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**ORIENTATION CONCEPT NOTE ON THE AU THEME OF THE YEAR  
2020: SILENCING THE GUNS-CREATING CONDUCIVE CONDITIONS  
FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT**

**ORIENTATION CONCEPT NOTE ON THE AU THEME OF THE YEAR 2020  
'SILENCING THE GUNS: CREATING CONDUCTIVE CONDITIONS FOR AFRICA'S  
DEVELOPMENT'**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

1. It should be recalled that during the 26<sup>th</sup> Session of the OAU Assembly, held in Addis Ababa, from 9 to 11 July 1990, the Heads of State and Government adopted the Declaration on the Political and Socio-Economic Situation in Africa and the Fundamental Changes Taking Place in the World [AHG/Dec.1(XXVI)]. In this Declaration, the Assembly underscored Africa's resolve to seize the initiative to determine its destiny and to address the challenges to peace, democracy and security. The Heads of State and Government undertook to address and end the scourge of conflict, as the main factor hampering socio-economic development on the Continent.

2. In the same spirit, on the occasion of the OAU/AU 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 25 May 2013, the Heads of State and Government adopted a Solemn Declaration, in which they, among others crucial aspects, expressed their "...*determination to achieve the goal of a conflict-free Africa, to make peace a reality for all our people and to rid the continent of wars, civil conflicts, human rights violations, humanitarian disasters and violent conflicts, and to prevent genocide. They pledged not to bequeath the burden of conflicts to the next generation of Africans and undertake to end all wars in Africa by 2020. In this regard, they undertake to:*

- (i) *Address the root causes of conflicts including economic and social disparities; put an end to impunity by strengthening national and continental judicial institutions, and ensure accountability in line with our collective responsibility to the principle of non-indifference;*
- (ii) *Eradicate recurrent and address emerging sources of conflict including piracy, trafficking in narcotics and humans, all forms of extremism, armed rebellions, terrorism, transnational organized crime and new crimes such as cybercrime;*
- (iii) *Push forward the agenda of conflict prevention, peace-making, peace support, national reconciliation and post-conflict reconstruction and development through the African Peace and Security Architecture; as well as, ensure enforcement of and compliance with peace agreements and build Africa's peace-keeping and enforcement capacities through the African Standby Force;*
- (iv) *Maintain a nuclear-free Africa and call for global nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy;*
- (v) *Ensure the effective implementation of agreements on landmines and the non-proliferation of small arms and light weapons;*

(vi) *Address the plight of internally displaced persons and refugees and eliminate the root causes of this phenomenon by fully implementing continental and universal frameworks.”*

3. In 2016, pursuant to the letter and spirit of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Solemn Declaration, the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the AU developed an AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps to Silence the Guns in Africa by Year 2020 (AUMR). The AUMR is composed of five aspects, namely Political Aspect; Economic Aspect; Social Aspect; Environmental Aspect; and Legal Aspect. Under each Aspect, the practical steps to be taken are elaborated. The strategic objective of the AUMR is to give effect to the relevant AU decisions and policies, particularly the 50<sup>th</sup> Solemn Declaration through implementation of the practical steps identified by the PSC, as essential to achieve the goal of silencing the guns in line with the AU Agenda 2063.

## **II. OVERVIEW/SUMMARY ON IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AUMR**

4. The PSC submitted its AUMR to the Assembly of the Union during its 28<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in January 2017, which endorsed the Master Roadmap and directed the PSC to lead efforts in the implementation of the AUMR, with the involvement and support of various relevant stakeholders, particularly the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (RECs/RMs) and the AU Commission, as well as the United Nations, civil society organizations and private sector. Since the endorsement by AU Assembly, the PSC, in its locomotive role, took a number of initiatives providing strategic guidance to the various stakeholders/implementers of the AUMR. Among others, the PSC :

