region should be given the latitude to redesignate its constituent components as appropriate.

PSOD RECRUITMENT

33. The meeting queried the regional imbalance in the recruitment of the current PSOD staff, despite the call for regional balance during the 3rd Ordinary Meeting of the Ministers of Defence and Security. This was discussed in the light of the call by the AUC to the Member States to second officers on gratis to the PSOD. The Commission explained the recruitment modalities. The meeting then concluded that:

- a. The principle of geographical balance should be respected in the recruitment of personnel to fill the 58 vacancies that the Commission was requesting;
- b. The AUC recruitment procedure should be strictly adhered to;
- c. The AUC should take urgent steps to provide further details (i.e., cost implications, terms of reference) for the 58 posts to enable the Member States to respond appropriately.

VIII. ITEM 4: RECOMMENDATIONS FOR AFRICAN CHIEFS OF DEFENCE STAFF (ACDS) AND HEADS OF SECURITY

34. The experts took note of the efforts of the Member States, RECs/RMs, the AUC, as well as our development partners to operationalize the ASF, in light of the achievements made since the 5th Ordinary meeting of the AMDS. Accordingly, they made the following recommendations for consideration by the Specialised Committee on Defence, Security and Safety:

- a. Endorse the proposal to develop a rule of procedure for the Experts' Meeting of the Specialized Committee on Defence, Safety and Security to enable the committee to deliberate on issues in a proper and expeditious manner;
- b. The Specialized Committee on Defence, Security and Safety should set up a Finance Committee to make proposals aimed at finding predictable and sustainable source of funding for AU missions and the ASF;
- c. For the Continental Logistic Base (CLB), a third assessment mission should be constituted, whose terms of reference should be formulated on the basis of the experiences of the United Nations to determine the cost implications of all aspects. However, due to time constraints, the AUC should be given the prerogative to take a decision on the location thereafter;
- d. The Commission should be asked to submit the cost implications of the CIS requirements of the PSOD and Africa should look inwards in provisioning for the requirements, in view of African ownership and the sensitive nature of information involved;
- e. The Commission should be given the opportunity to organize the remaining workshops on the RDC concept and harmonize this concept for future action;
- f. Those tasked with developing the Strategic Lift concept should closely work with the regions that have already taken the lead in working on their strategic lift concept, in order to enrich their final product. The concept should cover legal aspects as well;
- g. The Commission should be urged to ensure that Exercise AMANI-AFRICA is conducted on schedule and Member States should be encouraged to second officers to the AU PSOD for Exercise AMANI-AFRICA and sustain them during their secondment.

35. On the issue of police component development:

- a. Police Standby Databases should be developed at the AUC for strategic level Police Mission Leaders and the RECs/RMS for Individual Police Officers (IPOs) and Formed Police Units (FPU);

- b. Take steps to enhance advocacy/sensitization of Police Contributing Countries (PCC) and Police Chiefs and Heads of Gendarmerie on ASF Police Activities;
- c. Make efforts to increase the staff level at the AUC and the RECs/RMs. The Recruitment of Police Commissioner at the AUC should be considered as a priority;
- d. Review the Police Standby Arrangement upwards from the 240 IPOs per REC/RM to 720;
- e. Police Training Needs Analysis (TNA) to be conducted and curricula developed to enhance the operationalization of the ASF Police component;
- f. ASF Police RDC composition and capability should be urgently addressed by the AU and the RECs/RMs in cooperation with PCCs;
- g. The disparities between the police structure at the AU and that in RECs/RMs should be eliminated and the structures harmonized as a matter of urgency, in line with identified core functions.

36. The following actions should be taken in respect of the development of the civilian component:

- a. Both the AUC and the RECs/RMs should collaborate in developing job descriptions for the more than 60 positions (that have been agreed on) as well as developing the recruitment process for these positions;
- b. The RECs/RMs should start with the identification and recruitment for the 60+ positions (which translate into a roster of between 300 and 400 persons);
- c. An AUC/REC/RM team should be established to design an ASF roster based on the discussions of the workshop. The development of a roster by the AU and RECs/RMs should not preclude the AU from recruiting directly in the event that the individuals in the roster do not meet the requirements for the vacancies;
- d. The AU and RECs/RMs should develop human resource policies for PSOs that address the needs of mission staff;
- e. African Union Member States should be informed about the vacancies so that they may have the opportunity to identify potential candidates and submit their names for the posts;
- f. The AU should consult AU Member States on the vacancies;
- g. The RECs/RMs should be able to recruit for the vacancies;
- h. The AU should take into account regional balance in filling the vacancies;

- i. There should be an alignment of capabilities and capacities between the AU and the RECs/RMs;
- j. The establishment of the civilian component should, where applicable, follow a similar process to that of the other ASF components;
- k. The AUC should proceed with the short-term (six months) recruitment of a civilian specialist to assist in kick-starting the ASF Civilian Planning Element.

