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Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, P.O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 5513 822 Fax: (251-11) 5519 321  
Email: [situationroom@africa-union.org](mailto:situationroom@africa-union.org)

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## PRESS RELEASE

### **THE AU HOLDS THE SECOND AU-PARTNERS CONSULTATIVE FORUM ON THE PREVENTION AND COMBATING OF TERRORISM AND VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN ADDIS ABABA**

**Addis Ababa, 8 December 2016:** The African Union (AU) held the Second AU-Partners Annual Consultative Forum on Counter-Terrorism, in Addis Ababa, from 7-8 December 2016.

The meeting brought together the AU Commission and its entities related to the prevention and combating of terrorism and violent extremism, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (RMs) and the Committee of the Intelligence and Security Service of Africa (CISSA). The United Nations (UN) agencies included the UN Counter-Terrorism Implementation Task Force (CTITF), UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the UN Development Program (UNDP). Also present were the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), Regional Police Chiefs Cooperation Organizations and AU Partners.

The meeting was opened by H.E. Ambassador Smaïl CHERGUI, Commissioner for Peace and Security of the AU Commission. In his statement he stressed the need for enhanced cooperation and coordination among the agencies responsible for the prevention and combating of terrorism and violent extremism in the AU member States. He also called upon the international community to share data on terrorist and extremists with AU Member States since terrorism is a transnational threat.

In his remarks Mr. Gerd TROGEMANN, Director, United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Regional Service Centre for Africa, highlighted the gravity of the terrorism threat in Africa and its effects on especially women and children. He pledged the continued cooperation of UNDP in support of the AU Commission in the prevention and countering of violent extremism through a development approach.

The forum provided opportunity for participants to exchange of views and share of ideas and experiences in supporting Member States in the prevention and combating of terrorism and violent extremism. Participants stressed the need for enhanced synergy in order to avoid duplication and utilize available resources efficiently. Participants adopted the format of a matrix that will contain their planned activities and areas of interest in the prevention and combating of terrorism and violent extremism, as a living coordination document that would be

updated on a quarterly basis as part of the efforts toward enhanced collaboration and coordination.

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# The AU holds the Second AU-Partners Consultative Forum on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Addis Ababa Addis Ababa, 8 December 2016

Peace and Security

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