

AFRICAN UNION

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**REPORT ON THE ELECTION OF TEN (10) MEMBERS
OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

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AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The process of election of the Members of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (PSC) is based on the provisions of the Constitutive Act of the African Union, the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (the Protocol) and the Modalities for Election of Members of the Peace and Security Council adopted by the Policy Organs of the Union in March 2004 (the Modalities).

2. In conformity with the provisions of Article 5 (1) of the Protocol, the PSC is composed of fifteen (15) Members elected on the basis of equal rights, in the following manner:

- i) Ten (10) Members elected for a term of two (2) years; and
- ii) Five (5) Members elected for a term of three (3) years in order to ensure continuity.

II. BACKGROUND

3. It will be further recalled that as mandated by the Assembly, the initial Members of the PSC were elected during the Fourth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in March 2004 as follows:

MEMBERSHIP OF PSC IN 2004

	Regions	Three (3) years	Two (2) years
1.	Central	Gabon	Congo and Cameroon
2.	East	Ethiopia	Kenya and The Sudan
3.	North	Algeria	Libya
4.	South	South Africa	Lesotho and Mozambique
5.	West	Nigeria	Ghana, Senegal and Togo

4. In March 2006, Ten (10) vacancies arose as a result of the expiry of the term of office of the **Ten (10) PSC Members** elected in March 2004. The retiring Members were eligible for re-election. The Commission informed Member States accordingly and that the election would be carried out during the Eighth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council scheduled for Khartoum, The Sudan in January 2006. At that Session, Council elected the following members for two (2) years: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Malawi, Rwanda, Senegal and Uganda. Therefore, the PSC Members were as follows:

MEMBERSHIP OF PSC IN 2006

	Regions	Three (3) years	Two (2) years
1.	Central	Gabon	Congo and Cameroon
2.	East	Ethiopia	Rwanda and Uganda
3.	North	Algeria	Egypt
4.	South	South Africa	Botswana and Malawi
5.	West	Nigeria	Burkina Faso, Ghana and Senegal

5. It will be recalled that the Assembly further decided by virtue of its decision Assembly/AU/Dec.106 (VI) adopted in Khartoum, The Sudan, in January 2006 “to delegate its power for election of Members of the Peace and Security Council under Article 5 (2) of the Protocol to the Executive Council for the current and future elections”.

6. In March 2007, Five (5) vacancies arose as a result of the expiry of the term of office of the **Five (5) PSC Members** elected in March 2004 for three (3) years. The retiring Members were eligible for re-election. The Commission informed Member States accordingly and that elections would be carried out during the Tenth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council scheduled for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2007. At that Session, Council elected the following members for three (3) years: Algeria, Angola, Ethiopia, Gabon and Nigeria. Therefore, the PSC Members in March 2007 were as follows:

MEMBERSHIP OF PSC IN 2007

	Regions	Three (3) years	Two (2) years
1.	Central	Gabon	Congo and Cameroon
2.	East	Ethiopia	Rwanda and Uganda
3.	North	Algeria	Egypt
4.	South	Angola	Botswana and Malawi
5.	West	Nigeria	Burkina Faso, Ghana and Senegal

7. The term of the **Ten (10) PSC Members** elected for two (2) years in 2006, namely, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Congo, Egypt, Ghana, Malawi, Rwanda, Senegal and Uganda expired in March 2008. The Commission informed Member States accordingly and that elections would be carried out during the Twelfth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council scheduled for Addis Ababa, Ethiopia in January 2008. At that Session, Council elected the following Ten (10) Members for a term of two (2) years: Burundi, Chad, Rwanda, Uganda, Tunisia, Swaziland, Zambia, Benin, Burkina Faso and Mali. The members of the PSC are currently were as follows:

MEMBERSHIP OF PSC IN 2008

	Region	Three (3) years	Two (2) years
1	Central	Gabon	Burundi, Chad
2	East	Ethiopia	Uganda, Rwanda
3	North	Algeria	Tunisia
4	South	Angola	Swaziland, Zambia
5	West	Nigeria	Benin, Burkina Faso, Mali

8. The term of the **Five (5) Members** elected in January 2007 for a three (3)-year term and that of the **Ten (10) other Members** elected in January 2008 for a two (2)-year term expired on 31 March 2010.