- (i) Launched the Africa Amnesty Month (AAM) in September 2017, and this event has been held each September since then to provide an opportunity to African citizens in illegal possession and use of arms/weapons to voluntarily surrender them, without repercussions, to designated State institutions;
- (ii) Generated publicity and momentum for the implementation of the AUMR and called for support during Joint Annual Consultative Meetings on peace and security in Africa with the UN Security Council and the EU Political and Security Committee, separately with each of these Organs, since 2017;
- (iii) Developed, with the support of the AU Commission and the African Members in the UN Security Council (A3), a framework for a resolution of the UN Security Council to express political and diplomatic support to African efforts towards silencing the guns. This initiative culminated in the UN Security Council adopting resolution 2457(2019) on 27 February 2019, under the Presidency of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea. In this resolution, among other key elements, the Security Council took note of the “ongoing efforts of the African Union and the subregional organizations, within the framework of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) to strengthen their capacity and undertake peace support operations in the Continent, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, particularly the African Standby Force and its Rapid Deployment Capability;

encouraged the UN Secretariat and the African Union Commission to collaborate towards strengthening the APSA by supporting the AUMR; welcomed the decision by the African Union Organs to declare September of each year until 2020 as Africa Amnesty Month for the surrender of illegally owned weapons and arms; and requested the Secretary-General, in consultation with the Chairperson of the African Union Commission, when appropriate, to provide updates on implementation measures towards enhancing the support of the United Nations and its agencies to the African Union in the implementation of Vision 2020 to Silence the Guns in Africa”;

- (iv) Submitted three reports on the implementation of the AUMR to each Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly since the beginning of 2017. The RECs/RMs have consistently contributed inputs to the PSC Reports to the Assembly on the implementation of the AUMR;
- (v) Convened three open sessions in which AU Member States and RECs/RMs, as well as partners and civil society organizations, including think tanks, participated and made contributions on the progress made in the implementation of the AUMR, as well as addressing challenges and measures to be taken to address them;
- (vi) Drafted a Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism to assist in following up on progress and emerging challenges to the implementation of the AUMR. This Mechanism, needs to be activated to support ongoing efforts and those activities to be undertaken under the Theme of the year;
- (vii) In several meetings since 2017, the PSC has consistently urged Member States to domesticate the implementation of the AUMR on their national territories in order to obtain expected impacts in terms of silencing the guns. In this context, several Member States have reported to the AU Commission on the progress made, including on the conduct of the Africa Amnesty Month;
- (viii) Convened two ministerial level meetings of the PSC, one in New York on 27 September 2019, which considered the imperative on integration of the dimension of peace, security and development in the continued implementation of the AUMR given its positive impact in the stabilization of the continent; The other meeting was held in Luanda, Angola on 5 December 2019 devoted to national reconciliation, restoration of peace, security and rebuilding of cohesion in Africa. In both meetings, the PSC emphasized the need for Member States, in their implementation of the AUMR, to mainstream socio-economic development activities.
- (ix) Given the rise in political and military interference in Africa’s affairs, as well as the multiplication of foreign military bases in the continent, the PSC convened its 868<sup>th</sup> meeting on 14 August 2019, to consider this issue. In this context the PSC urged Member States to fully adhere to AU instruments and policies, particularly the Common African Defence and Security Policy and also to the AU Non-Aggression Pact, taking into consideration that the defence, security and safety of one country

in Africa is directly linked to that of others. Also, in a meeting, the PSC reflected on measures to be taken to address the problem of foreign political and military interference in Africa.

5. On its part, the Commission, under the direct leadership of the Chairperson and the Commissioner for Peace and Security, has made the following contributions to the implementation of the AUMR:

- provided technical and financial support to Member States. This support included organizing sensitization events, stakeholders consultations and training workshops aimed at building capacities for regulating arms possession; arms collection, management and disposal; community engagement; and media mobilization. It should be recalled that in 2018, five Member States, namely Burkina Faso, Madagascar, Mali, Sudan and Zambia, were assisted by the Commission. This support was not provided in 2019 due to lack of funding;
- conducted several seminars on the theme 'silencing the guns in Africa' with a view to bringing more stakeholders on board and equip them with the correct understanding, so as to generate further momentum in the implementation of the AUMR;
- the Chairperson of the Commission appointed Amb. Ramtane Lamamra of Algeria, as a High Representative for Silencing the Guns, to coordinate the efforts by the African stakeholders and also those of the UN. Since his appointment, the High Representative has undertaken several assignments on behalf of the Chairperson, including solving the crisis in Madagascar among others;
- coordinated the actions of RECs/RMs Secretariats, as well as civil society organizations, guided by PSC decisions on silencing the guns. In this context, the RECs/RMs were requested by the Assembly through decision Assembly/AU/Dec.678(XXX) to designate their own focal points on silencing the guns to facilitate coordination between the regional and continental levels and to enhance momentum in the implementation of the AUMR;
- conducted two validation workshops on the continental plan of actions on small arms and light weapons for Eastern and Western Africa. These workshops were aimed at harmonizing national action plans in the fight against illicit proliferation and circulation of small arms and light weapons. Plans are underway to conduct similar workshops in the other three regions of Africa.

