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UNIÃO AFRICANA

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA P. O. BOX 3243 TELEPHONE: 0115517 700 FAX: 0115517844
WEBSITE: www.africa-union.org

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**REPORT OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL ON
ITS ACTIVITIES AND THE STATE OF PEACE
AND SECURITY IN AFRICA**

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The Report of the Peace and Security Council on its Activities and the State of Peace and Security in Africa is submitted pursuant to Article 7(q) of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU). According to the Article, the PSC shall “submit, through its Chairperson, regular reports to the Assembly on its activities and the state of peace and security in Africa.” The present report, prepared in conformity with the said Article, covers the activities undertaken by the PSC in the pursuit of its mandate during the period January 2011 to June 2011, and provides an overview of the state of peace and security on the continent during the period.

2. The specific aspects covered include the signing and ratification of the PSC Protocol, membership of the PSC, rotation of the chairmanship of this Organ, activities undertaken by the PSC, other issues falling within the mandate of the PSC, and the state of peace and security in Africa.

II. SIGNING AND RATIFICATION OF THE PSC PROTOCOL

3. Since the entry into force of the Protocol, in December 2003, fifty-one (51) Member States have signed the PSC Protocol, while forty-four (44) have both signed and ratified it. Two Member States are yet to sign and ratify the Protocol, namely, Cape Verde and Eritrea. The following Member States have signed the Protocol, but have not yet ratified it: Central African Republic (CAR), Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Guinea Bissau, Republic of Guinea, Liberia, Seychelles and Somalia.

III. MEMBERSHIP OF THE PSC AND ROTATION OF THE CHAIRMANSHIP

4. As stipulated in Article 5 (1) of the Protocol, the PSC is composed of fifteen (15) members with equal rights, who are elected as follows: 10 members elected for a two (2) year term and five (5) members elected for a three (3) year term. The current list of PSC members in the English alphabetical order is as follows: Benin, Burundi, Chad, Côte d’Ivoire, Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa and Zimbabwe.

5. In conformity with Rule 23 of the Rules of Procedure of the PSC, the chairmanship of the PSC rotates among its members on a monthly basis following the English alphabetical order of the list of the PSC members. During the period under review, the chairmanship of the PSC rotated as follows:

- Mauritania January 2011;
- Namibia February 2011;
- Nigeria March 2011;
- Rwanda April 2011;
- South Africa May 2011; and
- Zimbabwe June 2011;

IV. ACTIVITIES OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

6. During the period under review, the PSC, in discharging its mandate to promote peace, security and stability in Africa, engaged in continued efforts to address conflict and crisis situations within the continent, in close cooperation with all other stakeholders, including other AU Organs, Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (RECs/RMs), the United Nations Security Council, the European Union Political and Security Committee (EUPSC) and other AU partners. In this regard, the PSC held thirty (30) meetings, including one at the ministerial level in Addis Ababa, on 26 April 2011, and two at the level of Heads of State and Government, also in Addis Ababa, on 28 January 2011 and 10 March 2011.

7. Among the meetings held during the reporting period were briefing sessions to receive updates on various peace and security situations and issues. The countries and other stakeholders concerned with the issues discussed were invited to these meetings and briefing sessions, in line with the established practice of the PSC and in conformity with the provisions of the PSC Protocol. It also participated in various meetings and activities of other AU Organs, and held joint meetings with its counterparts, namely, the EUPSC and the UN Security Council, to discuss issues of common concern and the strengthening of partnership in the area of peace and security. The meetings and briefing sessions held during the reporting period are reflected in **Annex I** attached to this report.

A) Activities relating to conflict and other related situations

8. During the period under review, the PSC considered the following crisis/conflict situations: Cote d'Ivoire, Egypt, Libya, Niger, Somalia, Sudan (Darfur and Implementation of the CPA) and Tunisia:

(i) **Sudan**

9. During the period under review, the PSC remained actively seized with the various aspects of the situation in Sudan, in particular the implementation of the CPA and the pursuit of a Darfur all-inclusive political process, reviewing developments in that country on five occasions (256th meeting held on 10 January 2011; 258th meeting held on 20 January 2011; 262nd meeting held on 24 February 2011; 271st meeting held on 8 April 2011 and 280th meeting held on 20 May 2011).

10. On the situation in Darfur, the PSC made the following pronouncements:

(a) At its 258th meeting, the PSC:

- expressed its concern at the upsurge in fighting between the Government and the armed movements, and reiterated the need for renewed efforts to ensure cessation of hostilities between the armed belligerents. It paid tribute to the African Union/United Nations Hybrid Operation (UNAMID) for its excellent work towards the improvement in the security situation on the ground, protection of civilians and support

to early socio-economic recovery, in spite of the security challenges facing the Mission;

- noted the protracted negotiations and the slow and limited progress in the Doha political talks, and stressed the need to ensure the speedy conclusion of the Doha peace negotiations, in particular the immediate completion of the political agreement between the Government of Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM); and
 - reiterated the importance of the prompt commencement of the Darfur-based Political Process (DPP) as an important mechanism in assisting the people of Darfur to participate in, and support, the peace process, and underlined the need to create an enabling environment.
- (b) At its 262nd meeting, the PSC expressed concern with the security situation in Darfur and reiterated its full support to UNAMID, and reiterated further the need to expedite the conclusion of the Doha peace negotiations in an all-inclusive manner, and urged for the adherence to the schedule of the Darfur peace process.
- (c) At its 271st meeting, the PSC underlined the importance of the early launch of the DPP, and requested the UN Security Council to continue extending and strengthening partnership and support to the AU, under the leadership of the AUHIP, in resolving Sudan's political challenges.

11. Regarding the implementation of the CPA, the PSC made the following pronouncements:

- (a) At its 256th meeting, the PSC:
- stressed the importance, for Sudan and for Africa as a whole, of the self-determination referendum in Southern Sudan, as a key step towards the full implementation of the CPA. In this regard, the PSC commended the leadership of President Omar Hassan Al Bashir and First Vice-President Salva Kiir Mayardit and the Parties to the CPA, as well as the Southern Sudan Referendum Commission and the Southern Sudan Referendum Bureau, whose commitment and efforts made it possible to organize the referendum on time, in a peaceful manner;
 - urged all Parties and all Sudanese to continue to demonstrate the same commitment towards the successful conclusion of the referendum process and other outstanding issues in the implementation of the CPA, as well as the post-referendum arrangements. In this respect, the PSC encouraged the Parties to continue to extend the necessary cooperation to the AUHIP; and
 - expressed appreciation to the Parties for their commitment to respect the outcome of the referendum and the will of the Sudanese people, and reiterated AU's commitment, as one of the CPA Guarantors, to fully respect the result of the Referendum.

- (b) At its 262nd meeting, the PSC:
- welcomed the Sudanese parties' acceptance of the outcome of the referendum and their commitment to establish two viable mutually supportive states, at peace with one another, and cooperating in a variety of fields for the common good of their people;
 - reiterated its commitment to do its utmost to mobilize the necessary support to enable South Sudan to effectively address the many challenges facing it;
 - encouraged the Parties to the CPA to resolve the outstanding issues in the implementation of the CPA, including the resolution of the Abyei issue, the holding of the Popular Consultations in South Kordofan and Blue Nile States, the demarcation of the north-south border, and the status of disputed areas.
- (c) At its 280th meeting, the PSC:
- urged the Sudanese Parties to exert further efforts to finalize all other outstanding issues, including with respect to the electoral process in South Kordofan and the process of popular consultations in that State, as well as the issue of the SPLA forces in Blue Nile and South Kordofan States;
 - strongly encouraged the Sudanese Parties to fully respect and implement the Kadugli and Abyei security agreements, as well as guarantee free movement for the United Nations Mission in Sudan (UNMIS); and
 - stressed the need for the current post-referendum negotiations on economic issues, which include oil, facilitated by the AUHIP, to be conducted and resolved on the basis of the principles that the two Parties have agreed upon, calling for the establishment of two viable States.

(ii) Côte d'Ivoire

12. The PSC dedicated four (4) meetings to the consideration of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire (259th meeting held on 28 January 2011, 263rd meeting, held on 28 February, 265th meeting, held on 10 March 2011, 270th meeting held on 5 April 2011, and 273rd meeting held on 21 April 2011). Two of these meetings (259th and 265th) were held at the level of Heads of State and Government.

- (a) At its 259th meeting, the PSC:
- reaffirmed its previous decisions on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire, recognizing Mr. Alassane Dramane Ouattara as the President-Elect, following the 2nd round of the presidential election, held on 28 November 2010, on the basis of the results announced by the Independent Electoral Commission, as certified by the Special

Representative of the UN Secretary-General, in conformity with resolution 1765 of 16 July 2007 and the different Agreements signed by the Ivorian Parties and endorsed by ECOWAS, AU and the United Nations;

- decided to put in place, under the authority of the AU, a High-Level Panel for the Resolution of the Crisis in Côte d'Ivoire to formulate a political solution, on the basis of the relevant AU and ECOWAS decisions.
- (b) At its 263rd meeting, the PSC decided to extend the mandate of the High Level Panel to allow it to pursue and complete, within the month of March 2011, its mandate to formulate, on the basis of the relevant AU and ECOWAS decisions, a comprehensive political solution.
- (c) During its 265th meeting, at the level of Heads of State and Government, the PSC endorsed the recommendations of the High-Level Panel as contained in its report, as well as the proposals made for an overall political solution to the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire. In this regard, the PSC recalled the provisions of paragraph 6 (c) of the communiqué of its 259th meeting stating that the Panel's conclusions, as endorsed by the PSC, will be binding on all Ivorian parties. The PSC further requested the Chairperson of the Commission to appoint a High Representative for the implementation of the overall political solution.
- (d) At its 270th meeting, the PSC expressed deep regret over the refusal of outgoing President, Laurent Gbagbo, to accept the proposals made by the AU High-Level Panel to resolve the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire as endorsed by its 265th meeting on 10 March 2011, which President Ouattara formally accepted, as well as Laurent Gbagbo's rejection of all other initiatives for a way out of the crisis. The PSC expressed appreciation to the efforts being made by the President of Mauritania, Mr. Mohamed Ould Abdel Aziz, in cooperation with other African Heads of State and the Commission, with the view to bringing to an end the bloodbath and to peacefully resolving the current crisis, and urged all the parties to promote the success of these efforts. The PSC requested the Chairperson of the Commission, in close cooperation with the ECOWAS Commission and with the support of the UN, to take all necessary steps to identify urgent actions that the AU could undertake to assist the Ivorian authorities in the promotion of national reconciliation, the deepening of democracy and the consolidation of peace.
- (e) At its 273rd meeting, the PSC, welcomed the fact that the democratically-elected President, Mr. Alassane Dramane Ouattara, now assumes State power, marking the end of the post-election crisis experienced by Côte d'Ivoire after the second round of the presidential election, which took place on 28 November 2010. The PSC decided, therefore, in accordance with paragraph 4 of the communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.1 (CCLII), adopted at the end of its 252nd meeting held on 9 December 2010, to lift the suspension of the participation of Côte

d'Ivoire in the activities of the AU. The PSC further decided to dispatch, during the month of May 2011, a mission of the PSC to Côte d'Ivoire, to express the solidarity of the AU to the authorities and the Ivorian people and assess the situation in order to allow the AU to better contribute to the crisis exit process.

(iii) Somalia

13. During the reporting period, the PSC held three (3) meetings to consider the situation in Somalia (258th meeting held on 20 January 2011, 267th meeting held on 18 March 2011, and 273rd meeting held on 21 April 2011). The decisions and communiqués adopted during these meetings can be summarized as follows:

- (a) At its 258th meeting, the PSC decided to renew the mandate of AMISOM for an additional period of twelve (12) months, starting from January 2011.
- (b) At its 267th meeting, the PSC:
 - expressed its appreciation to the Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) for their commitment to peace in Somalia, and encouraged other African countries that have pledged troops and contributions in kind, to speedily provide them to enable AMISOM achieve its goals. In this respect, the PSC took note of the pledge made by Djibouti that it will provide, through AMISOM, military assistance for training and re-organization of the Somali security forces;
 - paid tribute to AMISOM troops, TFG Forces, including Ahlu Sunna Wal Jama'a (ASWJ) and other friendly forces, for the substantial gains made in extending their areas of control in Mogadishu and elsewhere in Somalia;
 - called for more cohesion among the Transitional Federal Institutions and the Somali leadership.
- (c) At its 273rd meeting, the PSC:
 - expressed serious concern at the continued and serious differences between the Somali TFG and the Transitional Federal Parliament (TFP) regarding the end of the transitional period and the post-transitional arrangements, which undermine the efforts to promote peace, security and reconciliation in Somalia. The PSC urged the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) and the Somali leaders to demonstrate the required political will and maturity in order to harmonize their views on the end of the transition and to agree on post-transitional arrangements that are inclusive, participatory and legitimate, bearing in mind their primary responsibility in the achievement of peace, security and reconciliation in their country;

- welcomed the conclusions of the UN-sponsored High-Level Consultative Meeting that took place in Nairobi, on 12 and 13 April 2011, with the objective of facilitating dialogue, consultation and cooperation among the Somali institutions and stakeholders on the way forward to end the transition and determine post-transitional arrangements. The PSC welcomed the decision to hold the next High-Level Consultative Meeting in Mogadishu, and appealed to the TFG to extend the required cooperation and to take all necessary steps to ensure the successful convening of this meeting;
- reiterated its request to the UN Council to authorize an adequate support package for AMISOM, through assessed contributions, that caters for reimbursement for contingent-owned equipment and the payment of troops allowances at UN rates, as well as to impose a naval blockade and a no-fly zone over Somalia to prevent the entry of foreign elements into Somalia, flights and shipments carrying weapons and ammunitions to armed groups opposed to the TFG.

