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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
291ST MEETING
26 AUGUST 2011
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/AHG/COMM.(CCXCI)

COMMUNIQUE

COMMUNIQUE OF THE 291st MEETING OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 291st meeting held on 26 August 2011, at the level of the Heads of State and Government, adopted the following decision on the situation in Libya:

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Libya and on the efforts of the African Union for a political solution to the Libyan crisis [PSC/AHG/3(CCXCI)], as well as of the report of the AU High-Level *ad hoc* Committee on Libya. Council **further takes note** of the statements made by the representatives of Tunisia and Tanzania, as well as by the Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations and the representative of Libya;

2. **Recalls** its previous communiqués on the situation in Libya, and **notes with deep appreciation** the sustained efforts made by the *ad hoc* Committee and its members in pursuit of a political solution to the conflict, within the framework of the AU Roadmap and the Proposals on a Framework Agreement for a Political Solution to the Crisis in Libya, adopted by the 265th meeting of the Peace and Security Council, held on 10 March 2011, and the 17th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Malabo, from 30 June to 1st July 2011;

3. **Takes note** of the developments that have taken place in Libya over the past few days and **expresses deep concern** at the continued suffering of the Libyan people as a result of the fighting over the past five months. In this respect, Council **calls** for an immediate and complete cessation of hostilities, and the establishment of a credible monitoring Mechanism, for a lasting peace and preservation of life. Council **further calls for** the formation of an inclusive transitional Government, the establishment of a constitutional and legislative framework for the democratic transformation of Libya, as well as for support towards the organization of elections and the national reconciliation process. Council **reiterates** the commitment of the AU to work with all Libyan stakeholders and support their efforts towards the stabilization of the situation, the promotion of democracy and the reconstruction of their country, building on the relevant provisions of the AU Roadmap and Proposals;

4. **Endorses** the report of the meeting of the AU High-Level *ad hoc* Committee on Libya held on 25 August 2011, and **requests** the Chairperson of the Commission to take the necessary steps towards the implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the *ad hoc* Committee (herewith attached). Council **further requests** the AU High-Level *ad hoc* Committee to actively pursue the accomplishment of the mandate entrusted to it on the basis of the AU Roadmap;

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5. **Strongly reaffirms** that the AU stands with the people of Libya, and **encourages** all the stakeholders in Libya to come together and negotiate a peaceful process that will lead to democracy;

6. **Encourages** the Libyan stakeholders to accelerate the process leading to the formation of an all-inclusive transitional Government that would be welcome to occupy the seat of Libya in the AU;

7. **Reaffirms its strong commitment** to the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of Libya. Council **further reiterates** the legitimacy of the aspiration of the Libyan people to democracy, respect for human and people's rights, good governance and rule of law;

8. **Stresses** AU's commitment to work with the United Nations, the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation, the European Union and NATO, as well as with relevant bilateral partners, to ensure a coordinated support to the Libyan people and stakeholders;

9. **Expresses appreciation** to all humanitarian agencies providing assistance to the needy populations and facilitating the evacuation of third-country-nationals. Council **encourages** the Commission to pursue the efforts initiated to facilitate the mobilization of resources for the socio-economic reintegration of the African migrant workers who left Libya;

10. **Reiterates** its concerns regarding the proliferation of arms, emanating from the Libyan depots and the risk that this situation poses for regional and continental peace and stability and **requests** the Commission to continue to work closely with the countries concerned to identify ways to address these challenges, including the early convening of a meeting to review the situation, facilitate the exchange of information and enhance coordination;

11. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.

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