37. On the issue of some Member States belonging to more than one regional brigade, the experts were of the view that belonging to one or two RECs/RMs was a matter of national sovereignty and choice, depending on the capacity of the States concerned to fulfil obligations entailed in such memberships. The Member States concerned should, however, not pledge the same capability to more than one brigade at a time.

38. On the issue of the redesignation of the ASF, it was agreed that the name "African Standby Force" would be retained for the continental mechanism, while the capabilities at the regional level should be changed to regional standby forces, to reflect a common nomenclature for the force at all levels. Each region should be given the latitude to redesignate its constituent components as appropriate.

39. On the issue of PSOD recruitment, the meeting concluded that:

- a. The principle of geographical balance should be respected in the recruitment of personnel to fill the 58 remaining posts being requested by the Commission and the recruitment procedure of the AUC should be adhered to;
- b. The AUC should take urgent steps to provide further details, i.e., cost implications and terms of reference of the respective vacancies, for the 58 posts to enable the Member States to respond appropriately.

IX. ITEM 5: ADOPTION OF THE REPORT

40. This report was unanimously adopted by the experts as a true reflection of the deliberations of their meeting held in Addis Ababa, from 11 to 12 May 2009.

X. ITEM 6: CLOSING

41. The Chairperson of the meeting expressed appreciation to all the participants for the useful exchange of views and their cooperation.

EX.CL/518 (XV)
Annex II

**CONCLUSIONS OF THE MEETING OF AFRICAN CHIEFS
OF DEFENCE STAFF AND HEADS OF SAFETY AND SECURITY ON
THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AFRICAN STANDBY FORCE**

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THE 6TH MEETING OF AFRICAN CHIEFS OF DEFENCE STAFF AND HEADS OF SECURITY, AND THE 3RD ORDINARY MEETING OF SPECIALIZED COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, SAFETY AND SECURITY

**11-15 MAY 2009
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

CONCLUSIONS OF THE MEETING OF AFRICAN CHIEFS OF DEFENCE STAFF AND HEADS OF SAFETY AND SECURITY ON THE OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AFRICAN STANDBY FORCE

**CONCLUSIONS OF THE MEETING OF AFRICAN CHIEFS
OF DEFENCE STAFF AND HEADS OF SAFETY AND SECURITY ON THE
OPERATIONALIZATION OF THE AFRICAN STANDBY FORCE**

1. The 6th Meeting of African Chiefs of Defence Staff (ACDS) and Heads of Security and Safety was held at the African Union (AU) headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 14th May 2009, to consider the progress achieved in the operationalization of the ASF since the 5th Meeting of the AU Ministers of Defence and Security, hereinafter referred to as Specialized Committee on Defence, Safety and Security (SCDSS), and consider proposals to further the implementation process. The meeting was preceded by a meeting of experts at the same venue from 11th to 13th May 2009.
2. The meeting was chaired by Staff Major-General Alhadi Mofteh, Deputy Minister of Defence and Cooperation of the Great Jamahiriya. It was addressed by the Commissioner for Peace and Security, who gave a brief on the background and stated the objectives of the meeting.
3. The ACDS and Heads of Safety and Security gave the floor to Uganda as a Troop Contributing Country to AMISOM to brief on current PSO in Somalia. They then considered the report and recommendations of the experts on the operationalization of the ASF.
4. The Chairperson of the Experts' Meeting presented the outcomes of their deliberations to the ACDS and Heads of Safety and Security. Based on this brief and documents submitted by the Commission on the progress made in the operationalization of the ASF and the outcomes of the deliberations of the Experts' Meeting, the following recommendations were made for the consideration of the SCDSS):
 - a. Rules of Procedure should be prepared for the SCDSS experts to enable the Committee deliberate on issues appropriately and without waste of time;
 - b. The STDSS should set up a Finance Committee to make proposals in respect of finding predictable and sustainable means of funding for AU peace support missions and the ASF.
 - c. The decision on the Continental Logistics Bases (CLB) is referred to the SCDSS for further consideration. The AU Commission however recommended the conduct of a further study to establish the following:
 - (1) Estimated cost for transportation and protection measures against humidity;
 - (2) Cost for the AU Commission to fully operationalize the CLB;
 - (3) Time frame required;
 - (4) Involvement of officers from the regional brigades in the study and formulation of recommendations;
 - d. The Commission should be asked to come up with the cost implications of the CIS requirements of the Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD), while Africa should look inwards in provisioning for the requirements, in view of its responsibilities and the sensitivities that go with information.