(iv) Niger

14. At its 266th meeting held on 16 March 2011, the PSC welcomed the successful holding, on 12 March 2011, of the 2nd round of the presidential election. The PSC commended the calm, wisdom and high sense of responsibility shown by the people of Niger before and during the elections and the proclamation of results. The PSC also noted with satisfaction that this election marks the culmination of the transition process initiated, in March 2010, by the Supreme Council for the Restoration of Democracy (CSR D). The PSC congratulated H.E. Mr. Mahamadou Issoufou for his election, and reiterated its deep appreciation to General Salou Djibo, Head of State and Chairman of the CSR D, the members of the CSR D and the Government, as well as to the political forces of Niger, for having led the transition to completion, in accordance with their commitments. The PSC took note of the restoration of constitutional order in Niger, and decided to lift the suspension of the participation of the Republic of Niger in AU's activities, as contained in paragraph 5 of the Communiqué issued at the end of its 216th meeting held on 19 February 2010.

(v) Tunisia

15. The PSC dedicated two meetings to the situation in Tunisia: 257th meeting, held on 15 January 2011; and 268th meeting, held on 23 March 2011.

(a) At its 257th meeting, the PSC:

- considering the situation in Tunisia in the light of the departure of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali, strongly condemned the excessive use of force against the demonstrators which resulted in the loss of life;
- expressed its solidarity with the people of Tunisia and appealed for calm. The PSC also appealed to the political stakeholders and the

Tunisian people to work together, in unity, consensus and respect for legality, towards a peaceful and democratic transition which would allow the Tunisian people to choose freely their leaders through open, democratic and transparent elections; and

- requested the Chairperson of the Commission to continue to follow closely the situation and to take any initiative that he deems necessary to contribute to a peaceful and democratic transition.

(b) At its 268th meeting, the PSC:

- welcomed the encouraging evolution of the situation since its 257th meeting, in particular the climate of freedom that now prevails in the country and the steps taken to promote democracy, good governance and the rule of law, as well as the preparations for the election of a Constituent Assembly, and encouraged the Tunisian authorities and parties to persevere in their efforts to complete the transition;
- welcomed the visit undertaken by the Chairperson of the Commission to Tunisia, on 21 and 22 March 2011, and looked forward to the planned visit of the AU Panel of the Wise to Tunisia, as part of the accompaniment of the transition in that country; and
- agreed to meet in due course to review the situation in Tunisia on the basis of a report of the Chairperson of the Commission and after its own planned visit to Tunisia.

(vi) Egypt

16. The PSC considered the situation in Egypt during its 260th meeting held on 16 February 2011; and its 268th meeting, held on 23 March 2011.

(a) At its 260th meeting, the PSC:

- recognized the exceptional nature of the situation that was prevailing in Egypt and took note of the decision of Mr. Hosni Mubarak to resign from his position as President of the Republic and surrender authority for the exercise of state power to the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces;
- noted the announcement made and the measures taken by the Egyptian authorities for the elaboration of a new Constitution and the organization, within six months maximum, of free, fair, open and transparent legislative and presidential elections, to allow Egyptians to freely choose their leaders and endow their country with democratic institutions;
- requested the Commission to monitor closely the evolution of the situation and the transition process, including through periodic evaluation missions, and to provide all necessary support to

facilitate the completion of the transition, and decided to undertake a mission to Egypt to engage with all stakeholders.

(b) At its 268th meeting, the PSC:

- welcomed the positive evolution of the situation since its 260th meeting, in particular the organization, on 19 March 2011, of a constitutional referendum and the arrangements that were being made for the holding of presidential and legislative elections in September and October 2011; and
- encouraged the Egyptian authorities and parties to persevere in their efforts to complete the transition.

(vii) Libya

17. During the period under review, the PSC dedicated four meetings to the situation in Libya, specifically the 261st meeting, held on 23 February 2011; the 265th meeting, held on 10 March; the 268th meeting, held on 23 March 2011; 275th meeting, held on 26 April 201; and the 281st meeting, held on 6 June 2011.

(a) At its 261st meeting, the PSC:

- expressed deep concern with the situation in Libya, and strongly condemned the indiscriminate and excessive use of force and lethal weapons against peaceful protestors, in violation of human rights and International Humanitarian Law, which continues to contribute to the loss of human life and the destruction of property;
- stressed the need for the people of Libya to spare no effort in avoiding any further loss of life and called on the Libyan authorities to ensure the protection and security of their own population, as well as the delivery and provision of humanitarian assistance to the injured and other persons in need;
- appealed to the people of Libya to work together to find a lasting solution to the problems facing their country, underscoring that the aspirations of the people of Libya for democracy, political reform, justice and socio-economic development are legitimate and urged that they be respected;
- urged the authorities and the people of Libya to exercise maximum restraint and to put an end forthwith to all acts of violence and the destruction of property. The PSC also called on all parties, in particular, the Government, to desist from making statements that could escalate the situation. Furthermore, Council stressed the need to preserve the territorial integrity and unity of Libya.

- (b) At its 265th meeting, the PSC:
- stressed that the situation in Libya requires an effective African action around the following points: (i) the immediate cessation of all hostilities, (ii) the cooperation of the competent Libyan authorities to facilitate the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to the needy populations, (iii) the protection of foreign nationals, including the African migrants living in Libya, and (iv) the adoption and implementation of the political reforms necessary for the elimination of the causes of the current crisis;
 - decided to establish an AU *ad-hoc* High-Level Committee on Libya comprising five Heads of State and Government, as well as the Chairperson of the Commission, with the mandate to: (i) engage with all parties in Libya and continuously assess the evolution of the situation on the ground, (ii) facilitate an inclusive dialogue among the Libyan parties on the appropriate reforms, (iii) engage AU's partners. in particular the League of Arab States, the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC), the European Union (EU) and the United Nations, to facilitate coordination of efforts and seek their support for the early resolution of the crisis;
 - requested all AU Member States to provide logistical and humanitarian support to all African migrant workers wishing to leave Libya, as well as to those neighboring countries forced to bear a disproportionate burden and to the countries of origin to facilitate the socio-economic reinsertion of these migrant workers. In this respect, the PSC requested the Chairperson of the Commission to take the necessary steps to coordinate such an effort, including the convening of a conference to facilitate the mobilization of the required resources and other related measures, and further requested the Commission to gather information on the reported presence of mercenaries in Libya and their actions, to enable it, should these reports be confirmed, to take the required measures in line with the relevant Convention.
- (c) At its 268th meeting, the PSC:
- expressed full support for the conclusions of the meeting of the *ad hoc* Committee held in Nouakchott, on 19 March 2011. The PSC, regretting that the mission of the *ad hoc* Committee to Libya was not authorized by the United Nations, urged the Committee to continue and intensify its efforts within the framework of its mandate and in a manner consistent with, and complementary to, UN Security Council resolution 1973 (2011), which duly recognizes the role of the Committee in seeking a peaceful and lasting solution to the Libyan crisis;
 - noted with satisfaction the announcement by the Libyan Government of its acceptance of the AU Roadmap articulating a peaceful solution. In this regard, the PSC welcomed the planned

holding of consultations between the AU and the Libyan parties, namely the Libyan Government and the Transitional National Council (TNC), to pave the way for negotiations on all aspects of the current crisis and the establishment of an inclusive transition, as well as the adoption and implementation of political reforms necessary to address the causes of the current crisis. In the meantime, the PSC reiterated AU's strong call for an immediate cessation of all hostilities, to ensure the effective protection of civilians and create conditions conducive for a peaceful resolution of the crisis.

(d) At its 275th meeting held on 25 March 2011, at the ministerial level, the PSC:

- underscored, once again, the legitimacy of the aspirations of the Libyan people and the need to ensure that these aspirations are fulfilled in a peaceful and democratic manner. The reaffirms, in this context, the relevance of the AU Roadmap for the Resolution of the Libyan Crisis;
- welcomed the acceptance by the Libyan Government, including Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, of the AU Roadmap, in particular the specific issue of the ceasefire and deployment of an effective and credible monitoring mechanism, and took note of the *Ad Hoc* Committee's extensive discussions with the Chairman and members of the TNC;
- Requested the *ad hoc* Committee and the Commission to finalize promptly appropriate consultations with the Libyan parties and the multilateral and bilateral partners, in order to prepare the ground for the early holding of negotiations on a ceasefire and the other aspects of the Libyan crisis. The PSC stressed that there should be no preconditions for the commencement of the negotiations;
- urged the *Ad Hoc* Committee and the Commission to continue to engage the partners, and requested the said partners to extend the necessary cooperation to AU's efforts, bearing in mind the provisions of Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter. In this respect, the PSC requested the Commission, in consultation with the *Ad Hoc* Committee, to liaise with the United Nations, in order to schedule a briefing to the Security Council and engagement with it on the AU's Roadmap and its efforts to resolve the Libyan crisis;
- reiterated the AU's commitment to the respect for resolution 1973 (2011). In this regard, the PSC stressed the need for all countries and organizations involved in the implementation of Security Council resolution 1973 (2011) to act in a manner fully consistent with international legality and the resolution's provisions;

- strongly condemned the attacks and other abuses directed at African migrant workers, and requested the Chairperson of the Commission to establish a Commission of Inquiry on the situation of the African migrant workers in Libya, as well as on allegations of recourse to mercenaries in the ongoing hostilities, and to report to it as early as possible;
 - reaffirmed the legitimacy and seriousness of the concerns of the countries of the Northern and Sahelo-Saharan regions with regard to the humanitarian and security implications of the current situation in Libya.
- (e) At its 281st meeting, the PSC:
- took note of the arrangements being made towards the holding, in mid-June, of a meeting of the Security Council of the United Nations on Libya, at which will participate a ministerial delegation of the AU High Level *Ad hoc* Committee on Libya;
 - underlined the importance of that meeting, which will make it possible to provide more information on the efforts deployed by the AU within the framework of its Roadmap, and to express the preoccupations of the Continent, as contained in the decision of the Extraordinary Summit of 25 May 2011; and
 - commended the holding, in Cairo, on 30 May 2011, of a meeting among representatives of the AU, the United Nations, the League of Arab States, the OIC and the EU, with the view to discussing ways and means of expediting the search for a solution to the crisis.

B) Review of the state of peace and security in Africa

18. At its 275th meeting, held at the ministerial level, on 26 April 2011, the PSC debated on the state of peace and security in the continent. The debate was organized against the background of the uprisings that took place in North Africa, which started in Tunisia and, subsequently, spread out to Egypt and Libya, degenerating, in the latter country, into an armed confrontation between the Government and the protestors. In the Declaration adopted at the end of its deliberations, the PSC:

- noted the unprecedented nature of the new pattern of challenges facing the continent, which call for the evaluation and strengthening of existing frameworks and instruments, so as to efficiently and effectively anticipate, prevent, manage, and resolve them, as well as appropriately assist the countries concerned;
- expressed its conviction that the uprisings in North Africa should be used as an opportunity for Member States to renew their commitment to the AU democratic and governance agenda, give added momentum

to efforts deployed in this respect and implement the political and socio-economic reforms which are called for in every particular national situation;

- recognized the fact that the persistence of crises and conflicts in different parts of Africa is partly due to lack of decisive improvements in political and economic governance on the continent, conditions that inevitably generate frustration and discontent in the population, culminating in revolts and revolutions in some situations;
- emphasized the need, within the framework of the shared values and taking into account contexts specific to each country, to deepen the democratization process, through the acceleration of the signature and ratification, by Member States, of all AU instruments relating to democracy and governance, the full exercise by the PSC of the powers entrusted to it under Article 7(m) of the Peace and Security Council Protocol and the implementation of the shared values that underlie the continent's democratization efforts;
- recognized that the Solemn Declaration on the Conference on Security, Stability, Development and Cooperation in Africa (CSSDCA) adopted at the 36th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the OAU, held in Lomé, Togo, from 10 to 12 July 2000, remains the most comprehensive framework for addressing the interconnected issues of peace, security, stability and development in Africa, and requested the Commission to take the necessary steps to ensure the revival of the CSSDCA; and
- requested the AU Panel of the Wise to undertake a comprehensive review, including the early convening of a workshop bringing together relevant stakeholders, of the existing mechanisms relating to democratization and governance in Africa, and make recommendations to Council at a meeting to be convened no later than December 2011.

C) Consideration of Thematic Issues

19. During the period under review, the PSC dealt with the following thematic issues:

(i) Protection of Women and Children in Armed Conflicts

20. At its 269th meeting held on 28 March 2011, the PSC devoted an open session to the theme: "*Women and children and other vulnerable groups in armed conflicts*", as a follow up to the decision Assembly/AU/Dec.275(XIV) on the Year of Peace and Security in Africa, as well as the decision adopted by the PSC at its 223rd meeting held on 30 March 2010, in which it agreed to devote, every year, an open session to the theme of women and children and other vulnerable groups in armed conflicts. The PSC expressed concern at the situation of women and children in conflict situations and post-conflict contexts, stressing the need to fully investigate cases of crimes committed against women and children, to launch preventive

campaigns specifically aimed at the armed forces and the police, and to ensure that perpetrators are brought to justice. The PSC also recognized the need to provide support for facilitating the psychological rehabilitation of the survivors of such violence, as well as opportunities for promoting women's leadership, enhance access to justice, and build momentum for the fundamental rights of children and women.