6. On its part, bearing in mind the need to accelerate and further strengthen efforts towards silencing the guns, the Executive Council, at its 34<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session held from 4 to 5 July 2019, in Niamey, Niger, decided that the AU theme for 2020 is 'Silencing the Guns: Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development'. This decision was in recognition of the fact that conflict and instability are still serious challenges across the Continent and their resultant impact adversely affects development, perpetuates poverty, reduces the incentives to invest and the capacities for economic growth, as well as the

overall achievement of the objectives of Agenda 2063. The Executive Council underscored the nexus between good governance, peace, stability and development and that these concepts are thoroughly intertwined and may not be considered exclusive of each other. It is essential that, in implementing activities under the theme of the year, special attention is paid by the AU, RECs/RMs and Member States to hardcore security issues/challenges, whose resolution is expected to generate more dividends in to the African efforts to silence the guns and promote a conflict-free Africa. Notably, this Theme of the year is to be endorsed by the 33<sup>rd</sup> Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly taking place on 9-10 February 2020.

7. It is an established fact that threats to peace and security, both the traditional and emerging ones, continue to multiply in various parts of the Continent, thereby fueling crises and conflicts and consequently derailing AU's efforts to prevent conflicts, resolve existing ones and advance socio-economic recovery and development. Linked to this challenge, is the persisting external interference in the Continent, particularly in conflict areas and also those areas with strategic natural resources in some cases, often resulting in parallel initiatives or unnecessary prolongation of processes to resolve conflict.

8. Accordingly, the year 2020 is an opportunity to the Continent and its people to further strengthen and deepen engagement in the implementation of the AUMR, particularly with respect to deactivating root causes of conflicts, and also to take immediate measures to resolve existing conflicts and reduce tensions where they exist. In this context, it is necessary to identify fewer specific and strategic activities tailored to generate targeted results/outcomes in the course of the year, while at the same time, Africa and its people continue to deploy broad efforts towards creating conditions for a conflict-free Africa, as envisioned in Agenda 2063.

### **III. PROPOSED STRATEGIC AND SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES TO BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE YEAR 2020 (MATRIX ATTACHED)**

9. Indeed, the year 2020 is to mark an acceleration and concentration phase in the activities and efforts aimed at a continent free of conflicts and wars. It is important to bear in mind that the selection of this theme for year 2020 coincides with this same year as the final run-up to the December 2020 deadline on the implementation of the AUMR. Therefore, the activities being proposed for implementation in the course of 2020 are designed to accelerate the on-going efforts and at the same to take full stock of the progress achieved thus far. In principle, this would create the basis for developing recommendations to the AU Assembly on the way forward beyond 2020. The following are the proposed activities:

- (i) The PSC, with the support of the AU Commission, to launch a communication campaign towards promoting publicity of the AUMR to the African grassroots population/ communities, to enable them to become both implementers and key beneficiaries of the process of creating conducive conditions for conflict-free local communities.

- (ii) Ensuring the implementation measures of the UN Security Council resolution 2457. The PSC to review, with the UN Security Council, during their 2020 Annual Joint Consultative Meeting, the status of implementation of provisions in UNSC Resolution 2457, particularly:
- on international cooperation partnership to help accelerate progress towards the realization of silencing the guns in Africa;
  - efforts deployed by relevant UN entities to help achieve the goal of silence the guns;
  - steps taken by the UN Secretariat and the AU Commission to strengthen the implementation of APSA;
  - efforts deployed in implementing existing international, regional and sub-regional instruments in addressing illicit trade, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons in Africa, including implementation of the UN Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;
  - The Secretary General of the UN, in consultation with the Chairperson of the AU Commission, to provide updates to the UN Security Council on the implementation measures towards enhancing the support of the UN and its agencies to the African Union in the implementation of Vision 2020 to silence the guns in Africa.
- (iii) The PSC to launch the 2020 Africa Amnesty Month in the Headquarters of one of the RECs/RMs, with a view to give more publicity and political visibility in the field to this initiative.
- (iv) Member States to provide their reports on the implementation of the AUMR to the PSC, through the AU Commission. In this context, the RECs/RMs Secretariats are to follow up on these reports and ensure that they are conveyed to the Commission.

