

AFRICAN UNION

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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
151ST MEETING
22 SEPTEMBER 2008
NEW YORK**

PSC/MIN/Comm.3(CLI)

COMMUNIQUE

**COMMUNIQUE OF THE 151st MEETING OF THE
PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL**

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 151st meeting held in New York on 22 September 2008, at ministerial level, adopted the following decisions on the situation in Somalia,

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Somalia PSC/MIN/2 (CLI);
2. **Welcomes** the significant progress made recently in the peace process, in particular the signing, on 19 August 2008, in Djibouti, of a Peace and Reconciliation Agreement (Djibouti Agreement) between the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) of Somalia and the Alliance for the Re-Liberation of Somalia (ARS), the preliminary work undertaken by the High Level Committee and the Joint Security Committee established under the Agreement, and the Roadmap for the Implementation of the Understanding Reached in Addis Ababa among the Leadership of the Institutions of the TFG, signed in Addis Ababa on 26 August 2008;
3. **Encourages** all the concerned Somali parties to work closely together towards the successful implementation of the Agreements reached and commitments made, with a view to furthering the peace and reconciliation process in Somalia;
4. **Reiterates** its call on all Somalia stakeholders to join this process and commit themselves to the peaceful and negotiated settlement of the conflict in Somalia;
5. **Further reiterates its call** on all member States and the larger international community to provide adequate support in order to enhance the capacity of the Somali institutions, including the TFG and its security and defence forces, to enable them fully play their role. In this respect, Council **expresses** its gratitude to the AU Member States that are already providing support to the TFG;
6. **Strongly condemns**, once again, the threats and/or acts of violence and terrorism perpetrated by those elements seeking to undermine the political process, hinder the operations of AMISOM and undermine regional peace and stability. In this respect, Council **urges** the United Nations Security Council to take measures against those who seek to undermine peaceful political process, carry out acts of violence against the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) or AMISOM, or take actions that undermine the stability in Somalia or the region;
7. **Further condemns** all acts of violence perpetrated against humanitarian workers, as well as attacks against civilians, in violation of international humanitarian law. Council **pays tribute** to all humanitarian agencies and workers involved in relief work in Somalia under very difficult circumstances;

8. **Takes note** of the outcome of the meeting between the Commission and the Ministers of Defense of Burundi, Uganda and Somalia, held in Addis Ababa on 5 September 2008, and **encourages** the Commission to take the required follow-up measures;
9. **Expresses** appreciation for the work accomplished by AMISOM and **reiterates its gratitude** to the Governments of Uganda and Burundi for their commitment to the promotion of lasting peace and reconciliation in Somalia;
10. **Appeals**, once again, to member States to provide the required troops and personnel to reach the authorized strength of AMISOM, as well as financial and logistical support, to facilitate the deployment of the Mission and the sustenance of its operations. Council **further appeals** to the AU partners to provide increased logistical and financial support for AMISOM;
11. **Stresses**, once again, the need for the deployment of a United Nations peacekeeping operation in Somalia that will take over AMISOM and support the long-term stabilization and post-conflict reconstruction of Somalia. Council **reiterates its appeal** to the Security Council to urgently take steps for the early deployment of such an operation, bearing in mind the progress made in the political process and the fact that it has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. In the meantime, Council **urges** that all steps required be taken for the UN to provide AMISOM with a support package, within the framework of the provisions of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter;
12. **Decides** to remain seized of this matter.

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