(ii) Guidelines for the Protection of Civilians

21. At its 279th meeting held on 18 May 2011, the PSC discussed the issue of the protection of civilian populations in armed conflicts, on the basis of the *Progress Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Development of Guidelines for the Protection of Civilians in African Union Peace Support Operations [PSC/PR/2(CCLXXIV)]*. The PSC recalled decision Assembly/AU/Dec.294(XV).2 of the Assembly of the Union, in which the Assembly welcomed the efforts deployed to develop a Framework of Action and AU Guidelines on the Protection of Civilians in Peacekeeping Operations. The PSC encouraged the Commission to pursue its efforts, notably through the development of: (i) an AMISOM approach for the protection of civilians, (ii) a lessons learned report, (iii) protection threats, vulnerabilities and risks indicators for the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), (iv) a Guidance Note on protection mandates, (v) a Framework for developing mission-specific protection strategies, (vi) and drafting of training guidelines, as well as through the conduct of awareness-raising and outreach activities.

D) Implementation and Review of Sanctions in Situations of Unconstitutional Change of Government

22. According to article 7 (g) of the PSC Protocol, the PSC shall institute sanctions whenever an unconstitutional change of Government takes place in a Member State, as provided for in the Lomé Declaration.

23. At its 266th meeting held on 16 March, the PSC, in light of the successful conduct of the presidential elections and the subsequent restoration of constitutional order in Niger, decided to lift the suspension of the participation of the Republic of Niger AU's activities. At its 273th meeting held on 21 April 2011, the PSC decided, in accordance with paragraph 4 of the communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.1 (CCLII), adopted at the end of its 252nd meeting held on 9 December 2010, to lift the suspension of the participation of Côte d'Ivoire in the activities of the AU.

E) Activities of PSC Subsidiary Bodies

(i) Military Staff Committee (MSC)

24. At its 264th meeting held on 8 March 2011, the PSC stressed the importance of the Subsidiary Bodies in assisting its work in promoting peace, security and stability in Africa. The PSC decided to take the necessary measures to ensure the operationalisation of its Subsidiary Bodies, in particular the designation of the membership of these structures and the elaboration of their respective mandates as soon as possible. The PSC further decided that the Military Staff Committee (MSC) should meet with immediate effect and at least once a month, and brief the PSC as required. In this context, the MSC held a meeting on 23 March 2011. During the meeting, members reflected on how to enhance the role of the Committee in

providing useful, timely and salient advice to the PSC in its efforts to promote peace, security and stability in Africa. The MSC also discussed the logistical arrangements for its meetings, with special emphasis on the need for the PSC Chairperson for each month to include the meetings and other activities of the MSC in the PSC provisional programme of work for each month.

(ii) Meeting of the Panel of the Wise

25. The Panel of the Wise is established under Article 11 of the PSC Protocol to provide support to the PSC and the Chairperson of the Commission in their efforts to promote of peace, security and stability in Africa. In pursuit of its efforts, the Panel held its 10th meeting in Addis Ababa, on 12 May 2011. The meeting reviewed and adopted its report on “Non-Impunity, Justice and National Reconciliation”, elaborated as part of its thematic reflections on issues relevant to conflict prevention and as a contribution to the ongoing efforts by the AU to fight impunity and promote a holistic approach that balances the imperatives of peace and justice in post-conflict contexts. The Panel also reviewed its draft report on “Sexual Violence, Women and Children in Armed Conflicts”. The Panel had an exchange of views on the modalities for the comprehensive review of the existing mechanisms relating to democratization and governance in Africa, in order to make, no later than December 2011, recommendations to the PPC. The Panel reviewed the implementation status of the recommendations contained in its report on “Strengthening the Role of the African Union in the Prevention, Management and Resolution of Election-Related Disputes and Violent Conflicts in Africa”. The Panel also reviewed the crisis/conflict situations in Africa. The Report of the Panel is attached (Annex II).

F) Participation of the PSC in peace and security activities of other AU Organs

(i) Meeting with the Committee on International Relations, Conflict Resolution and International Cooperation of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP)

26. In its capacity as the Chairperson of the PSC for the month of May 2011, South Africa, following an invitation from the PAP Committee on International Relations, Conflict Resolution and International Cooperation in Midrand, led a PSC delegation to a meeting of the Committee on 5 May 2011. On that occasion, the delegation made presentations on the state of peace and security in Africa and on emerging threats to peace and security on the Continent. The meeting took place within the context of Article 18 of the PSC Protocol, which calls for cooperation between the PSC and PAP in the furtherance of peace, security and stability in Africa.

(ii) Meeting of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy

27. It should be recalled that the 1st Conference of State Parties to the Treaty of Pelindaba held its meeting in Addis Ababa on 4 November 2010, at which the twelve Members of the African Commission on Nuclear Energy (AFCONE) were elected. It was within this context that the first Ordinary Session of AFCONE took place in Addis Ababa, on 4 May 2011. South Africa, the Chairperson of the PSC for May 2011, attended the meeting. During that meeting, the members of AFCONE exchanged

views and discussed various issues essential for the effective operation of AFCONE, including its rules of procedure, programme of work, structure, budget and setting up of its Headquarters in South Africa.

G) Meetings with similar Organs at the international level

28. The meetings between the PSC and similar organs on peace and security are held pursuant to article 17 of the PSC Protocol, which provides that the PSC, in fulfilling its mandate, will cooperate and work closely with the United Nations Security Council and other relevant international organizations. In this context, the PSC held two consultative meetings with its counterparts during the month of May 2011:

(i) Fourth Consultative Meeting between the Peace and Security Council and the EU Political and Security Committee(EU-PSC), Addis Ababa, 11 May 2011

29. In line with the agreement reached at their first joint consultative meeting held in Brussels on 28 September 2008, to hold annual joint meetings, alternatively in Addis Ababa and Brussels, the AU PSC and the EU-PSC held their 4th consultative meeting in Addis Ababa, on 11 May 2011. On that occasion, the two Organs exchanged views and considered a number of issues, including conflict prevention and crisis situations (Côte d'Ivoire, Libya, Somalia and Sudan), maritime safety and security, peace and security partnership, AU-EU coordination in situations of security and governance crises and the improvement of their working methods. The outcome of the meeting is annexed to this Report (Annex III).

(ii) Fifth Consultative Meeting between the AU PSC and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), Addis Ababa 21 May 2011

30. The members of the Security Council of the United Nations (UNSC) and the Peace and Security Council held their 5th consultative meeting in Addis Ababa, on 21 May 2011. The meeting was an opportunity for the two sides to discuss and strengthen their methods of work, cooperation and partnership in the area of peace and security. They exchanged views on the current conflict and crisis situations in Africa (Côte d'Ivoire, Libya, Somalia and Sudan). The outcome of the meeting is annexed to this Report (Annex IV).

H) Briefings by relevant International Organizations on their activities pertaining to peace and security in Africa.

(i) Briefing by the World Bank on the World Development Report (WDR)-2011

31. At its 274th meeting held on 25 April 2011, the PSC was briefed on the World Development Report (WDR)-2011 – Conflict, Security and Development, by Sarah Cliffe, the Special Representative for the WDR-2011. The PSC, welcoming the initiative on the WDR 2011 and the wide ranging consultations, including with the AU, that led to its elaboration, took note of the conclusions of the Report, in particular, the linkages between national institutions and governance, citizen security, justice and jobs in conflict prevention, as well as the need to effectively support the efforts at structural prevention of the regional organizations and to fully

mobilize the international community towards the realization of that objective. In this context, among other aspects, the PSC encouraged the AU Commission and the World Bank, working, as appropriate, with other international organizations and stakeholders, to cooperate on conflict, security and development linkages, including promotion of national and regional dialogue, structured discussions on situations of risk, cooperation in assessments and planning, staff training exchanges, and practical joint operations at a country and regional level, with emphasis on conflict prevention and post-conflict reconstruction and development.

(ii) Briefing by the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)

32. At its 276th meeting held on 28 April 2011, the PSC was briefed by Dr. Jakob Kellenberger, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), on ICRC activities related to peace and security in Africa within the perspective of the promotion of International Humanitarian Law. The PSC commended the ICRC for its humanitarian efforts and assistance to victims, in particular to children and other vulnerable groups, of armed conflicts in Africa. The PSC re-affirmed AU's commitment to human rights and International Humanitarian Law, as well as to the sanctity of human life, as enshrined in Article 4 (o and m) of the AU Constitutive Act and Article 4 (c) of the PSC Protocol, and stressed the need for the AU Commission, in line with the AU Convention on Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, to work closely with the ICRC and the other concerned partners. The PSC also appealed to all Member States to continue to extend cooperation and to facilitate the work of the ICRC in its provision of support and assistance to those in need, in both conflict and post-conflict situations in the Continent.

I) Briefings by the Chairpersons of the PSC to the Permanent Representatives Committee (PRC)

33. In line with Article 7 of the PSC Protocol and the Conclusions of the July 2007 Dakar PSC Retreat on Working Methods, and in order to keep all Member States informed of the activities of the PSC, the Chairperson of the PSC for each month briefs the PRC at the end of his/her chairmanship on the activities undertaken during the month. Notably, the successive Chairpersons of the PSC for the period under review, namely Mauritania, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Africa and Zimbabwe briefed the PRC on the activities undertaken by the PSC during the respective months.

V. STATE OF PEACE AND SECURITY IN AFRICA

34. The following paragraphs address the popular uprisings in North Africa and their implications for the overall efforts within the continent to promote democracy and good governance. They also provide an update on the various conflict and post-conflict situations obtaining on the ground, with observations as appropriate on the steps the Assembly may wish to take.

a) Popular uprisings in North Africa

35. The present session of the Assembly is taking place in a context marked by the developments that took place first in Tunisia, and then in Egypt. The popular uprisings that occurred in Tunisia and in Egypt were unparalleled and posed serious

doctrinal problems, because they do not correspond to any of the cases defined by the July 2000 Lomé Declaration on Unconstitutional Changes of Government.

36. The uprisings in Tunisia and Egypt have unveiled a profound process that potentially contributes to democratic consolidation across Africa. Building on the great strides towards democratization in Africa since 1990, the popular revolts and uprisings resemble the mass protests, food riots, and urban strikes that propelled the initial wave of democratization in Africa in the late 1980s. Those momentous internal convulsions combined with external pressures and changes in the wider global arena to unleash the democratic breakthroughs that have gradually become part of African political life. Questions about the precise mix between internal and external pressures in producing political change in the previous democratization processes remain, but what is not in doubt is the contribution of mass protests engendered largely by urban movements facing economic impoverishment, political marginalization and, more importantly, animated by the desire for a better future in which governance is grounded in popular legitimacy. Though tentative and incremental, these democratic gains yielded constitutional revisions, regular elections, multiparty dispensations, and the expansion of civil liberties. To an extent, North Africa is only catching up with the universal African trends.

37. The grievances that have driven North African revolts have a universal ring to them: widespread dissatisfaction with authoritarian and insular governments that have been adept at manipulating constitutional rules to retain power; increasing income inequalities, high poverty levels, and declining living standards for middle classes; and disproportionately high levels of youth unemployment, leading to social alienation. New tools of mobilization, such as the social media, have only contributed to sharpening the organizational tools of the new groups and constituencies. In leading a wide range of aggrieved groups and constituencies, the middle classes in Egypt and Tunisia looked to the future optimistically, because they perceived authoritarian governments as the major impediments to realizing their real potentials.

38. Social protests without clear leadership and in circumstances of rapidly-unfolding events often take time to translate into steady and stable democratic outcomes. Moreover, spontaneous revolutionary impulses may not necessarily lead to orderly institution-building. Tunisia and Egypt are, however, gradually stabilizing themselves as a result of intricate bargaining among the various stakeholders about the shape of new institutional dispensations. This process will not be easy, but Egypt and Tunisia are actively engaged in finding ways to surmount these obstacles.

39. The North African uprisings have removed some of the ambiguities in the discourse on democratization across Africa. North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa can now draw from the same shared experiences of building systems that underwrite liberties, freedoms, and accountability. As stressed by the PSC ministerial meeting of 26 April and the Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union of 25 May 2011, the uprisings in North Africa should be used as an opportunity for Member States to renew their commitment to the AU democratic and governance agenda, give added momentum to the efforts deployed in this respect and implement the political and socio-economic reforms which are called for in every particular national situation. In this respect, it is worth recalling that the AU Panel of the Wise has been requested to undertake a comprehensive review, including the early convening of a workshop

bringing together relevant stakeholders, of the existing mechanisms relating to democratization and governance in Africa, and make recommendations to the PSC at a meeting to be convened no later than December 2011.

b) Unfolding situations on the ground

40. The developments in the situation on the ground have continued to be quite mixed. Many countries that have overcome the conflicts that affected them pursued efforts at peace consolidation and socio-economic recovery. In this regard, it is needful to welcome the progress that has continued to be recorded in Burundi, DRC, Liberia and CAR. Furthermore, some of the crises came to a conclusion during the period under review. This is the case particularly with Côte d'Ivoire where the post-election crisis following the presidential election run-off was finally able to be overcome.

41. The continent continues to be faced with a number of conflict situations in which no significant progress has been made in their resolution during the period under review. Here, mention has to be made of the Western Sahara question and the peace process between Ethiopia and Eritrea. In addition to these persistent stalemates, there are the ongoing conflicts in Darfur and Somalia as well as the difficulties recently encountered in the implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) in The Sudan, as well as the crisis which is tearing Libya apart.