Based on the reports to be submitted by Member States, the PSC to develop a comprehensive report on the implementation of the AUMR, as well as on the conduct of activities under the Theme of the year,

- (v) **Overall, the focus should be on :**
- a) Prevention and building capacities of Member States, RECs/RMs to rapidly transit from early warning to early action;
  - b) Addressing in a more robust way the illicit proliferation of arms and their diversion to non-state actors, including armed groups;
  - c) Prevention and combating corruption and illicit financial flows in Africa;
  - d) Issues of political and economic governance, namely the question of elections especially in so far as factors that hinder the conduct of peaceful elections are concerned;
  - e) Issue of access to natural resources and equitable distribution of the benefits obtained to the population;

- f) Addressing factors which fuel inter-communal violence, particular through ensuring good governance of resources in communities;
- g) Addressing the obvious consequences of climate change on peace, security and safety;
- h) Reinforcement of the nexus between peace, security and development;
- i) Engagement of the private sector in playing its role, particularly in enhancing investment and job creation within the continent's efforts to silence the guns;
- j) Promotion of the involvement of women and youth through the established platforms such as Fem-Wise and Youth for Peace Programme;
- k) In order to stop external interference into the internal Affairs of Member States, the AU Policy Organs, including the PSC, should activate its policy of *naming and shaming* those responsible;
- l) Take measures to prevent violation of UN arms embargoes in Africa, given the fact that these violations contribute to illegal supply of arms to terrorist groups and armed criminal networks;
- m) Implementing PSC decisions on addressing the problem of foreign political and military interference;
- n) Putting in place and implementing programmes to rehabilitate and train demobilized combatants and equip them with relevant skills to rejoin civilian life as a constructive option, as opposed to use of arms and violence to realize own objectives.

10. The Theme of the year 2020 calls for creating conducive conditions for Africa's development. As for the AUMR, it is outlined practical steps under the Economic Aspect, aimed at economic growth and development, research and development, technological innovation and job creation. The AUMR calls for increased private sector engagement to this effect. In this regard, the AU has put in place several programmes of an economic nature for implementation by Member States. In its various meeting, the PSC, has consistently emphasized the need to prevent and resolve conflicts, including through economic measures, among other means. Among the programmes putting in place by the AU are African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA); Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA); Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); Minimum Integration Programme (MIP 2009). In these programmes, it is essential for Member States to prioritize aspects of each of these programmes which can be rapidly implemented during 2020 under the Theme of the year. These aspects include:

- a) Member States expanding their agriculture areas under irrigation to raise productivity, reduce impact of climate change and enhance employment, as well as strengthen measures to ensure improved animal husbandry;
- b) Provision of funding support, specially microfinance for women and youth, for establishment and promotion of local manufacturing industries;
- c) Member States to provide funding and technical support for establishment of marine resources-based industries, in order to add value to the Continent's blue economy through activities in fishing, trade, transport, tourism and exploration, such as off-shore oil and geo-thermal power, including natural gas;
- d) Member States further expanding the current areas undergoing afforestation and re-afforestation in order to curb desertification and impact of climate

- change. In this context, Member States are expected to implement provisions of AU Kigali Action Plan on water and sanitation in Africa adopted in Malabo in 2014 and the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods adopted in 2014. In this, the AU-led Green Wall Project and similar projects should receive attention in terms of engagement and resource allocation by Member States;
- e) Member States to take measure to curb illicit financial flows and ensure that finances available are channeled to national economic development purposes;
  - f) In line with the need for stronger private sector engagement, the AU Commission should engage private sector captains from the five geographic regions of the Continent. This could take a form of a meeting to be organized by the Chairperson of the Commission to galvanize private sector contribution to implementation of programmes putting in place by their governments, as well as those under the Theme of the year, to accelerate socio-economic development as an input towards silencing the guns.

#### **IV. CONCLUSION: OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

11. On the overall, given the persistence of disruptive crises and violent conflicts, with their attendant root causes and the generated political, social, economic, humanitarian and environmental consequences in the Continent, it is important that the AU organizes in an appropriate forum, which should take the form of an AU extraordinary summit, uniquely devoted to the issue of silencing the guns. This summit should profoundly reflect on the root causes of the persistence of crises and conflicts region by region and make appropriate recommendations on the best ways to resolve them. Similarly, the summit will look into challenges, including external interference and foreign military activities, hampering the collective efforts to end wars in Africa. This summit could be organized in the first half of 2020. The convening of this extraordinary summit will be useful in generating the impetus required for injection in to the implementation of various activities as outlined above, under the Theme of the year. The structured matrix of activities under the Theme of the year is attached to this Orientation Concept Note for consideration and endorsement by the AU Policy Organs.

