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EXECUTIVE COUNCIL
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**REPORT OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE
SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL COMMITTEE ON DEFENSE,
SAFETY AND SECURITY, ADDIS ABABA,
ETHIOPIA, 13 – 15 JANUARY 2016**

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**2ND EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE SPECIALIZED TECHNICAL
COMMITTEE ON DEFENCE, SAFETY AND SECURITY**

**ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA
15 JANUARY 2016**

DECLARATION

DECLARATION

1. We, the members of the Specialized Technical Committee on Defence, Safety and Security (STCDSS) of the African Union (AU) met at the 2nd Extraordinary Meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and considered the Conclusions of the African Chiefs of Defence Staff and Heads of Safety and Security (ACDSS) on the conduct of the African Standby Force AMANI AFRICA-II Field Training Exercise (AA-II FTX) and the Report on the Implementation of the AU Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL).
2. Our meeting was held as a follow-up to the Declaration adopted by the 8th Ordinary Meeting of the STCDSS, held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe on 15 May 2015, and was preceded by the 2nd Extraordinary Meeting of the African Chiefs of Defence Staff and Heads of Safety and Security, on 14 January 2016, and a Meeting of Experts, held on 13 January 2016 respectively.
3. On the basis of the Conclusions of the Chiefs of Defence Staff, we adopt the following observations:
 - a) Take note that the Preliminary Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the conduct of AA-II FTX informed the deliberations of the Meeting of Experts and the Conclusions of the ACDSS. In this regard, we emphasise the importance of holding the AA-II FTX After Action Review (AAR) scheduled for March 2016 to amongst others provide a comprehensive assessment on the ASF. We further reiterate the need to ensure that the AAR Report is inclusive of activities and contributions from AU Member States, RECs/RMs, Host Region, Host Nation, and AA-II Senior Mission Leadership.
 - b) Appreciate the efforts made by the AU Commission and RECs/RMs in conducting the AA-II FTX.
 - c) Commend the progress made by EASF, ECCAS, ECOWAS and SADC in operationalizing their respective standby forces; and acknowledge the efforts of NARC towards operationalising its standby force. In this regard we emphasise the need to ensure coordination amongst various African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) supporting structures and between the AUC and the RECs/RMs.
 - d) Take note that a strict definition of Full Operational Capability (FOC), if based on an exhaustive list of operational requirements is unrealistic. We further note that FOC is a process that includes continuous training and capacity building. We further recognise that some challenges will still have to be addressed by AU Member States, AUC and RECs/RMs after the conduct of the AA-II FTX After Action Review, verification of pledged capabilities and assessment of the ASF Planning Elements (PLANELMs) prior to the next meeting of the STCDSS scheduled for May 2016.

- e) Recognise that the operationalization of the ASF is taking place in the context of new and various emerging threats including terrorism, facing the continent; and therefore, we direct the Commission to undertake an assessment of these contemporary security threats and present the report to the AA-II FTX AAR with a view to contribute to the ASF five (5) year Work-Plan.
- f) Urge the AU Member States to improve interoperability in areas such as language used in joint exercises, joint training and joint operations.
- g) Recognise the importance of multidimensionality of the ASF especially in relation to the identification of lessons learned and best practices in the deployment of police and civilian personnel.

4. On the basis of the recommendations of the ACDSS, we declare as follows:

- a) The ASF has attained Full Operational Capability following the successful conduct of the AA-II FTX and the confirmation of FOC by four (4) RECs/RMs.
- b) Stress the need for the the AU Commission and the RECs/RMs to verify ASF pledged capabilities and conduct an assessment of all the ASF PLANELMs as per our directive of the 8th STCDSS of 15 May 2015.
- c) Request the AU to establish a sustainable funding mechanism for the ASF including from AU member states within the context of the current AU Peace Fund in accordance with set relevant conditions.
- d) Direct the AU Commission to revise financial and administrative procedures with a view to accommodate the AUC's capacity to provide support to Peace Support Operations (PSOs).
- e) Stress that the renewal of mandates of on-going AU PSOs and mandates for future AU PSOs should continue to reinforce the ASF framework.
- f) The AU Commission and RECs/RMs to elaborate on the concept of Framework Region as currently espoused in the ASF Doctrine, to include the concept of Framework Nation within the Framework Region, for review by AU Member States.
- g) Direct the AU Commission to review and finalize the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the AU, RECs/RMs and Member States on the employment of the ASF by the end of June 2016.
- h) Request the AU Commission and RECs/RMs to review the ASF RDC concept to be in line with the ASF Doctrine.
- i) The AU and RECs/RMS to develop contingency deployment plans for ASF Rapid Deployment Capability (RDC).
- j) ASF Command Control Communication and Information Systems (C3IS) training to be included in the induction and pre-deployment training of

ASF Planning Elements (PLANELMs) and Mission Staff to familiarize them on the equipment, information management and C3IS Policies, and Security.