- e. The Commission should be given the opportunity to conduct the remaining workshops of the Rapid Deployment Capability (RDC) concept and harmonize it for future action.
 - f. Those tasked to develop the Strategic Lift concept should work closely with those regions that have already taken the lead in working on their strategic lift concept, in order to enrich their final product. The concept should cover legal aspects that could arise from the use of national resources in this respect;
 - g. The Commission should ensure that Exercise AMANI AFRICA is conducted within schedule and Member States should be encouraged to second officers to the AU PSOD for Exercise AMANI AFRICA and be able to sustain them during the period of their secondment.
5. On the issue of development of the police component:
- a. Police Standby Databases should be developed at the AU Commission for strategic Level Police Mission leaders and the RECs/RMS for Individual Police Officers (IPOs) and Formed Police Units (FPU);
 - b. Take steps to enhance advocacy/sensitization of Police Contributing Countries (PCC) and Police Chiefs and Heads of Gendarmerie on ASF police activities;
 - c. Make efforts to increase the staff level at the AU Commission. The recruitment of Police Superintendents at the AUC should be taken as a matter of priority;
 - d. Review the Police Standby Arrangement upwards from the 240 IPOs per REC/RM to 720 and the FPU from 2 to 6 per REC/RM;
 - e. Police Training Needs Analysis (TNA) to be conducted while the operationalization of the ASF police component should be enhanced;
 - f. ASF Police RDC composition and capability should be urgently addressed by the AU and the RECs/RMs in liaison with PCCs;
 - g. The existing differences in Police Structure at the AU and RECs/RMs should be harmonized in line with identified core functions as a matter of urgency.
6. The following actions should be taken in respect of the development of the civilian component:
- a. Both the AU Commission and the RECs/RMs should work jointly on developing terms of reference for the more than 60 positions (that have been agreed upon) as well as developing the recruitment process for these positions.

- b. The RECs/RMs should start with the identification and recruitment for the more than 60 positions (which translate into between 300 and 400 for the roster).
 - c. An AUC/REC/RM Task Team should be established to design an ASF roster based on the discussions of the workshop. The development of a roster by the AU and RECs/RMs should not preclude the AU from recruiting directly in the event that the individuals in the roster do not meet the requirements for the vacancies.
 - d. The AU and RECs/RMs should develop human resource policies for PSOs that shall address the needs of mission staff.
 - e. Member States should be informed about the vacancies so as to give them the opportunity to identify and submit names of potential candidates for the posts. The AU should consult Member States on the vacancies. Additionally, regional equity should be taken into consideration while filling the vacancies.
 - f. There should be an alignment of capabilities and capacities between the AU and the RECs/RMs.
 - g. The establishment of the civilian component should, where applicable, follow a similar process to that of the other ASF components.
 - h. The AU Commission should proceed with the short-term (six months) recruitment of a civilian specialist to assist in kick-starting the ASF Civilian Planning Element.
7. On the issue of some Member States belonging to more than one regional brigade, the experts were of the view that belonging to one or two RECs / RMs is a matter of national sovereignty and choice, and depends on the capacity to fulfil their obligations to both brigades at the same time. The Member States concerned should therefore be left the choice to make the appropriate decision.
8. On the issue of the renaming of the “African Standby Force”, it was agreed that the name ASF be retained for the continental mechanism, while the capabilities at the regional level should be changed to regional standby forces, to reflect a common nomenclature for the force at all levels.
9. On the issue of PSOD recruitment, the meeting recommended that:
 - a. The AUC should strictly adhere to the principles of rotation, transparency and equitable geographical distribution regarding all positions within the PSOD, in accordance with the recruitment procedure of the AU Commission.
 - b. The AU Commission should take urgent steps to provide further details, that is, cost implications and terms of reference for the 58 vacancies to enable the Member States to respond appropriately.
- 10.** On the issue of translation, the meeting recommended that documents for meetings should be submitted in all AU working languages at the same time.