(i) The Comoros

42. The period under review saw the completion of the process of implementation of the Agreement on the Management of the Interim Period in The Comoros, which was signed on 16 June 2010. The Assembly will recall that, as part of this Agreement, the election of Governors of the Autonomous Islands took place on 7 November 2010 and the presidential election was held on 26 December 2010, in compliance with the rotating presidency provision of the Constitution of the Union of The Comoros. Pursuant to the arrangements agreed upon between the outgoing President Ahmed Abdallah Mohamed Sambi, and President-elect Dr. Ikilou Dhoinine, the swearing-in and official inauguration of the President-elect took place on 26 May 2011. The inauguration of Governors of the Autonomous Islands took place three days earlier. The new President of The Comoros has made curbing corruption and strengthening national reconciliation the priorities of his term of office. Despite these advances, it is noteworthy however that the trial of the former chief of staff of the Comorian Army, which has been postponed several times, is a source of concern, given the tensions it can generate, especially within the military. He is accused, along with three other officers, of complicity in the murder of a senior officer on 13 June 2010.

43. The Assembly may wish to urge the Comorian parties to persevere in their efforts at consolidating the gains achieved in the process of national reconciliation. Similarly, sustained efforts are required to revive the economy of the archipelago, the situation of which is a source of worry. It is crucial that the international community continues to support the socio-economic development efforts in the archipelago.

(ii) Madagascar

44. The efforts deployed by the Southern African Development Community to facilitate resolution of the crisis in Madagascar and the return to constitutional legality in the country culminated, on 9 March 2011, in the endorsement by the Malagasy parties, associations and political groups of the “Roadmap for Crisis Exit in Madagascar”. By this Roadmap, the concerned parties made a commitment to end the crisis in Madagascar through a neutral, inclusive and consensual transition to be conducted through free, credible and transparent elections. The Zafy, Ratsiraka and Ravalomanana political movements rejected this Roadmap which, in their view, could not in any circumstance replace the Maputo Agreements and the Additional Act of Addis Ababa.

45. During the period under review, SADC held four meetings devoted to the situation in Madagascar, as follows: in Livingstone, Zambia, on 31 March 2011; in Windhoek, Namibia, on 20 May 2011; in Gaborone, Botswana, from 6 to 7 June 2011; and in Sandton, South Africa, from 11 to 12 June 2011. During the last Summit, the Heads of State and Government of SADC, among other things: a) noted that the return to constitutional normalcy in Madagascar was an urgent issue; b) approved, with amendments, the above mentioned Roadmap, c) urged the leaders of the Ratsiraka, Ravalomanana and Zafy political movements to endorse the Roadmap as soon as the changes are introduced; d) urged the High Transitional Authority (HAT) to authorize the unconditional return of Malagasy personalities in exile for political reasons, including Mr. Marc Ravalomanana, e) and urged HAT to formulate and implement, without delay, all pending legal instruments and thereby ensure political freedom for all the people of Madagascar in the inclusive process leading to free, fair and credible elections. The President of HAT rejected the decision of the SADC Summit on the return to Madagascar of former President Ravalomanana, though accepting the return of former President Didier Ratsiraka.

46. The Assembly may wish to commend SADC for its sustained effort in the search for a lasting solution to the crisis in Madagascar that will lead to speedy return to constitutional legality. These efforts need to be pursued, on the clear understanding that any solution must conform with relevant AU instruments on unconstitutional change of Government.

(iii) Somalia

47. The period under review was dominated by continued wrangling within the leadership of the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs) on the issue of the transition, which ends on 20 August 2011, and the post transition arrangements. The period also witnessed major gains on the ground by AMISOM and TFG forces.

48. Following the IGAD Summit decision of 30 January 2011 on the extension of the term of the current Transitional Federal Parliament (TFP), while the remaining political dispensation is handled by the people of Somalia, and its subsequent endorsement by the Assembly of the Union, the TFP adopted, on 3 February, a motion extending its term for three years, starting from the end of the current transitional period. This decision raised concerns among various stakeholders both within and outside Somalia. In March 2011, the Cabinet tabled before the TFP a policy proposal to extend the mandate of all the TFIs, including the Executive, for an

additional one year period, up to August 2012, after which presidential elections would be conducted. That proposal was rejected by the Speaker of the TFP. Instead, the TFP announced plans to conduct presidential elections in July 2011, and proceeded then with the drafting of a work plan for a 3-year extended mandate.

49. On 12 and 13 April, in Nairobi, a high-level consultative meeting was convened, to re-invigorate dialogue and cooperation among the Somali institutions and other stakeholders, with a view to agreeing on the best way forward with respect to the conclusion of the transition and the post-transition arrangements. The Speaker of the TFP, the Presidents of the regional administrations of Puntland and Galmudug, Ahlu Suna Wa'al Jamaa (ASWJ), as well as IGAD, AU and other international actors, attended the meeting, which was boycotted by the TFG despite sustained efforts to encourage it to participate. Other initiatives to overcome the impasse on the issue of the transition and post-transition arrangements included the meeting between the Security Council and the TFIs leadership and other Somali stakeholders, in Nairobi, on 25 May, and the 19th meeting of the International Contact Group (ICG) on Somalia, which took place in Kampala, from 2 to 3 June 2011.

50. It is against this background that, on 9 June 2011, the President of the TFG and the Speaker of the TFP signed in Kampala, an Agreement to resolve the current political impasse. Under the Agreement, both leaders agreed to defer elections of the President, Speaker and deputy Speakers for 12 months after August 2011. They also agreed that the Prime Minister would resign 30 days following the signing of the Agreement, after which the President will appoint a new Prime Minister to be endorsed by the TFP within 14 days. The Kampala Accord also provides for the establishment of a regional Political Bureau of Heads of State of the Region (IGAD and EAC), with the participation of the UN and the AU, similar to the Burundi Regional Peace Initiative, to oversee and monitor compliance of the TFIs with the agreed benchmarks and timelines to implement the transitional tasks. In a press statement issued by the Office of the Prime Minister, the Cabinet stated that the Accord requires the deliberation of the Parliament to ensure that it is in compliance with the TFC and the laws of Somalia. The Cabinet also stated that the provision on the resignation of the Prime Minister and his Government and other provisions of the Accord could only be implemented with the consent of the Parliament.

51. Efforts have also continued to be made to strengthen the AU Mission in Somalia. AMISOM troop strength stands now at about 9,000. Burundi and Uganda have pledged an additional 1,000 and 2,000 troops, respectively. Other countries have also made troop pledges. AMISOM and TFG forces in Mogadishu continued to consolidate their control of key strategic locations gained in February. Pro-TFG militias gained further ground in the Hiraan, Bay and Bakool, Gedo and Middle and Lower Juba regions. At present, the Somali TFG effectively controls about 60 percent of Mogadishu, and 80 percent of the city's population of roughly 2 million lives in areas controlled by the TFG and pro-TFG forces. Furthermore, AMISOM and partners have continued to support the reform of Somalia's security sector.

52. The prevailing humanitarian situation is of utmost concern. 2.4 million Somalis, almost a third of the country's population, are currently living in dire conditions, as a result of the ongoing conflict and violence, but also the drought affecting Somalia, one of the worst in recent memory. One in four children is reported to be suffering from acute malnutrition. This is one of the highest rates in the world

and double the threshold of an emergency. Despite this situation, there has been a significant reduction in overall funding levels for Somalia for the last two years, and out of the 529 million dollars humanitarian appeal made for this year, only a quarter has been secured to date.

53. The Assembly may wish to express its support for the Kampala Agreement, as well as call on the Somali leaders to rise to the challenges facing their country and to overcome their differences for the common good of their people. Failure by the Somali stakeholders to do so would unravel the tangible gains made on the ground with huge sacrifices by the AMISOM and TFG forces. The Assembly may also wish to call on the United Nations and other concerned actors to fully assume their responsibility towards the Somali people, in particular by extending adequate humanitarian assistance to the affected populations, deploying a UN operation to support the long-term stabilization and reconstruction of Somalia and, in the meantime, by providing AMISOM with the requisite support, in order to enable the Mission effectively discharge its mandate, and endorsing AU's requests relating to the imposition of a no-fly zone and a maritime blockade.

(iv) Peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia

54. Since the January Summit, there has been no movement towards overcoming the impasse in the peace process between Eritrea and Ethiopia. Instead, the two countries have been trading accusations of destabilization and support to each other opposition groups. In this respect, the Assembly will recall that, at its January session, the Ethiopian delegation indicated that Eritrea had intensified its destabilization activities against Ethiopia, including an attempt to disrupt the Summit. The Ethiopian delegation called on Eritrea to immediately stop such activities, stressing that Ethiopia cannot endlessly continue to tolerate this situation. It reiterated its full acceptance of the 2002 Delimitation Decision of the Eritrea-Ethiopia Boundary Commission (EEBC) and its readiness to engage in dialogue with Eritrea towards the implementation of the decision and the actual demarcation on the ground. On its part, the Eritrean Permanent Representative to the AU, on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eritrea, wrote to the Chairperson of the Commission on 7 April 2011, with copy to the Chair of the PSC for the month. In that letter, he stated that Eritrea does not have a policy of destabilizing Ethiopia or the region. More specifically, he requested that the AU, as Guarantor to the Algiers Agreements, urge the Ethiopian Government "to refrain from making military threats against Eritrea and to unconditionally withdraw from sovereign Eritrean territory on the basis of the final and binding delimitation and demarcation decisions of the EEBC". It should be noted that the EEBC, citing difficulties encountered in the implementation of its mandate, proceeded with the virtual demarcation of the border, on the basis of its statement of 27 November 2006. Eritrea accepted that demarcation decision, while Ethiopia rejected it as a legal fiction, insisting on the need to undertake demarcation on the ground.

55. Against this background, the Assembly may wish, once again, to emphasize the need for renewed African efforts, under the aegis of the AU, to help the two countries overcome the difficulties facing the peace process, normalize their relations and lay the foundation for lasting peace in the region. The Assembly should encourage the two countries to extend the necessary cooperation for such efforts to succeed.

(v) **Relations between Djibouti and Eritrea**

56. In January, the Assembly was briefed on the evolution of the relations between Djibouti and Eritrea and the efforts being deployed by Qatar, as mediator, towards the implementation of the Agreement signed between the two countries on 6 June 2010. In turn, the Assembly called on Djibouti and Eritrea to pursue, in good faith, the scrupulous implementation of the 6 June 2010 Agreement, in order to resolve their border dispute and consolidate the normalization of their relations. During the period under review, no written updates were received from any of the parties.

(vi) **Horn of Africa – regional approach**

57. In its January 2011 decision on the Report of the PSC on its Activities and the State of Peace and Security in Africa, the Assembly stressed the need to develop a regional approach to the challenges of peace and security in the Horn of Africa. Accordingly, it encouraged the Commission, in collaboration with IGAD, the UN and other stakeholders, to initiate a process of consultations which would lead to a Conference on Peace, Security, Cooperation and Development in the Horn of Africa. The Commission is working out the modalities of the proposed consultation process, and will update the Assembly in due course.

58. In the meantime, the AU partnered with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and IGAD to organize a *Stakeholders' and Development Partners' Conference on Employment for Peace, Stability and Development in the Horn of Africa*, in Addis Ababa, on 11 and 12 April 2011. The Conference placed particular emphasis on the issue of unemployment and under-employment, which, if not effectively addressed, could trigger turmoil and destabilization in a region already faced with a number of challenges. The Conference expressed support for the regional strategy for the Horn of Africa, entitled *Employment for Peace, Stability and Development. A Roadmap* was agreed upon to facilitate the implementation of the strategy. The AU is actively working with ILO and IGAD in the implementation of that Roadmap, and will build on this work in the elaboration of its overarching regional strategy, as mandated by the Assembly.

(vii) **Burundi**

59. Discussions on the situation in Burundi during the last Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union took place in a context marked by the completion of the second post-conflict elections. Indeed, the Assembly welcomed the progress made and, in view of the boycott by many opposition political parties of most elections held in succession during the second half of 2010, requested the Burundian actors to learn from the electoral process and work towards strengthening their country's democratic process and socio-economic development.

60. Among the developments that occurred during the period under review, mention needs to be made of the unanimous adoption by parliament on 25 April 2011 of a bill on organization and functioning of political parties. The extra-parliamentary opposition closely monitored this process, apprehensive that it was an attempt to impose limits to its activities. In response to these concerns, an

amendment designed to compel all political parties to obtain fresh accreditation was modified. Moreover, the Government is in the process of elaborating a law on the status of opposition political parties. In May 2011, the Burundi National Assembly elected the 7 Commissioners of the National Independent Human Rights Commission (*CNIDH*), as well as members of the bureau of this institution. As regards transitional justice, the Truth and Reconciliation Commission would be established by January 2012. Moreover, on 23 May 2011, the Government presented the national strategy for good governance and combating corruption which covers the period 2011-2015. In the area of security, it is observed that there has been a resurgence of crime in certain communes of the country. The government attributes these occurrences to “armed bandits”. In this context, it is needful to pursue the efforts set in motion for the re-integration of the demobilized combatants and to combat the proliferation of small arms and light weapons.

61. The Assembly may wish to urge the different Burundian political players to strive towards the consolidation of peace and post-conflict reconstruction in their country. Furthermore, it is vital that the international community continue to support the Burundian authorities in their efforts, thereby making irreversible the substantial political and democratic gains achieved in recent years.