12. Lastly, it is important to have thorough preparation for the planned AU meetings and events, as endorsed by the PRC at its meeting held on 24 January 2020, in Addis Ababa, namely that to be hosted by Equatorial Guinea, in March 2020, under the umbrella of the PSC, to reflect on more innovative ways of enhancing action of implementing the AUMR ; and the other to be hosted by Kenya in March/April 2020 to take stock of the implementation of the AUMR, since 2017 (launch of the AUMR) in order to lay a foundation for forging the way forward. As agreed by the PRC, the outputs of these meetings will be combined together into a document for the deliberations of the AU extraordinary summit on silencing the guns, to be held back-to-back with the AU extra ordinary summit on CFTA, both to be hosted by South Africa in May 2020.



**IMPLEMENTATION MATRIX FOR THE ACTIVITIES UNDER THE AU THEME OF THE YEAR 2020: SILENCING THE GUNS-CREATING CONDUCTIVE CONDITIONS FOR AFRICA'S DEVELOPMENT**

	No.	Activities	Time Frame	Expected results	Key Actors/ Implementers
<b>Peace and Security Council</b>	1.	Launch of publicity campaign on the AUMR	February- Launching The campaign to run up to December 2020	-Governments and citizens/population sensitized on AUMR; -- Dynamic and informative website for the STG developed and activated.	PSC; AU Member States; AU Commission
	2.	Meeting in Equatorial Guinea to reflect on innovative and impact-creating ways in enhancing action in implementing the AUMR	March	-- Areas of deficit in implementing the AUMR and factors responsible identified, -- report identifying more innovative ways agreed, -- Communique outlining the above adopted.	PSC; AU Commission
	3.	Meeting in Kenya to take stock of the implementation of the AUMR, since its launch in September 2017	March/April	-- stock of implemented steps/activities from 2017 to April 2020 established and report highlighting presented to the Extra-Ordinary Summit to be held in May. -- Communique outlining the above adopted.	PSC; AU Member States; AU Commission

	4.	To review, with the UN Security Council, the status of implementation of UNSCR 2457 (2019) on UN support to silencing the guns, during the Annual Joint Consultative Meeting	Second half of 2020	Annual Joint Consultative Meeting between the PSC and UN Security Council	PSC; African Members of the UNSC (A3); Members of the UNSC; PSD; PSC Secretariat
	5.	Conduct of the 2020 Africa Amnesty Month in the headquarters of one of the RECs/RMs.	September (campaigns/ preparations for Africa Amnesty Month need to be launched by Member States, at least before May 2020)	Africa Amnesty Month conducted, and AU and RECs/RMs Policy Organs informed on continental efforts on the voluntary surrender of illegally acquired and used arms, as part of the AUMR.	PSC; AU Member States; RECs/RMs: AU Commission (PSC Secretariat, PSD); UN; CSOs/Think Tanks
	6.	Develop comprehensive report on implementation of AUMR	November - December	A report on concrete results outlining achievements of the AUMR prepared for submission to the 2021 Summit.	PSC; AU Commission (PSC Secretariat / PSD)
<b>Member States</b>	7.	Appoint National Focal Teams /Points on silencing of the guns	February/March	Focal persons appointed, who will coordinate implementation of national activities on silencing the guns and linkages with regional and continental efforts. Updates to PSC and AUC provided.	AU Member States
	8.	Prepare quarterly reports on the implementation of the AUMR for the PSC and PRC	Quarterly – March, June, September, December	Quarterly reports updating on progress, highlighting achievements, challenges and way forward developed.	AU Member States (PSC and PRC); RECs/RMs; AU Commission (PSD)
	9.	Expand focus on agriculture to raise productivity, reduce impact of climate change and enhance employment, and strengthen improved animal husbandry	February – December	Agricultural productivity raised, impact on climate change reduced, animal husbandry improved and employment enhanced.	AU Member States; RECs/RMs; AUC
	10.	Provide funding and microfinance, including for women and youth, for establishment and promotion of local	February – December	Funding and microfinance provided to support small scale local	AU Member States; RECs/RMs; AUC