EX.CL/518 (xv)
Annex III

DECLARATION

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THE 6TH MEETING OF AFRICAN CHIEFS OF DEFENCE STAFF AND HEADS OF SAFETY AND SECURITY, AND THE 3RD ORDINARY MEETING OF SPECIALIZED COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, SAFETY AND SECURITY

**11-15 MAY 2009
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

DECLARATION

DECLARATION

1. We, the members of the Specialized Technical Committee on Defence, Safety and Security (STCDSS) of the African Union (AU), met at our 3rd Ordinary Session in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 15 May 2009, to review the progress made in the operationalization of the African Standby force (ASF) to further identify the challenges ahead, and chart the best way to achieve the operationalization of the ASF by 2010. Our meeting was preceded by the 6th meeting of the African Chiefs of Defence, Safety and Security and the meeting of Experts from 11 to 14 May 2009.

2. This meeting was held within the framework of the relevant provisions of:

- a) the Constitutive Act of the African Union;
- b) the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) which, in its Article 13, provides for the establishment of the ASF with a view to the deployment of peace support missions and interventions, pursuant to Article 4 (h) and (j) of the Constitutive Act, and stipulates that the ASF shall be composed of standby multi-disciplinary contingents, with civilian and military components, in their countries of origin and ready for rapid deployment at appropriate notice;
- c) the Policy Framework on the Establishment of the ASF and the Military Staff Committee (MSC), as adopted at the 3rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held in Addis Ababa in July 2004, which, inter alia, provides for the establishment of five regional brigades to constitute the ASF.

3. Our meeting afforded us an opportunity to take stock of the progress made in the establishment of the ASF as spelt out in the PSC Protocol. In this respect, we recognise the adoption of the ASF Roadmap II during the Consultative Meeting held in Addis Ababa in April 2008, between the AUC and RECs/RMs and the Chiefs of Staff and Brigade Commanders of the Regional Brigades.

4. While welcoming the significant progress made in many countries and regions as a result of the steadfast efforts exerted at the level of the AUC, the RECs/RMs and individual AU Member States, we continue to be deeply concerned about the continued scourge of conflicts and instability on the continent, which cause immense suffering among African people, as well as undermine efforts towards socio-economic development.

5. Against this background, there is need to intensify the efforts aimed at making the ASF fully operational as an enforcement tool of African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), in order for the Continent to be adequately equipped to meet the huge challenges it is faced with in the area of peace, security and stability. In this respect, we:

- a) stress the urgency of the operationalization of the ASF as an important component of the APSA designed to support African efforts at conflict prevention, management and resolution;

- b) undertake to fully support the AUC, the RECs/RMs and our respective nations in the endeavour to ensure the operationalization of the ASF in the framework of African Peace and Security Architecture by 2010;

6. In assessing the different steps taken in pursuance of the relevant provisions of the PSC Protocol, we would like to:

- a) commend the Commission for the initiatives it has taken, in close collaboration with the RECs/RMs, to implement the ASF Policy Framework, guided by our recommendations, in particular through the formulation of the ASF Roadmap n° II, the ongoing efforts to improve upon the Rapid Deployment Capability (RDC) Concept, the Continental Logistics Bases (CLBs), work on the Strategic Lift Concept, the Formed Police Unit (FPU) Concept, development of the Civilian Dimension and the elaboration of an ASF Training Plan 2009 – 2010, as well as the various training efforts;
- b) encourage the Commission and the RECs/RMs to vigorously pursue their efforts in order to meet the 2010 deadline for the full operationalization of the various ASF components;
- c) express our gratitude to the AU partners within the international community for having provided the essential financial support for the ASF basic documents formulation process.

7. In order to consolidate the progress made thus far, and achieve our goal within the stipulated timeframe, we:

- a) endorse the proposal to develop Rules of Procedure for the STCDSS to enable the committee deliberate on issues appropriately and without waste of time;
- b) undertake to set up a Finance Committee to make proposals in respect of finding predictable and sustainable means of funding for AU peace support missions;
- c) given the trend that emerged during our deliberations on the issue of the Continental Logistics Bases, we have decided as follows;
 - (i) priority should be given to the establishment of five regional logistics depots;
 - (ii) the reports prepared by the experts mandated by the Commission in 2008 and 2009 should be circulated to all Member States;
 - (iii) the issue pertaining to the Continental Logistics Bases will be the subject of a subsequent decision on the basis of comprehensive data covering technical, physical logistical and financial aspects as well as operationalization timeframes
- d) request the AUC to come up with the financial implications of the requirements of the Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD) in the area of information and communication systems, and recommend that Africa

should look inwards in providing for the requirements, in view of its responsibilities and the sensitive nature of the information involved;