(viii) Democratic Republic of Congo

62. In DRC, the period under review was marked by a significant decrease in the violence perpetrated by foreign armed groups against the civilian population, thanks to the combined and complementary actions of the Armed Forces of the DRC (*FARDC*) and the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the DRC (*MONUSCO*). On the political front, preparations continue for the conduct of the second post-conflict general election in November 2011. To this end, the two chambers of parliament met in a joint session and adopted, on 15 January 2011, a law to review the Constitution and institute, among other things, the suppression of run-off election, thus ensuring that the President of the Republic will henceforth be elected by a simple majority of the votes. Amidst this constitutional review, which was contested by part of the political class, members of the newly established Independent National Electoral Commission (*INEC*) took the oath of office before the Supreme Court of Justice. Upon assuming duty on 3 March 2011, the Bureau of *INEC* entered into wide-ranging consultations with the political players to obtain minimal consensus on the electoral process. Moreover, the Government announced, in March 2011, the launch of a comprehensive operation against impunity and corruption.

63. The conduct of the presidential and legislative elections constitutes a major challenge for the Government of DRC. Whereas the Government has taken the decision to fund the elections to the tune of 60% from its own resources, the fact remains that *INEC* is faced with considerable financial and logistic difficulties in the successful conduct of the electoral process. The international community should spare no effort to support the organization of free, transparent and democratic elections in the Republic of Congo.

(ix) Sudan**Southern Sudan/Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA)**

64. In January 2011, the Assembly issued a Solemn Declaration on Sudan in which it, among others, congratulated the people of Sudan for the successful, peaceful and credible conduct of the self-determination referendum, the principal pillar of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). The announcement of the official results was made on 7 February 2011, in Khartoum, by the Chairman of the South Sudan Referendum Commission (SSRC), with an overwhelming majority of 98.83% for separation. Subsequently, President Omar Hassan al Bashir acknowledged the choice of the people of Southern Sudan, and issued a presidential decree officially recognizing and accepting the results. Soon after the announcement of the official results, the Government of South Sudan (GoSS) started working on the preparation for the independence day, as well as on the symbols of statehood.

65. Prior to the conduct of the referendum, at an *All Southern Sudanese Political Parties Conference* held on the October 2010, an agreement was reached on the participation of the opposition parties in making major decisions within the GoSS. This notwithstanding, the SPLM and the opposition parties could not agree on the issue of their respective representation in the Technical Committee that was established to review the current Interim South Sudan Constitution and submit a draft "Transitional Constitution". While the period leading to the Southern Sudan Referendum was very peaceful, the situation changed significantly soon afterwards. Since the month of February 2011, there has been a spate of serious clashes between the SPLA and various rebel groups in Jonglei, Unity and Upper Nile States.

66. According to the CPA and concurrent with the Southern Sudan Referendum, a referendum of the Abyei Area was to be conducted for the people of Abyei to decide whether they want to continue with the current Special Administration within North Sudan or be part of South Sudan. Due to different interpretations of the Abyei Protocol by the Parties to the CPA, regarding the voters' eligibility, this referendum could not take place, leading to tension in the area, which culminated in a series of serious clashes between the Ngok Dinka and the Misseriya communities. Tensions escalated between North and South during the month of May, with two ambushes against elements of the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF). In retaliation, SAF counter-attacked, and ultimately occupied Abyei on 21 May 2011. This situation has caused a serious humanitarian crisis. Furthermore, and as part of the CPA implementation, elections in South Kordofan were held from 2 to 4 May 2011. The results, announced on 14 May, with the NCP candidate declared winner as Governor of the State, were not recognized by the SPLM. Tension escalated when the SAF gave 1st June as deadline for the SPLA to withdraw its forces from Southern Kordofan and Blue Nile States. Clashes erupted between the two sides in Southern Kordofan, causing major displacements. Meanwhile, the process of popular consultation commenced in the Blue Nile State. It is, however, unlikely that these processes will be completed by the end of the Interim Period, on 9 July 2011, in both States.

67. The African Union High Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) on Sudan has continued to assist the Parties in their negotiations on post referendum matters, with several meetings held both in Sudan and Ethiopia. It is in this context that the AUHIP took the initiative to convene a Summit Meeting on Sudan, in Addis Ababa, on 12

and 13 June, with the participation of President Omar Hassan al Bashir and First Vice President Salva Kiir Mayardit, as well as Prime Minister Meles Zenawi of Ethiopia, in his capacity as the IGAD Chairperson. The Summit provided an opportunity to address key issues facing Sudan at this historic juncture, including Abyei, the speedy establishment of mechanisms for joint security management between north and south and the negotiations on post-secession economic arrangements. Concurrently, the Panel convened a High-Level Meeting of representatives of the Government of Sudan and SPLM leaders from the “two areas” of Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan to discuss current challenges facing their States.

68. While the vote for separation is viewed as a solution to the intractable conflict that plagued the Sudan for over two decades, it has nonetheless presented new challenges to both North Sudan - in particular the management of diversity, and South Sudan, with the need to build a strong state. Consequently, it is critical that Africa stands by the parties as they engage in building two viable states living side-by-side, in peace and good neighborliness and working together to address common challenges.

Darfur

69. During the reporting period, efforts to reach an agreement between the parties and conclude the negotiations in Doha continued. The Government of Sudan and the Liberation and Justice Movement (LJM) reached agreement on almost all issues, while the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and the Government resumed direct talks, using the draft text as a basis for negotiations. From 27 to 31 May 2011, the Joint Chief Mediator (JCM), working in conjunction with the Government of Qatar and supported by UNAMID, convened an All Darfur Stakeholders Conference in Doha. Conference participants endorsed the draft text as a basis for reaching a permanent ceasefire and a comprehensive and inclusive peace settlement. The conclusion of the ADSC marks the end of a stage in the peace process. Consequently, renewed efforts should be made for the launching of the Darfur Political Process (DPP), in line with relevant AU decisions, as a way of addressing in a comprehensive and inclusive manner the challenges of peace, security and reconciliation in Darfur. The Government of Sudan has committed itself to establishing an enabling environment and, in that context, to reviewing the need for emergency laws in Darfur. In preparation for the launch of the initiative, UNAMID and the AUHIP continued advance planning for the DPP.

70. The Government continued to prepare for a referendum on the status of Darfur. The National Elections Commission announced that the referendum will be held on 27 and 28 June. On 2 April, SLA-Minni Minawi, JEM, and SLA-Mother issued a joint statement condemning the proposal to hold the referendum. The timing of the referendum is an issue under negotiation by the Government and LJM in Doha. The Government has also continued preparations for the creation of two additional states in Darfur. Legislation authorizing the change was approved by the Council of Ministers on 5 May, and is now before the President for endorsement. Some stakeholders have complained that the creation of two additional states will exacerbate divisions and stretch already scarce regional funding.

71. As compared to the months of December 2010, January and February 2011, fighting between Government and movement forces during recent months

decreased. The incidence of inter-tribal clashes remained low, and attacks on UNAMID peacekeepers and aid workers, while still of serious concern, were relatively few. Sporadic clashes between Government and armed movement forces adversely affected civilians during the reporting period by disrupting humanitarian and protection operations. UNAMID and humanitarian agencies continued to engage with the Government and other armed groups to improve access. Furthermore, on 26 April, UNAMID launched a water resources initiative in Darfur, involving distribution of a large number of high-capacity rolling water containers to returnees. Indeed, a lack of access to safe drinking water is one of the major challenges faced by communities in Darfur, and women and children must often walk long distances at some risk to obtain water. In addition, preparations are underway for the Darfur International Water Conference for Sustainable Peace, which is scheduled to take place on 27 and 28 June.

72. UNAMID and the AUHIP continued to engage with the Government of Sudan to encourage it to fulfill its responsibilities to tackle impunity in Darfur. In this connection, the Panel supported the Special Prosecutor for Darfur, particularly with the development of a witness protection strategy. With a view towards building the capacity of security institutions, UNAMID conducted, among other initiatives, a number of training sessions with government police and military intelligence on human rights, child protection, and the procedures for arrests, detentions and the use of force and firearms. Further, it is envisaged that the DPP will provide an opportunity for Darfuri stakeholders to address issues of justice and reconciliation.

73. With UNAMID now at 92 percent of full deployment of military personnel and 77 percent of police personnel, the main focus of the Mission has shifted to maximizing the utilization of human and material resources to implement its mandate. In this respect, the Assembly may wish to call upon the Government of Sudan and armed movements to extend the required cooperation to UNAMID. The Assembly may also wish to urge the Sudanese parties to intensify their efforts towards the promotion of lasting peace in Darfur and, in this respect, to emphasize the critical importance of the DPP and the need to spare no efforts in ensuring its early launch and success.

(x) Relations between Chad and The Sudan

74. Within the framework of the implementation of the 15 January 2010 Agreement, cooperation between Chad and The Sudan in the field of security received a boost, especially with the enhanced surveillance of their common border. Created by the 15 January Agreement, the Chad-Sudan Joint Force has 12 observation posts spread along their 1,350 km common border. With regard to the protection of refugees, displaced persons and humanitarian convoys, the activities of the joint military patrols are complemented by those of elements of the Integrated Security Detachment (ISD) created by MINURCAT at the request of the Chadian Government, a structure which survived the dismantling of this Mission. The successful security measures at the border have resulted in the resumption of cross-border commercial activities. On 17 March 2011, President Idriss Déby Itno hosted a Sudanese delegation which visited N'Djamena in the context of the talks for extension of the mandate of the Joint Force. Pursuant to that visit, a Tripartite Summit bringing together the Presidents of The Sudan, Chad and CAR was held in Khartoum on 23 May 2011. The three countries decided to set up a joint force to

protect their common borders as well as a consultative mechanism to address security issues.

75. The Assembly may wish to reiterate its appreciation to the leaders of The Sudan and Chad for the achievements in the normalization of relations between their countries, and welcome the arrangements envisaged by The Sudan, Chad and the CAR to enhance security and regional cooperation. The Assembly may also wish to appeal to the international community to provide the support required for the projects and integration that these countries intend to undertake in order to accelerate development and enhance stability.

(xi) Central African Republic

76. After several postponements due to the lack of financing and the many disagreements between the presidential majority and the opposition, the first round of the presidential and legislative elections managed to take place on 23 January 2011. The results of the presidential election declared the outgoing President François Bozizé winner of the first round, with 64.67% of the votes cast. This result was vehemently contested by the main opposition candidates who refused to recognize the victory of the outgoing President. The proceedings instituted before the Constitutional Court demanding annulment of the elections were rejected on grounds that the irregularities observed were not such that could flaw the conduct and fairness of the vote. On 15 February 2011, the Assembly of Forces for Change (*Collectif des Forces du Changement*), a grouping of opposition political parties decided to boycott the run-off legislative elections, which took place on 27 March 2011 in conditions of normalcy. Improvements were observed with respect to organization despite a few shortcomings.

77. There was no significant progress in the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) process during the period under review. The steering committee set up in this regard has been focusing on finding a solution to the problems that would arise from the envisaged withdrawal of MICOPAX military observers deployed to supervise the DDR process. The security situation is characterized by persistent instability in certain prefectures of the country, with the presence of several political-military forces, notably the *CPJP* (Convention of Patriots for Justice and Peace) and the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA). In fact, the country faces serious humanitarian problems. However, the signing of a Cease-fire Agreement between the Government and the CPJP on 12 June 2011 augurs well for positive developments in the security situation in the CAR.

78. In this context, the Assembly may wish to reiterate the need for the Government of the Central African Republic and other stakeholders to intensify their efforts to meet the multiple challenges facing the CAR, with regard to strengthening the democratic process, promoting the country's socio-economic development and resolving security issues. At the same time, it is necessary to urge the international community to continue to support the CAR.

(xii) Lord's Resistance Army

79. At its special session held in Tripoli on the Consideration and Resolution of Conflicts in Arica, the Assembly of the Union had, in the Plan of Action adopted on that occasion, called on the countries of the region to renew efforts, including at military level, to neutralize the LRA and bring to an end its atrocities and destabilizing activities in the DRC, Southern Sudan and CAR. Furthermore, the Assembly at its 15th ordinary session held in Kampala requested the Commission to organize, as soon as possible, action-oriented consultations between the countries affected by the activities of the LRA and all other interested parties, with a view to facilitating a coordinated regional action. Pursuant to these decisions, the Commission organized a regional ministerial meeting in Bangui from 13 to 14 October 2010 attended not only by the affected countries (DRC, CAR, Uganda and The Sudan including the GoSS), but also by the bilateral and multilateral partners concerned.

80. The Commission fielded, from 16 March to 4 April 2011, a technical evaluation mission to the five countries affected by the LRA issue, to consider the modalities of implementing the Regional Intervention Force (RIF) and the Joint Operation Centre (JOC), in accordance with the conclusions of the Bangui meeting. Similarly, the second regional ministerial meeting on the LRA issue was held in Addis Ababa on 8 June 2011. It was preceded by a meeting of experts and Chiefs of Staff and Security Services from 6 to 7 June 2011. The Ministers considered the report presented to them on the modalities of implementing the RIF, the JOC and a Joint Coordination Mechanism (JCM). Designed as an *ad hoc* strategic structure to coordinate the efforts of the African Union, the countries concerned and partner support, the MCC will be composed of Defense Ministers of the countries concerned and chaired by the AU Commissioner for Peace and for Security. As for the political process, the Ministers agreed that the various delegations would submit the conclusions of the meeting to their respective Heads of State for adoption, while the Commission would submit the same document to the competent bodies of the AU to authorize the mission.

