



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security Receives New AU Special Representative for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation**

**Addis Ababa, 23 April 2016:** The African Union (AU) Commissioner for Peace and Security, Ambassador Smail Chergui, today, at the AU Headquarters, received Lieutenant Colonel (Rtd.) Larry Gbevlo-Larty, the new AU Special Representative in charge of Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Director of the Algiers-based African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT).

The Commissioner briefed the Special Representative on his mandate and reiterated the AU's determination to help Member States in their efforts to fight the global scourge of terrorism, in cooperation with the AU's international partners. He stated that terrorism is a global challenge that requires a global response, and urged Mr. Gbevlo-Larty, in his capacity as the ACSRT Director, to enhance the continent's understanding of, and provision of adequate response to the growing phenomenon of radicalization and violent extremism, which is fueling terrorism all over the world with devastating consequences.

The new Special Representative, who will soon move to Algiers to assume his duties, brings a wealth of experience to the job. He previously served as National Security Coordinator for the Republic of Ghana and Director of Programs at the Centre for Conflict Resolution in Ghana. Prior to that assignment, he served as Consultant-Coordinator with the UN Mission to the Cameroon-Nigeria Joint Commission, Military Observer in the UN Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC), Senior Military Observer with the United Nations peacekeeping force in Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNPROFOR) and Company Commander with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).

It should be recalled that Lt. Col. (Rtd.) Larry Gbevlo-Larty was appointed on 18 March 2016, by the Chairperson of the AU Commission, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma, to take over from Ambassador Francisco Madeira, as Special Representative for Counter-Terrorism Cooperation and Director of ACSRT.

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Peace and Security

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