- k) AUC, RECs/RMs to conduct at least twice a year Continental and Regional exercises in the form of Simulation, Map Exercises (MAPEX) and Command Post Exercises (CPX). Exercises should cover the following areas:
 - i) Command Control Communication and Information Systems
 - ii) Medical.
 - iii) Strategic Lift.
 - iv) Mission Support.
 - v) Joint Planning.
- l) On-going efforts by the AU Commission towards the establishment of the ASF C3IS capability to be expedited.
- m) Urge AU Member States to avail the services of their Training Institutions to the AU and RECs/RMs at no cost as part of efforts of enhancing ASF capacities. In this regard, we further urge, the AU and RECs/RMs to enhance their interaction and the utilisation of the African Peace Support Trainers Association (APSTA) as a means to support AU Member States efforts in Force Preparation in line with the Annual ASF Training Directives.
- n) Request that in addition to on-going efforts to populate the African Standby Capacity (ASC) Roster, AU, RECs/RMs, Member States representatives to be considered for inclusion in the ASC Roster subject to meeting minimum criteria.
- o) Urge AU Member States as per ASF Doctrine, to provide surge capacity (personnel trained and held at country of origins to be available for short periods) to the Planning Elements for Mission Planning and Mission Start Up purposes.
- p) Encourage AU Member States to train pledged capabilities and deploy same.
- q) Urge AU Member States to provide adequate Civilian and Police personnel for ASF Exercises and future PSOs
- r) Stress that AU Member States ensure gender is mainstreamed, as appropriate, in the recruitment and deployment of personnel for PSOs in future exercises.
- s) Request AUC and RECs/RMs to share databases of service providers on provision of mission support.
- t) Urge AUC and RECs/RMs to expedite the establishment of Continental Movement Coordinating Centre (CMCC) and Regional Movement Coordinating Centres (RMCC) by December 2016.

- u) ACIRC to be dissolved pursuant to our Declaration of our 8th STCDSS and Assembly Decisions 489(XXI) and 515(XXII) .
 - v) The AA-II Core Planning Team's tenure should be extended as appropriate until submission of the AA-II FTX AAR Report by the end of March 2016.
5. With respect to the Report of the Commission on the Implementation of the Executive Council Decision (EX.CL/DEC.820(XXV) on the Operationalization of the AU Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL) we:
- a) Welcome the convening of the Meeting of African Chiefs of Police, held from 13 to 14 December 2015, in Algiers, Algeria, in follow-up to the implementation of the Algiers Declaration on the Establishment of AFRIPOL, adopted by the 1st African Conference of Directors and Inspectors General of Police, held in Algiers, from 10 to 11 February 2014;
 - b) Request the Commission to make the necessary follow- up on all aspects regarding the full operationalization of AFRIPOL;
 - c) Commend all the efforts undertaken by the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria in ensuring that AFRIPOL Headquarters is ready for use and further direct the Commission to coordinate with the national authorities of Algeria all matters regarding the hosting arrangements of AFRIPOL;
 - d) Recommend the AU Commission to submit the AFRIPOL Statute for final review to the Specialised Technical Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs at its next Ordinary Session;
 - e) Endorse the Report of the Commission on the Implementation of Executive Council Decision (EX.CL/DEC.820(XXV) on the Operationalization of AFRIPOL.
6. We take note of the briefing of the Minister of Defence of the Government of the Republic of Cameroon and welcome the ongoing efforts towards the operationalization of the Continental Logistics Base in Douala, Cameroon.
7. We also take note of the briefing by the Assistant Minister of Defence of the Arab Republic of Egypt on the efforts being made to address security challenges especially in relation to terrorism, as well as its contributions in support of enhancing NARC operational readiness.

8. We further reiterate the role of the STCDSS as per Decision 227 of the Assembly, in line with the provision of Article 15 of the Constitutive Act of the AU. In this regard, we recommend to the Assembly of the Union at its 26th Ordinary Session, scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 30 to 31 January 2016, to adopt the present Declaration.

2016

Rapport de la reunion extraordinaire du comite technique specialise sur la defense, la securite et la surete, du 13 au 15 janvier 2016 addis-abeba (éthiopie)

Report of the extraordinary meeting of the specialized technical
committee on defence, safety and security, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia,
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