81. The Assembly may wish to commend the countries of the region for this significant step made with the Addis Ababa meeting, and encourage them to work towards the rapid implementation of the decisions taken. It may further wish to appeal to AU partners to extend support to this endeavor, the successful conclusion of which is critical for the protection of the civilian populations afflicted by years of violence and atrocities perpetrated by the LRA.

(xiii) Niger

82. The situation in Niger has continued to unfold in a positive direction with the conclusion of the transitional process initiated in the aftermath of the 18 February 2010 *coup d'état* which took place in the context of a political impasse and violation of the country's Constitution by President Mamadou Tandja. Municipal elections were conducted on 8 January 2011 followed on 31 January 2011 by the first round of the presidential election and legislative elections. The second round of presidential elections held on March 12 was won by Mr. Mahamadou Issoufou, candidate of the Niger Party for Democracy and Socialism (*PNDS*), with 57.95% of the votes. In view of these developments, the PSC, on 16 March 2011, lifted the suspension of Niger's participation in the activities of the African Union, which was taken on 19 February

2010, pursuant to relevant provisions of the Lomé Declaration which provides for automatic suspension in the event of a *coup d'état*.

83. The Assembly may wish to welcome the conclusion of the transition and the proper conduct of the various elections organized. These outcomes constitute an honour for the political class and the people of Niger as well as for our continent as a whole. The African Union which supported the process of restoring constitutional legality will continue to work alongside Niger authorities for the consolidation of the progress achieved. At the same time, the Assembly could appeal to AU partners for them to provide the economic and financial support needed to consolidate the progress achieved.

(xiv) Côte d'Ivoire

84. In Côte d'Ivoire, five months after the conduct of the second round of the presidential election on 28 November 2010, the post-election crisis which was lengthy and deadly, finally came to a conclusion. The Assembly will recall that the PSC at its 259th Meeting held on 28 January 2011 at the level of Heads of State and Government deliberated in-depth on the Ivorian crisis. The PSC reaffirmed its previous decisions on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire recognizing Alassane Ouattara as President-elect, and decided, under AU authority, to establish a High-Level Group for the resolution of the crisis, the mandate of which was to evaluate the situation and formulate a comprehensive solution on the basis of relevant AU and ECOWAS decisions. Composed of the Heads of State of Mauritania – Chair of the Group – South Africa, Burkina Faso, Tanzania and Chad, as well as the Chairperson of AU Commission and the President of the ECOWAS Commission, the Group presented its report to the 265th Meeting of the PSC of the African Union held on 10 March at the level of Heads of State and Government. In its proposals, the High-Level Group notably reaffirmed Alassane Ouattara's victory, demanded that Laurent Gbagbo withdraw in the higher interest of the Ivorian people, that the Ivorian parties take due note of this decision and that they ask the Constitutional Council to swear in Alassane Ouattara as President of the Republic. The 265th Meeting of the PSC endorsed the proposals of the High-Level Group and requested the Chairperson of AU Commission to appoint a High Representative with responsibility to implement this comprehensive political solution. Invited to participate in the meetings of the High-Level Group and of the PSC held on 10 March 2011, the President-elect Alassane Ouattara responded positively and accepted the solution proposed. For his part, the outgoing President Laurent Gbagbo, represented by a delegation led by Pascal Affi N'Guessan, President of the Ivorian Popular Front (*FPI*), rejected the solution.

85. While efforts were under way for negotiations between the two parties, from 4 to 6 April 2011, under the auspices of the AU and ECOWAS, the military campaign to remove the outgoing President began. In fact, convinced that the outgoing President would never voluntarily and peacefully give up power, and that all political and diplomatic initiatives only afforded him opportunity to gain time, the Government of President Alassane Ouattara undertook to get him to leave by force. The military campaign was brief, ending with the taking of Abidjan and the arrest, on 11 April 2011, of Laurent Gbagbo. Worthy of note is the decisive role played by ONUCI and the French Force "Licorne" acting within the framework of Security Council Resolution 1975(2011) in the last days of the battle of Abidjan. Pro-Gbagbo fighters

(militias and mercenaries) continued to mount resistance in some quarters of the Yopougon commune until they were defeated in an offensive which lasted up to 4 May 2011. On 4 May 2011, the Constitutional Council took a decision proclaiming Alassane Ouattara President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire. Given that international standards and provisions accepted by competent national organs take precedence over domestic laws and judicial decisions, the Constitutional Council endorsed the decisions of the PSC on the resolution of the crisis in Côte d'Ivoire. In the same vein, President Alassane Ouattara took the oath of office on 6 May 2011. His investiture took place in Yamoussoukro on 21 May 2011.

86. The Assembly may wish to welcome the outcome of the post-election crisis and encourage the Ivorian authorities to spare no effort in completing the projects already underway for consolidation of peace, justice and reconciliation, as well as for reconstruction and post-conflict development. For its part, and as follow-up on PSC decisions, the Commission is consulting with ECOWAS to agree on the modalities of joint action to support the efforts of the Ivorian authorities.

(xv) Liberia

87. Liberia continues to make sustained progress towards peace building and post-conflict reconstruction, as it prepares for elections either in October or November of this year, depending on the results of the upcoming referendum in August 2011. The National Elections Commission (NEC) successfully conducted the voter registration process, which ended in February 2011, and is currently working towards holding a national referendum sanctioned by the Liberian Legislature. Furthermore, since the inclusion of Liberia, last September, on the agenda of the UN Peace building Commission (PBC), significant progress has been made, including the elaboration of a Priority Plan and Programme towards the implementation of the three major areas identified under the Statement of Mutual Commitment (SMC), namely supporting security sector reform, strengthening of the rule of law, and promoting national reconciliation.

88. The Ivorian crisis has impacted negatively on the security situation in the country as the Government of Liberia and its people had to deal with the huge influx of Ivorian' refugees, numbering over 130,000 from December 2010 to date. Reports of recruitment of ex-Liberian fighters, who fought on both sides of the civil war, and the infiltration of Ivorian rebels into the rank and file of refugees in the various refugee camps raised serious concern. All efforts must, therefore, be made to effectively address this situation prior to the holding of elections. The Assembly may wish to call on the international partners to continue to accompany and support the efforts of the Liberian Government aimed at consolidating the remarkable progress made over the past few years.

(xvi) Republic of Guinea

89. Following a transition that culminated in the conduct of presidential elections, Guinea was faced with the challenge of responding to a dual imperative, namely, deepening the democratic process and meeting the priority needs of the populations. Upon assuming office, the Government in January 2011 organized the *Estates General* which culminated in the preparation of an emergency action plan. For its

part, the International Contact Group on Guinea (ICG-G) co-chaired by AU and ECOWAS, held its 19th and last meeting in Conakry on 10 February 2011. The meeting also marked the end of the mandate of ICG-G and the beginning of the establishment, at the request of President Alpha Condé, of the Group of Friends of Guinea with the objective of helping the country to resume as quickly as possible sustainable growth and development, and lending support towards successful conclusion of the electoral process and consolidation of democratic governance. It is however needful to highlight the controversy which recently emerged in the political debate concerning the conduct of legislative elections and the Government's proposal to have a repeat of the census to enable it prepare a new voters' register.

90. The Assembly may wish to encourage the Guinean authorities and all stakeholders to make every effort to promote dialogue and consensus, and to hold the forthcoming parliamentary and local elections in the timeliest manner and in the requisite conditions of transparency and regularity. By so doing, they would have re-welded the social fabric after the tensions which characterized the electoral process and developed a culture of peace and democracy. At the same time, the Assembly could appeal to development partners to continue to support the process of peace building and economic recovery in Guinea.

(xvii) Guinea Bissau

91. The period under review was marked by advances in the peace consolidation and post-conflict reconstruction process in Guinea Bissau. Worthy of mention is first and foremost the implementation of one of the priority programs of Government, namely, reform of the Defense and Security Sector (*RSDS*) following the adoption and acceptance at national, regional and international levels of the ECOWAS-CPLP Road Map. Also noteworthy is the deployment of the Angolan military and security technical mission in Guinea Bissau (*MISSANG-GB*), the outcome of a bilateral agreement between Guinea and Angola which was officially launched on 21 March 2011 for a period of two years. The Roadmap also calls for the reform of the judiciary. Action in the latter area was accompanied by the re-launch, since August 2010, of the national reconciliation process. Lastly, consultations between Guinea Bissau and the EU took place in Brussels on 29 March 2011 pursuant to Article 96 of the Cotonou Agreement. On that occasion, the Government of Guinea Bissau presented a document which was generally deemed to be satisfactory, reiterating its will to honor its commitment, especially with respect to combating impunity and drug trafficking, establishment of the rule of law and subordination of the military to civil authority.

92. The Assembly may wish to welcome the milestone reached with the adoption of the Roadmap, which meets the objectives of the Tripoli Action Plan for Guinea Bissau, and encourage the Government of Guinea-Bissau and all the other stakeholders to persevere in their efforts. In this regard, the Assembly wants to take note of...It is equally important to urge partners to continue supporting Guinea Bissau's quest for lasting peace and sustainable socio-economic development, especially through the holding, as speedily as possible, of the Donors' Round Table, which has been repeatedly postponed.

(xviii) Western Sahara

93. The dispute over the non-self-governing territory of Western Sahara, between the Kingdom of Morocco and the *Frente POLISARIO*, remains unresolved, as a result of the mutually exclusive positions of the Parties. As the Assembly is aware, the two Parties had, in April 2007, submitted to the UN Secretary-General their respective proposals for a settlement of the dispute, with Morocco offering autonomy under the Kingdom's jurisdiction, and the *Frente POLISARIO* proposing a referendum of self-determination with *two* ballot options: integration *with* Morocco *or* independence. It was against this background that the Security Council, four years ago, mandated direct negotiations, in good faith and without preconditions, under the aegis of the UN Secretary-General. In addition to four rounds of direct negotiations in Manhasset, New York, seven informal talks have so far been convened by the Personal Envoy of the UN Secretary-General for Western Sahara, Ambassador Christopher Ross, in a bid to prepare the ground for the fifth round of the Manhasset talks. The 8th round of informal talks will be convened in Manhasset, New York, in mid-July 2011.

94. On 14 April 2011, the UN Secretary-General submitted his latest report on Western Sahara to the Security Council, the cardinal message of which was that, despite the multiplicity of talks, the stalemate in the peace process has remained as entrenched as ever. In resolution 1979 (2011) adopted on 27 April 2011, the Security Council authorized the extension of the mandate of MINURSO for another year, till 30 April 2012, urging the two Parties to cooperate with the Secretary-General and to continue to negotiate without preconditions and in good faith, with a view to achieving a just, lasting and mutually acceptable political solution, which will provide for the self-determination of the people of Western Sahara in the context of arrangements consistent with the principles and purposes of the UN Charter. Against this background, the Assembly may wish to urge the Parties to meaningfully cooperate towards the definitive resolution of the dispute over Western Sahara, based on due respect for international legality. The AU will continue to make every effort to support such an endeavour, in line with the Tripoli Plan of Action adopted by the Special Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of August 2009.

(xix) Tunisia

95. Efforts to bring the transition process to completion continued, despite the challenges encountered. The political situation in Tunisia was for a relatively long period marked by political instability. Thus, despite the courageous reforms instituted, the first and second provisional governments fell in succession under pressure from protesters who demanded, among other things, the convening of a Constituent Assembly and the dissolution of all the institutions of the former regime. Early in February, the two houses of Parliament passed a law authorizing the Acting President to rule by executive order. The Parliament was subsequently suspended, then dissolved. In addition, a body called "high authority for the realization of the objectives of the revolution, political reform and democratic transition" was set up on 15 March 2011, in preparation for the election of the Constituent Assembly. Finally, an executive order established an Independent High Authority for Elections (*HIIE*). For "logistics and technical considerations", the HIIE on 22 May 2011 proposed the postponement of the Constituent Assembly election to 16 October 2011, while the

Government still retained the date of 24 July, according to it, “to prevent the transition from lasting indefinitely”. Finally, a national consensus was able to be attained, and it was officially announced that the Constituent Assembly election would take place on 23 October 2011.

96. The Assembly may wish to commend the progress achieved in the transition, and reiterate African Union support for the on-going efforts. Furthermore, the AU should pursue the advocacy initiative already underway to mobilize resources to help Tunisia in facing the huge burden of hosting within its territory hundreds of thousands of refugees, particularly from Africa, fleeing the conflict and bombings in Libya. The generosity demonstrated by Tunisia, despite its own difficulties in the context of the ongoing transition in the country, is a source of pride for the continent and deserves to be emulated.

(xx) Egypt

97. The January session of the Assembly took place against the backdrop of demonstrations in Egypt complaining of poverty and political repression, and demanding freedom and democracy. Initially, the regime tried to quell the demonstrations, with the attendant loss of life, before offering concessions. Nonetheless, the demonstrators continued to press for an immediate end to the rule of President Mubarak. On 11 February 2011, President Mubarak stepped down and surrendered authority for the exercise of state power to the Supreme Council of the Armed Forces. As early as 15 February, the new Egyptian authorities initiated steps towards the amendments of the existing Constitution, in response to the demands of the people. Egyptians approved the proposed constitutional amendments in a referendum held on 19 March 2011. A new law was also adopted to facilitate the formation of political parties. Furthermore, since their assumption of power, the new Egyptian authorities have taken a number of steps to investigate the violence during the demonstrations, as well as accusations of corruption.