		(community-based) manufacturing industries		industries and income generating activities	
	11.	Implement afforestation and re-afforestation programs to curb desertification and impact of climate change, including through the Kigali Action Plan on water and sanitation in Africa, the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for shared prosperity and improved livelihoods, and the AU-led Green Wall Project.	February – December	-Afforestation and re-afforestation programs implemented in line with relevant AU programs, in order to curb desertification and impact of climate change, and enhance economies -Updates to PSC and AUC provided	AU Member States; RECs/RMs; AUC
	12.	Take measure to curb illicit financial flows and channel available finances to national economic development purposes	February – December	-measure undertaken to curb illicit financial flows -available finances channeled to national economic development	AU Member States; RECs/RMs; AUC
	13.	Provide funding and technical support to establish marine resources-based industries to add value to the Continent's blue economy through fishing, trade, transport, tourism, off-shore oil, gas and geo-thermal power exploration	February – December	Funding and technical support to establish and strengthen the various economic and industrial aspects of the maritime domain provided.	AU Member States; RECs/RMs; AUC
<b>RECs / RMS</b>	14.	To follow-up with their Member States to support the implementation of their various activities under the AUMR, produce reports on implementation and ensure they are conveyed to the Commission.	Quarterly – March, June, September, December	-Support provided to Member States to implement their activities, -Member States supported in reporting on the implementation of their activities -reports on implementation submitted to the AU Commission.	AU Member States; RECs/RMs; PSD / PSC Secretariat
<b>AU Commission</b>	15.	Work with the PSC to launch publicity campaign on the AUMR	February-December	Public campaign strategy developed and website launched.	Members of the PSC; AU Member States; PSD; DIC; MIS
	16.	Convene, in South Africa, the Extra-Ordinary Summit on Silencing the Guns	May	-- Extra-Ordinary Summit on Silencing the Guns held,	AU Member States, RSA, AUC

				-- Progress on the implementation of the AUMR evaluated and way forward adopted, -- decision on the way forward on the implementation of the AUMR adopted, which will guide on addressing emerging circumstances on Africa's peace and security landscape.	
17.	Hold Youth consultative meeting on Silencing the Guns on the margins of the extra ordinary summit in South Africa	May		To engage the Youth in the implementation of the Theme of the year and in the implementation of the AUMR	AU Youth Envoy; AUC; 5 Youth Peace Ambassadors
18.	Framework on Youth Peace and Development adopted	February to May		Framework adopted to guide youth activities	AU Youth Envoy; 5 Youth Peace Ambassadors; AUC
19.	Receive report from Member States on the implementation of the AUMR, compile report and submit to the PSC	Quarterly – March, June, September, December		Reports from Member States on implementation of the AUMR received for compilation.	AU Member States; RECs/RMs; PSC; AU Commission ( PSC Secretariat; PSD)
20.	Support Member States for enhanced implementation of AU programmes on economic growth and development, research and development, technological innovation and job creation – including the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA); Programme for Infrastructure Development in Africa (PIDA); Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP); Minimum Integration Programme (MIP 2009).	February – December		Member States supported by AU Commission in implementing the relevant AU programs	AU Member States; AUC ( DTI, DREA, Economic Affairs Dept, Infrastructure and Energy)
21.	Engage with the private sector in the five geographic regions of the Continent to galvanize their contribution to	February – December		Private Sector in the five geographic regions engaged by AU Commission to galvanize its	AU Member States; Private Sector; AUC

		accelerated socio-economic development and in other programmes under the theme of the year.		contribution towards accelerated socio-economic development and in other programmes under the theme of the year, with focus on innovation, job creation, products and service delivery.	
	22.	Organize 100 intergenerational dialogues on role of Youth in realizing the theme of the year	February – December	reports of the intergenerational dialogues produced	AU Youth Envoy; 5 Youth Peace Ambassadors; AU Commission (PSD);
	23.	Establish Youth Peace Network to promote theme of the Year and train 500 Youth Peace builders	February – December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Report on the activities of the Youth Peace Network produced</li> <li>- - Report on the training and activities of the 500 Youth Peace builders produced.</li> </ul>	AU Youth Envoy; 5 Youth Peace Ambassadors; AU Commission (PSD)

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# Orientation Concept Note on the AU Theme of the Year 2020: Silencing the Guns-Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development

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