9. The Commission accordingly informed Member States that fifteen (15) vacancies will arise as a result of the expiry of the terms of **all Fifteen (15) Members in March 2010** and that new members will be elected during the Sixteenth Ordinary Session of the Executive Council scheduled for Addis Ababa in January 2010. At this

session, Council elected the following Ten (10) members, Burundi, Chad, Djibouti, Rwanda, Mauritania, Namibia, South Africa, Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, and Mali for a term of two (2) years and the following five (5) members, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Libya, Zimbabwe and Nigeria for a term of three (3) years. The members of the PSC are currently as follows:

MEMBERSHIP OF PSC IN 2010

	Region	Three (3) years	Two (2) years
1	Central	Equatorial Guinea	Burundi, Chad
2	East	Kenya	Djibouti, Rwanda
3	North	Libya	Mauritania
4	South	Zimbabwe	Namibia, South Africa
5	West	Nigeria	Benin, Cote d'Ivoire, Mali

III. CURRENT SITUATION: JANUARY 2012 ELECTIONS

10. The term of ten (10) Members elected in January 2010 for a two (2) year term will expire on 31 March 2012. The Commission accordingly informed Member States that ten (10) vacancies will arise as a result of the expiry of the terms of the ten (10) Members and that new ten (10) members will be elected during the Twentieth Ordinary Session of Council scheduled for Addis Ababa in January 2012. The Commission requested the regions to consult, short-list and submit their respective candidatures to the Commission on or before 15 December 2011.

11. The regional representation of the fifteen (15) members in the PSC is as follows: **Central (3), East (3), North (2), South (3) and West (4).**

IV. REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT AS A MEMBER OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

12. In electing members of the Peace and Security Council, due consideration shall be given to the following criteria with regard to each Member State which shall submit its candidature:

a. Equitable regional representation and rotation:

13. In conformity with Article 5 (2) of the Protocol, in electing the Members of the PSC, the Assembly shall apply the principle of equitable regional representation and rotation and only Member States fulfilling the following requirements are eligible for appointment as members of the PSC:

- a) Member States which have ratified the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and have deposited their instruments of ratification with the Commission, and are therefore, State parties to the Protocol;
- b) Member States which are not affected by sanctions for non-payment of contributions or unconstitutional changes in terms of Articles 23 and 30 of the Constitutive Act respectively.

b. Member State's Qualifications

14. In conformity with Article 5 (2) of the Protocol, the following criteria should apply with regard to Member States which have submitted their candidature:

- a) Commitment to uphold the principles of the Union;
- b) Contribution to the promotion and maintenance of peace and security in Africa – in this respect, experience of Member States in peace support operations would be an added advantage;
- c) Capacity and commitment to shoulder the responsibilities entailed in membership;
- d) Participation in conflict resolution, peace-making and peace building at regional and continental levels;
- e) Willingness and ability to take up responsibilities for regional and continental conflict resolution initiatives;
- f) Contribution to the Peace Fund and/or Special Fund created for a specific purpose;
- g) Respect for constitutional governance, in accordance with the Lomé Declaration, as well as the rule of law and human rights;
- h) Sufficiently staffed and equipped Permanent Missions at the Headquarters of the Union and the United Nations, to be able to shoulder the responsibilities which go with the membership;
- i) Commitment to honour financial obligations of the Union; and
- j) Provide all the information required in the attached form.

V. TERM OF OFFICE

15. There shall be ten (10) Members of the PSC elected for a term of two (2) years and five (5) other members for a term of three (3) years. A retiring Member of the PSC is eligible for immediate re-election. The current elections relate to the elections of only Members for a two (2) year term.

VI. VOTING PROCEDURE

16. In conformity with the Modalities, the elections shall be carried out as follows:

- i. The Members of the PSC shall be elected by secret ballot and two-thirds majority of Member States eligible to vote.
- ii. Where a region has submitted the required number of candidatures, the balloting shall continue until the candidate(s) obtain(s) the two-thirds majority required, provided that if the third balloting remains inconclusive,

the elections shall be suspended to enable Member States of the region concerned to undertake consultations.

- iii. Where a region has submitted more than the required number and in the event that during the first round of balloting none of the candidates obtains the majority required, the candidate with the fewer votes shall withdraw. The remaining candidates shall proceed to the next round and the balloting shall continue until the candidate(s) obtain(s) the required majority, provided that if the third balloting remains inconclusive, the elections shall be suspended to enable Member States of the region concerned to undertake consultations.
 - iv. Where a region does not specify the term for which candidatures are submitted the candidate that first obtains the required majority shall be taken as elected for a three (3) years term and the subsequent candidate(s) that obtain the required majority and highest vote (s) shall be taken as having been elected for two (2) year term.
 - v. Where a Member State has submitted its candidature for a term of three (3) years and is unsuccessful, that Member State will not be considered for election for a two (2) years term.
- 17.** The candidatures received from the regions or directly from individual Member States are listed in the annex to this report.

Annex: List of candidatures for Membership of PSC

**CANDIDATURES FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE
PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

(2-YearTerm)

Central Africa

- Cameroon
- Congo (Republic)

Eastern Africa

- Djibouti
- Eritrea
- Ethiopia
- Tanzania
- Uganda

Northern Africa

- Egypt

Southern Africa

- Angola
- Lesotho

Western Africa

- Cote d'Ivoire
- Ghana
- Guinea

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