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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
327TH MEETING AT THE LEVEL OF
HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA
14 JULY 2012

PSC/AHG/BR.(CCCXXVII)

PRESS STATEMENT

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The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 327th meeting held on 14 July 2012, was briefed by the Commissioner for Peace and Security on the evolving situation in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC).

Council recalled its communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.(CCCXXIV) on the situation in the DRC, adopted at its 324th meeting, held on 24 June 2012, and reiterated its firm condemnation of the attacks by the 23 March Movement (M23) against the Government of the DRC, as well as AU's support to the efforts to fully restore State authority over the concerned areas. Council also condemned the actions of the other negative forces operating in the region, including the FDLR.

Council noted with satisfaction the terms of the communiqué of the extraordinary meeting of the Ministerial Committee of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), held in Addis Ababa, on 11 July 2012.

Council commended, in particular, the member countries and the Secretariat of the ICGLR for their efforts to resolve the crisis; noted the decision on the establishment of a neutral international force to eliminate the negative forces, as well as to monitor and secure the border zones; and requested the Commission to support the efforts being made in this regard and to report to it regularly on measures taken to that effect.

Council encouraged the Governments of the DRC and Rwanda to activate the existing bilateral mechanisms to address insecurity and to build confidence, including the Joint Verification Mechanism.

Council welcomed the holding of an Extraordinary Summit of the ICGLR in Addis Ababa, on 15 July 2012.

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