98. The Assembly may wish to welcome the positive developments in Egypt, as well as the commitment of the new Egyptian authorities to successfully complete the ongoing transition. It is also important that the Assembly strongly urge AU partners and the international financial institutions to provide the much-needed support to assist Egypt in addressing its socio-economic challenges and lay the foundation for sustainable democracy and development.

(xxi) Libya

99. As indicated above, the period under review was marked by major developments in Libya. In the wake of the uprisings in Tunisia and then Egypt, the country witnessed protests against the rule of Colonel Muammar Qaddafi, which started in the eastern part of Libya and then quickly spread to other regions in the country. The Government responded with the use of military force and other measures. The situation escalated into an armed conflict, with the rebels establishing, on 5 March 2011, a Transitional National Council (TNC), based in Benghazi.

100. Seized with the situation at its 261st meeting held on 23 February 2011, the PSC expressed deep concern at these developments and strongly condemned the

indiscriminate and excessive use of force and lethal weapons against peaceful protestors. On 10 March 2011, the PSC agreed on a roadmap for the resolution of the Libyan crisis, revolving around the following points: (i) the immediate cessation of all hostilities; (ii) the cooperation of the competent Libyan authorities to facilitate the timely delivery of humanitarian assistance to the needy populations; (iii) the protection of foreign nationals, including the African migrants living in Libya; and (iv) the adoption and implementation of the political reforms necessary for the elimination of the causes of the current crisis. It decided to establish an AU *Ad-Hoc* High-Level Committee on Libya comprising five Heads of State and Government, as well as the Chairperson of the Commission, with the mandate to promote this roadmap.

101. Other organizations, including the League of Arab States, the EU and the United Nations, also reacted to the situation that was unfolding in Libya. In particular, on 26 February 2011, the Security Council adopted resolution 1970(2011), in which it (i) decided to refer the situation in Libya since 15 February 2011 to the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court (ICC); (ii) and imposed an arms embargo on Libya, as well as a travel ban and asset freeze on a number of Libyan officials and/or entities. On 17 March 2011, the Security Council adopted resolution 1973(2011), in which it: (i) demanded the immediate establishment of a ceasefire and a complete end to violence and all attacks against, and abuses of, civilians; (ii) and stressed the need to intensify efforts to find a solution to the crisis which responds to the legitimate demands of the Libyan people. Furthermore, and following a request by the Arab League, made on 12 March 2011, the Security Council decided to impose a no-fly zone over Libya, to protect civilians and civilian-populated areas under attack or threat of attack in Libya, including Benghazi, while excluding a foreign occupation force of any form on any part of the Libyan territory. The military campaign to enforce the no-fly zone started immediately after the “Paris Summit for the Support of the Libyan People”, held on 19 March 2011. Since 31 March, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is assuming sole command of the international air operations over Libya.

102. Immediately after its establishment, the AU *Ad hoc* Committee embarked on the implementation of its mandate. In this respect, the Committee has met on several occasions with the Libyan parties, namely the Government and the TNC. In particular, it visited Tripoli and Benghazi on 10 and 11 April 2011. In view of the continued deterioration of the situation in Libya, an extraordinary session of the Assembly of the Union took place in Addis Ababa on 25 May 2011. This meeting came against the background of the intensification of the NATO-led air campaign, including the use of attack helicopters; continued fighting between the Libyan Government troops and the TNC elements, especially around Misrata and in the Western Mountains; deterioration of the humanitarian situation for the civilian population, as well as for the African migrant workers trying desperately to leave the country, with hundreds of deaths at sea already recorded; and stalemate in the political process, with no prospects so far of a negotiated solution to the crisis.

103. In the decision on the peaceful resolution of the Libyan crisis adopted on that occasion, the Summit reiterated its conviction that only a political solution will make it possible to promote sustainable peace in Libya and fulfil the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people. In this respect, it endorsed the AU Roadmap, and stressed its continued relevance. The Summit reiterated the need for an immediate end to all

attacks against civilians, as well as an immediate ceasefire, it being understood that such a ceasefire should lead to the establishment of a consensual and inclusive transitional period, culminating in elections that would enable the Libyans to freely choose their leaders. Pending the establishment of such a ceasefire, the Assembly demanded an immediate pause in the fighting and in the NATO-led air campaign, to provide respite to the civilian population, stressing that the pursuit of the NATO-led military operation defeats the very purpose for which it was authorized in the first place and further complicates any transition to a democratic dispensation in Libya. While reiterating the commitment of the AU to resolutions 1970(2011) and 1973(2011), the Summit stressed the obligation of all concerned international actors to fully comply with the letter and spirit of those resolutions. The Summit expressed Africa's surprise and disappointment at the attempts to marginalize the continent in the management of the Libyan conflict, recalling that the role of the High-Level *ad hoc* Committee is formally recognized by the Security Council and falls within the overall framework of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter on the role of regional arrangements in the settlement of disputes among and within their member States. On 15 June 2011, the Security Council and the *ad hoc* Committee exchanged on the situation in Libya, as well as on AU's efforts and concerns.

104. Since the onset of the Libyan crisis, the AU has made sustained efforts to assist in finding a political solution. The Assembly may wish to pay tribute to the Heads of State of the *ad hoc* Committee for their commitment and the many steps taken in the fulfilment of their mandate. The Assembly may also wish to stress the need for renewed efforts by the Committee to achieve a ceasefire to be linked to a political process that would make it possible for the people of Libya to reach a negotiated solution meeting their legitimate aspirations.

VI. CONCLUSION

105. During the period under review significant gains were made in the quest for peace, thanks to Africa's efforts and the support received from partners within the international community. At the same time, the uprisings that took place in North Africa pose new challenges to the continent, which have compounded those linked to the continued prevalence of conflicts in some parts of the continent and the task of consolidating peace where it has been achieved.

106. Against this background, and in addition to the steps taken to resolve existing conflicts and consolidate the achievements made, there is need to strengthen the on-going efforts to address the root causes of conflicts in a holistic and systematic manner, including through implementing existing instruments in the areas of human rights, the rule of law, democracy, elections and good governance. In this respect, it is crucial that Member States that have not yet done so, speedily sign and/or ratify those instruments and fully implement their provisions.

Assembly/AU/2(XVII)
Annex 1

**MEETINGS AND BRIEFING SESSIONS OF THE PEACE AND
SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION,
JANUARY 2011 TO JUNE 2011**

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SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION, JANUARY 2011 TO JUNE 2011**

Meeting/ Briefing	Date	Agenda	Communiqué/ Other Output	Working Documents
256 th	10 January 2011	Briefing on the situation in Sudan	Press Statement: PSC/PR/BR(CCLVI)	
257 th	15 January 2011	Consideration of the situation in Tunisia	Press Statement: PSC/PR/BR(CCLVII)	
258 th	20 January 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the African Union–United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and the Situation in Darfur 2. Briefing on on-going efforts towards a peaceful end of the crisis in Cote d'Ivoire 3. Renewal of the AMISOM mandate 	<p>Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.2 (CCLVIII)</p> <p>Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.3(CCLVIII)</p>	Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the African Union-United Nations Hybrid Operation in Darfur (UNAMID) and the situation in Darfur PSC/PR/2(CCLVIII)
259 th	28 January 2011	Consideration of the situation in Côte d'Ivoire	Communiqué PSC/AHG/COMM(CCLIX)	
260 th	16 February 2011	Situation in Egypt	Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM(CCLX)	

Meeting/ Briefing	Date	Agenda	Communiqué/ Other Output	Working Documents
261 st	23 February 2011	Situation in Libya	Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM(CCLXI)	
262 nd	24 February 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Briefing on implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in Sudan 2. Consideration of the Report of PSC field mission to Sudan 	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR(CCLXII) Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.1(CCLXII)	Report on the AU Peace and Security Council field Mission to Sudan PSC/PR/COMM.1(CCLXII)
263 rd	28 February 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Briefing on Côte d'Ivoire 2. Renewal of the mandate African Union High-Level Panel on the Resolution of the Crisis in Côte d'Ivoire 	Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM(CCLXIII)	
264 th	8 March 2011	Status of the Operationalisation of PSC Subsidiary Bodies	Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM(CCLXIV)	Background Note on the Status of the Establishment and Operationalisation of Subsidiary Bodies of the Peace and Security Council of the African PSC/PR/ (CCLXIV)
265 th	10 March 2011	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. PSC meeting at the Level of Heads of State and Government on the Situation in Côte d'Ivoire 	Communiqué PSC/AHG/COMM.1(CCLXV)	

Meeting/ Briefing	Date	Agenda	Communiqué/ Other Output	Working Documents
		2. Situation in Libya	Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.2(CCLXV)	
266 th	16 March 2011	Briefing on Niger	Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM(CCLXVI)	
267 th	18 March 2011	Briefing on Somalia	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR(CCLXVII)	
268 th	23 March 2011	Briefing on the Unfolding Situation in North Africa and its impact on the peace and security of the Region: 1) Situation in Libya 2) Situation in Tunisia 3) Situation in Egypt	1) Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.1(CCLXVIII) 2) Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.2(CCLXVIII) 3) Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.3(CCLXVIII)	
269 th	28 and 29 March 2011	Briefing on mitigating vulnerabilities of women and children in armed conflicts in Africa	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR(CCLXIX)	
270 th	5 April 2011	1) Briefing on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire	1) Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.1(CCLXX) 2) Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.2(CCLXX)	

Meeting/ Briefing	Date	Agenda	Communiqué/ Other Output	Working Documents
271 st	8 April 2011	PSC meeting on the situation in Sudan (Darfur)	Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.(CCLXXI)	
272 nd	15 April 2011	Preparation for the Joint Meeting of the AU PSC and EU PSC		
273 rd	21 April 2011	Situation in Côte d'Ivoire Situation in Somalia	Communiqué PSC/PR/COMM.1(CCLXXIII) Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.2(CCLXXIII)	Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Côte d'Ivoire PSC/PR/2 (CCLXXIII) Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Situation in Somalia. PSC/PR/4 (CCLXXIII)
274 th	25 April 2011	Briefing by the World Bank on the World Development Report 2011	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR (CCLXXIV)	
275 th	26 April 2011	Ministerial PSC debate on the State of Peace and Security in Africa Situation in Libya	1) Declaration PSC/MIN/BR.1(CCLXXV) 2) Communiqué PSC/MIN/COMM.2(CCLXXV)	Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Activities of the AU High Level Ad hoc Committee on the Situation in Libya PSC/PR/2(CCLXXV)
276 th	28 April 2011	Briefing by the president of the ICRC on the activities of peace and security in Africa	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.(CCLXXVI)	

Meeting/ Briefing	Date	Agenda	Communiqué/ Other Output	Working Documents
277 th	6 May 2011	Annual Joint Consultative Meeting between the African Union Peace and Security Council and the European Union Political and Security Committee		
4 th Joint Consultative Meeting	11 May 2011	4 th Annual Joint Consultative Meeting Between the AU-PSC and EU-PSC	Joint Press Statement	
278 th	13 May 2011	Briefing by the AU Panel of the Wise	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.(CCLXXVIII)	
279 th	18 May 2011	Consideration of Progress in the Development of Guidelines for the Protection of Civilians	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.(CCLXXIX)	Progress Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Development of Guidelines for the Protection of Civilians in African Union Peace Support Operations PSC/PR/2(CCLXXIX)
280 th	20 May 2011	Consideration of the Situation in Sudan	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR(CCLXXX)	Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement PSC/PR/2(CCLXXX)
5 th Joint Consultative Meeting	21 May 2011	Annual Joint Consultative meeting between members of the AU Peace and Security Council and the UN Security Council	Joint Press Statement	

Meeting/ Briefing	Date	Agenda	Communiqué/ Other Output	Working Documents
Extraordinary Summit	25 May 2011	Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union on the State of Peace and Security in Africa	1) Declaration on the State of Peace and Security in Africa EXT/ASSEMBLY/AU/DECL/(01.2011) 2) Decision on the Peaceful Resolution of the Libyan Crisis EXT/ASSEMBLY/AU/DEC/(01.2011)	Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on Current Challenges to Peace and Security on the continent and AU's Efforts. EXT/ASSEMBLY/AU/2.(01.2011)
281 st	6 June 2011	1) Update on the Situation in Libya 2) Preparation for the PSC field mission to Côte d'Ivoire	Press Statement PSC/PR/BR.(CCLXXXI)	
282 nd	14 June 2011	AU-UN Strategic Partnership in the area of Peace and Security		The UN-AU Partnership on Peace and Security: Towards Greater Strategic Political Coherence

Assembly/AU/4(XVII)

Annex 2

**PRESS STATEMENT OF THE 4th JOINT CONSULTATIVE
MEETING BETWEEN THE AU PSC AND THE EU PSC
ADDIS ABABA, 11 MAY 2011**



PRESS STATEMENT
OF THE 4th JOINT CONSULTATIVE MEETING BETWEEN THE AU PSC
AND THE EU PSC ADDIS ABABA, 11 MAY 2011

1. The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU PSC) and the Political and Security Committee of the European Union (EU PSC) held their 4th Annual Joint Consultative Meeting in Addis Ababa, on 11 May 2011. Ambassador Lungile Christian Pepani, Chairperson of the AU PSC for May 2011, and Ambassador Olof Skoog, Permanent Chair of the EU PSC, jointly chaired the meeting, in line with the practice established since the first joint consultative meeting, held in Brussels, on 30 September 2008.
2. The meeting took place against the background of the series of uprisings in North Africa. The developments in North Africa offer both opportunities and challenges in the areas of security, democratization, governance, accountability and inclusive socio-economic growth to respond to the legitimate needs and expectations of people. Notably, these developments highlight the need for dialogue and coordination to facilitate joint efforts towards crisis resolution.
3. During the discussion on **crisis situations**, both sides reaffirmed their commitment to the implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 1970 and 1973 (2011) to ensure the protection of the civilian population in **Libya**, in full respect of the resolutions' provisions. In calling for an immediate end to all attacks on civilians and a credible and verifiable ceasefire, they stressed the need for future actions to continue to be based on these two resolutions. They expressed serious concern over the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the country, and called for full compliance with human rights and International Humanitarian Law.
4. Concerned also by the heavy humanitarian and security impact of the current situation on the region and beyond, the meeting recognised the EU's humanitarian efforts and those of Libya's African neighbours. The meeting affirmed the need for co-ordinated international efforts to support the legitimate aspirations of the Libyan people in finding a peaceful and democratic political solution. In this respect, the two sides recognised the fact that the AU Roadmap, as already presented to the Libyan parties, by the AU High-Level Ad-hoc Committee on Libya, offers key components. They agreed to continue their efforts, in support of the UN and in accordance with UN Security Council resolution 1973(2011), which acknowledges the role of the AU High-Level Ad hoc Committee, towards a political solution to the crisis, including in view of the upcoming meeting of the UN, the AU, the EU, the League of Arab States and the Organization of the Islamic Conference (OIC).

