AFRICAN UNION
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REPORT ON THE ELECTIONS OF FIVE (5) MEMBERS OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. It is to be recalled that the Peace and Security Council (PSC), in conformity with Article 5 (1) of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (the Protocol) is composed of fifteen (15) Members elected on the basis of equal rights, on the following manner: Ten (10) Members elected for a term of two (2) years; and Five (5) Members elected for a term of three (3) years in order to ensure continuity. It will be further recalled that as mandated by the Assembly, the initial Members of the PSC were elected during the Fourth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in March 2004 as follows: Algeria, Ethiopia, Gabon, Nigeria and South Africa for a three-year term and Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Libya, Mozambique, Senegal, Sudan and Togo for a two-year term.

2. The term of the members elected for two-year term expired in 2006. Consequently, the Assembly of the Union, at its 6th Ordinary Session held in Khartoum, The Sudan, from 23-24 January 2006, by virtue of decision Assembly/AU/Dec.106(VI), elected the following states as members of the PSC for a two-year term:

1.	Cameroon	(Central)
2.	Congo	(Central)
3.	Rwanda	(East)
4.	Uganda	(East)
5.	Egypt	(North)
6.	Botswana	(South)
7.	Malawi	(South)
8.	Burkina Faso	(West)
9.	Ghana	(West)
10.	Senegal	(West)

3. The Assembly further decided by virtue of the same decision “to delegate its power for election of members of the Peace and Security Council under Article 5 (2) of the Protocol to the Executive Council for the current and future elections”.

4. The term of five (5) members elected for a three-year term in 2004, namely, Algeria, Ethiopia, Gabon, Nigeria and South Africa will expire in March 2007. However, they are eligible for re-election.

5. Accordingly, the Commission informed Member States of the vacancies and indicated that the new members will be elected during the Tenth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2007. Each region was requested to consult and to short-list the candidatures and submit candidatures by 15 January 2007.

6. The election of the five (5) members of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) is based on the provisions of the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the provisions of the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, and the Modalities for Election of Members of the Peace and Security Council adopted by the Fourth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in March 2004.

II. REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

7. In electing Members of the Peace and Security Council, due consideration shall be given to the following criteria with regard to each Member State which shall submit its candidature:

a. Equitable regional representation and rotation:

8. In conformity with Article 5 (2) of the Protocol, in electing the Members of the PSC, the Assembly shall apply the principle of equitable regional representation and rotation and only Member States fulfilling the following requirements are eligible for appointment as Council Members:

- Member States which have ratified the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and have deposited their instruments with the Commission, and are therefore, State parties to the Protocol;
- Member States which are not affected by sanctions in terms of Article 23 of the Constitutive Act.

b. Member State's Qualifications

9. In conformity with Article 5 (2) of the Protocol, the following criteria should apply with Member States which have submitted their candidature:

a) Commitment to uphold the principles of the Union;

b) Contribution to the promotion and maintenance of peace and security in Africa – in this respect, experience of Member States in peace support operations would be an added advantage;

c) Capacity and commitment to shoulder the responsibilities entailed in membership;

d) Participation in conflict resolution, peace-making and peace building at regional and continental levels;

e) Willingness and ability to take up responsibilities for regional and continental conflict resolution initiatives;

f) Contribution to the Peace Fund and/or Special Fund created for a specific purpose;

g) Respect for constitutional governance, in accordance with the Lomé Declaration, as well as the rule of law and human rights;

h) Sufficiently staffed and equipped Permanent Missions at the Headquarters of the Union and the United Nations, to be able to shoulder the responsibilities which go with the membership;

i) Commitment to honour financial obligations of the Union; and

j) Provide all the information required in the attached form.

III. TERM OF OFFICE

10. The five(5) Members of the PSC shall be elected for a term of three (3) years. A retiring Member of the PSC shall be eligible for immediate re-election. **The new members will be elected for a term of three years**.

IV. VOTING PROCEDURE

11. In conformity with the Modalities for the Election of Members of the Peace and Security Council adopted by the Fourth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, in March 2004, the elections shall be carried out as follows:

12. The Members of the PSC shall be elected by secret ballot and two-thirds majority of Member States eligible to vote.

13. Where the region(s) has submitted the required number of candidatures the balloting shall continue until the candidate(s) obtains the two-thirds majority required, provided that if the third balloting remains inconclusive, the elections shall be suspended to enable Member States of the region concerned to undertake consultations.

14. Where the region(s) has submitted more than the required number and in the event that during the first round of balloting none of the candidates obtains the majority required, the candidate with the fewer votes shall withdraw. The remaining candidates shall proceed to the next round and the balloting shall continue until the candidate(s) obtains the required majority, provided that if the third balloting remains inconclusive, the elections shall be suspended to enable Member States of the region concerned to undertake consultations.

15. The following candidatures as listed in Annex I to this report have been received from the regions or directly from the Member States concerned.

Candidatures for Membership of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union

3 Years-Term

Central Africa

1) Equatorial Guinea
2) Gabon

Eastern Africa

1) Djibouti
2) Ethiopia

Northern Africa

1) Algeria
2) Libya
3) Tunisia

Southern Africa

1) Angola

Western Africa

1) Mali
2) Nigeria

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