- e) take note of the ongoing work in respect of further developing the ASF concept and urge the Commission to go ahead and conduct the other regional workshops on the RDC concept and harmonize it for further action;
- f) recognize the work on going in respect of the Strategic Lift concept and request the Commission to ensure that those tasked to develop the concept should work closely with those regions that have already taken the lead in working on their strategic lift concept, in order to enrich their final product. The concept should cover legal aspects as well;
- g) urge the Commission to ensure that Exercise AMANI AFRICA is conducted within schedule. Similarly we encourage member states to second officers to the AU PSOD for Exercise AMANI AFRICA and be able to sustain them during the period of their secondment;
- h) On the issue of Police Component development we urge the Commission to:
 - 1) develop Police Standby Databases at the AUC for Strategic Level Police Mission leaders and the RECs/RMS for Individual Police Officers (IPOs) and Formed Police Units (FPU);
 - 2) take necessary steps to enhance advocacy/sensitization of Police Contributing Countries (PCC) and Police Chiefs and Heads of Gendarmerie on ASF Police Activities;
 - 3) action to increase the staff level at the AUC and the RECs/RMs. The recruitment of police commissioners at the AUC should be taken as a matter of priority;
 - 4) review the Police Standby Arrangement upwards from the 240 Individual Police Officers (IPOs) per REC/RM to 720 and the FPU from 2 to 6 per REC/RM;
 - 5) conduct Police Training Needs Analysis (TNA) and develop curriculum to enhance the operationalization of the ASF Police Component;
 - 6) ASF Police RDC composition and capability should be urgently addressed by the AU and the RECs/RMs in liaison with Police Contributing Countries (PCCs);
 - 7) harmonise the existing differences in Police Structure at the AU and RECs/RMs should be harmonized in line with identified core functions as a matter of urgency;

- i) request the Commission to take the following actions in respect of the development of the Civilian Component:
 - (i) work jointly with the RECs/RMs to develop terms of reference for the more than 60 functions (that have been agreed upon) as well as developing the recruitment process for these positions;
 - (ii) encourage the RECs/RMs to start with the identification and recruitment for the more than 60 positions (which translate into between 300 and 400 for the roster);
 - (iii) establish an AU Commission and RECs/RMs Team to design an ASF roster based on the discussions of the Civilian Dimension Staffing, Training and Rostering workshop . The development of a roster by the AU and RECs/RMs should not preclude the AU from recruiting directly in the event that the individuals in the roster do not meet the requirements for the vacancies;
 - (iv) develop human resource directives for peace support operations in order to address the needs of mission staff and encourage RECs/RMs should be encouraged to do the same;
 - (v) inform Member States about the vacancies so as to give them the opportunity to identify and submit names of candidates for the posts. Undertake further consultations with Member States on the vacancies and RECs/RMs should be able to recruit for the vacancies. Additionally, regional equity should be taken into consideration while filling the vacancies;
 - (vi) ensure alignment of capabilities and capacities between the AU and the RECs/RMs;
 - (vii) speed up the establishment of the Civilian Component, where applicable, follow a similar process to that of the other ASF components;
- j. encourage the Commission to proceed with the short-term (six months) recruitment of a civilian specialist to assist in kick-starting the ASF Civilian Planning Element;

8. On the issue of some Member States belonging to more than one regional brigade, we are of the view such a decision is a matter of national sovereignty, choice, and capacity to fulfil their obligations. It is therefore appropriate to let the Member States concerned take the decision they deem necessary.

9. Concerning the changing of the name “African Standby Force”, experts and regional representatives agreed that name ASF should be retained for the continental mechanism, while the capabilities at the regional level should be changed to regional standby forces, to reflect a common nomenclature for the force at all levels.

10. On the issue of PSOD recruitment, participants recommended that:
 - a) the Commission should adhere strictly to the principles of rotation, transparency and equitable geographical distribution regarding all types of positions within the PSOD, in accordance with the recruitment procedure of the AUC;
 - b) the Commission should take urgent steps to provide further details, that is, Cost Implications, Terms of Reference of the respective vacancies, for the 58 posts to enable the member states respond appropriately;
11. Urge the Commission to ensure that documents for meetings are provided in all AU working documents at all times.

2009

Report on the sixth Meeting of African chiefs of defence staff and heads of security (Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 14 May 2009) and the third ordinary meeting of African ministers of defence, safety and security (Addis Ababa, 15 May 2009)

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