5. Concerning **Côte d'Ivoire**, both sides welcomed their common approach and cooperation, and congratulated the legitimately-elected President, Alassane Dramane Ouattara, who has since assumed state power in his country. They stressed the importance of supporting the authorities in mobilising support and resources for post-conflict reconstruction and development, justice and reconciliation in the country, and called for an inclusive political dialogue.

6. Regarding **Sudan**, the two sides welcomed the successful referendum conducted in South Sudan in January 2011, and lauded the crucial role being played by the AU High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) for Sudan. They looked forward to the emergence of two viable states, on 9 July 2011, that would live side by side in peace and good neighbourliness, as well as address common challenges. The two sides further underlined the need to work together with the UN and other international partners in accompanying the two states to emerge and to provide necessary support in this regard. In this context, they called for respect of the rights of women and enhanced protection and participation of women in conflict resolution. They recognised that the full implementation of the CPA will require continued engagement of the AU, the EU and the rest of the international community, and urged both parties to effectively resolve the remaining CPA issues, particularly those relating to the North-South border and Abyei, the Popular Consultations in Blue Nile and Southern Kordofan, as well as post-referendum issues and the humanitarian situation. They deeply regretted the recent violence and loss of life in Abyei, and called on both Parties to desist from taking any unilateral actions. They emphasised the importance of reaching an inclusive and comprehensive solution in Darfur, based on a positive outcome of the Doha peace talks and the Darfur Political Process to be held in conducive conditions, and saluted the efforts of the African- United Nations Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

7. Both sides expressed serious concern with the situation in **Somalia**. They urged the Transitional Federal Institutions (TFIs), namely the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) and the Transitional Federal Parliament (TFP), to take advantage of the gains already made, with the support of AMISOM, and to ensure progress towards peace and reconciliation by, among other aspects, putting an end to wrangling among the TFIs, and to implement rapidly a political programme of action, in view of the impending end to the transition. They paid tribute to the courage and commitment of the AMISOM troops and fully supported its strengthening in accordance with UN Security Council resolution 1964 (2010), including flexible and predicable funding. They also paid tribute to the AMISOM troop contributing countries, namely Burundi and Uganda, and to the substantial EU contribution in supporting AMISOM and the training of Somali soldiers by EUTM Somalia.

8. The two sides discussed developments in the areas of **maritime safety and security (MSS)**. They welcomed the African efforts in establishing a continental framework for an African Integrated Maritime Safety and Security Strategy and the EU initiatives, including, *inter alia*, operation *Atalanta*. They called for intensifying the AU-EU dialogue on the full range of issues and challenges related to maritime safety and security.

9. On **transnational security threats**, the two sides recognised that this includes phenomena affecting both continents, thus requiring a coordinated effort to tackle them. They exchanged views on drug control, crime prevention, human trafficking and the fight against terrorism. They agreed to strengthen the EU-AU joint efforts in assisting the countries most affected by security and development challenges, including cooperation on counter-terrorism efforts, in particular those in the Sahelo-Saharan region, given the latest developments in North Africa, which increase the risk of the proliferation of arms and related aspects. They looked forward to forthcoming AU-EU consultations in the framework of the development and implementation of an EU strategy for security and development in the Sahel and of the relevant AU instruments.

10. The two sides agreed to continue working towards the improvement of their **joint working methods**. Among the improvements realized, thus far, the two sides welcomed the AU and EU participation in each others' PSC meetings and the establishment of regular contacts between the Permanent Chair of the EU PSC and the Chairperson of the AU PSC. These gains will contribute to enhanced coordination in situations of security and governance crises. Citing the situations occurring in North Africa, the AU PSC and the EU PSC stressed the need, whenever and wherever similar situations emerge, for close consultation and coordination of initiatives between the AU and the EU, in order to maximise the chances of a common approach. In this respect, both sides recognised the importance of the lessons, for both continents, from the events unfolding in North Africa. They underscored the need to cooperate in building appropriate responses to such situations, wherever they occur in the continent.

11. Finally, both sides agreed to meet, again, in **Brussels, in 2012**.

**COMMUNIQUE´ OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING BETWEEN
MEMBERS OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED
NATIONS AND THE PEACE AND SECURITY
COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**



**COMMUNIQUÉ OF THE CONSULTATIVE MEETING BETWEEN MEMBERS OF THE
THE
SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE PEACE AND
SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION**

1. The members of the Security Council of the United Nations (UNSC) and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AUPSC) held their 5th consultative meeting at the Headquarters of the African Union, in Addis Ababa, on 21 May 2011.
2. Reaffirming the UNSC's primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security and the mandate of the AUPSC with regard to the promotion of peace and security in Africa, as well as the provisions of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter on the role of regional arrangements in the settlement of disputes among and within their Member States, and also recalling the communiqués of their previous consultative meetings held between 2007 and 2010, the meeting, again, reviewed matters of common interest, in particular ways and means of strengthening the partnership between the two institutions consistent with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter with regard to the maintenance of peace and security in Africa.
3. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC assessed their co-operation with regard to conflict prevention and resolution, peacekeeping and peacebuilding, including the maintenance of constitutional order, the promotion of human rights, democracy, and the rule of law in Africa.
4. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC expressed concern at the situation of women and children in conflict situations and post-conflict contexts; they stressed the need to effectively address the problem of sexual violence in armed conflicts, to investigate crimes committed against women and children and to ensure that their perpetrators are brought to justice. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC also recognized the positive role that women have played in the peaceful resolution of conflicts and underscored the need to strengthen women's participation in peace mediation and political processes.

Strengthening of Methods of Work and Cooperation

5. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC welcomed the establishment, on 1 July 2010, of the United Nations Office to the African Union, which integrates the mandates of the former Liaison Office, the Peacekeeping Support Team, the Planning Team for AMISOM, as well as the support elements of UNAMID Joint Coordination Mechanism, as a concrete step in the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations Secretariat and the Commission of the African Union.
6. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC reiterated the need to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing of the AU's peace and

security capability. They noted the Report of the AU-UN Panel (A/63/666-S/2008/813) as an important contribution towards the overall efforts to enhance the capacity of the AU in undertaking peacekeeping operations. They look forward to the reports that the Chairperson of the AU Commission and the Secretary-General of the United Nations intend to submit on their respective strategic visions of the partnership between the AU and the UN. They agreed on the need to implement their previous agreement to further consider undertaking collaborative field missions, on a case-by-case basis and as appropriate, in respect of selected peacekeeping operations, in order to enhance synergy in monitoring assessment of results and response strategies.

7. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC welcomed the inaugural meeting of the Joint UN-AU Task Force on Peace and Security, held in New York, on 25 September 2010, as well as the second meeting of the Task Force, which took place in Addis Ababa, on 4 February 2011. They encouraged the Task Force to focus on strategic and country-specific issues of the African continent that are of interest to both organizations.

Libya

8. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC expressed their deep concern over the continuation of violence in Libya, and reaffirmed their commitment to the full implementation of United Nations Security Council resolutions 1970 (2011) and 1973 (2011) to ensure protection of civilians in Libya.

9. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC demanded the immediate establishment of a ceasefire and a complete end to violence and all attacks against, and abuses of, civilians, and a solution to the crisis which responds to the legitimate demands of the Libyan people. They stressed the need for such a ceasefire to be credible and verifiable, and encouraged the African Union and the United Nations, as well as other stakeholders, to spare no efforts in achieving this objective.

10. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC stressed the need for a political solution to the conflict in Libya. In this respect, and recalling the provisions of paragraph 2 of UN Security Council resolution 1973(2011), they welcomed the efforts of the Special Envoy of the Secretary-General for Libya, M. Abdel-Elah Mohamed Al-Khatib, and those of the AU High-Level *ad hoc* Committee on Libya in the context of the AU Roadmap. They agreed to continue their efforts in support of the UN and in accordance with paragraph 2 of Security Council resolution 1973(2011) to find a solution to the crisis.

11. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC expressed serious concern over the deteriorating humanitarian situation in the country, and called for full compliance with human rights and International Humanitarian Law and the creation of the required conditions for the delivery of assistance to all needy populations across Libya. They stressed the need to provide specific support to the African migrant workers living in Libya, including those seeking to leave the country.

Côte d'Ivoire

12. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC welcomed the inauguration of President Alassane Dramane Ouattara, which took place today, 21 May 2011, in Yamoussoukro. They commended the valuable roles played by the United Nations, the African Union, through the High-Level Panel for the Resolution of the Crisis in Côte d'Ivoire, and ECOWAS in resolving the Ivorian post-election conflict. They called for their continued vigilance, engagement and coordination in the stabilization and peace consolidation in Côte d'Ivoire.

13. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC stressed their readiness to assist the Ivorian State in rebuilding its institutions and completing the unfinished aspects of the peace process, including the Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration process, Security Sector Reform and the other reunification tasks.

14. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC reaffirmed their full support to the Ivorian authorities' efforts aimed at promoting justice and reconciliation, including the planned establishment of a Truth, Dialogue and Reconciliation Commission. They further welcomed President Ouattara's commitment to investigate alleged human rights violations during the post-electoral crisis.

Sudan

15. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC welcomed the successful referendum conducted in South Sudan in January 2011, and commended the Parties for their commitment. They appealed to all members of the international community to provide the requisite support to facilitate the emergence of two viable States living side-by-side, in peace and good neighborliness, and working together to meet common challenges. They urged the Parties to reach, under the auspices of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) and its Chair, former President Thabo Mbeki, agreement on outstanding CPA issues and post-CPA arrangements, and stressed the importance of inclusive, timely, and credible popular consultations processes, in accordance with the CPA.

16. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC expressed deep concern over increased violence in the Abyei Area. They called on both Parties to implement and adhere to recent security agreements and to urgently reach an agreement on Abyei's post-CPA status. In this regard, they acknowledged the July 2009 ruling by The Hague's Permanent Court of Arbitration, which defines the borders of Abyei.

17. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC expressed concern at the violence and insecurity in Darfur. They emphasised the importance of reaching an inclusive and comprehensive solution in Darfur, based on a positive outcome of the Doha peace talks, and called on the Government of Sudan and the armed movements to contribute to the creation of the necessary enabling environment for the Darfur Political Process, including: (i) civil and political rights of participants such that they can exercise their views without fear of retribution; (ii) freedom of speech and assembly, to allow for open consultations; (iii) freedom of movement of participants and UNAMID; (iv) proportional participation among Darfurians; (v) freedom from harassment, arbitrary arrest and intimidation; and (vi) freedom from

interference by the Government or armed movements. They saluted the efforts of the AUHIP and the African Union - United Nations Operation in Darfur (UNAMID).

Somalia

18. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC expressed their grave concern at the continued instability in Somalia, which has led to a multitude of problems, including a dire humanitarian situation, compounded by drought, continued suffering of the Somali populations, terrorism, the recruitment and use of child soldiers, acts of piracy and armed robbery at sea off the coast of Somalia and hostage taking, and reiterated the need for a comprehensive strategy to encourage the establishment of peace and stability in Somalia through the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders and in line with the Djibouti Agreement. They urged all Somali stakeholders to participate in the upcoming consultative meeting to be held in Mogadishu and play a role in finalising arrangements for ending the transition in August 2011. They called upon all opposition groups to lay down their arms and join the peace process.

19. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC commended the progress made by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the Somali Security Forces in consolidating security and stability in Mogadishu, and recognised the significant sacrifices made by these Forces. They stressed the importance of predictable, reliable and timely resources for AMISOM. They called upon the international community to make contributions urgently to AMISOM, without caveats. They noted the recommendations on Somalia of the African Union Peace and Security Council of 15 October 2010.

20. The members of the UNSC and the AUPSC underlined the importance of a comprehensive response to tackle piracy and its underlying causes and, in this respect, noted the request to the UN Secretary-General to report on the protection of Somali natural resources and waters, and on alleged illegal fishing and illegal dumping, including of toxic substances, in line with operative paragraph 7 of resolution 1976.

21. The next consultative meeting will be held at the Headquarters of the United Nations, in New York, no later than July 2012.

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