



## Security Council

Distr.: General  
16 December 2014

Original: English

---

### Statement by the President of the Security Council

At the 7343rd meeting of the Security Council, held on 16 December 2014, in connection with the Council's consideration of the item entitled "Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining international peace and security", the President of the Security Council made the following statement on behalf of the Council:

"The Security Council recalls its previous relevant resolutions and statements of its President which underscore the importance of developing effective partnerships between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and the relevant statutes of the regional and subregional organizations.

"The Security Council recalls the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirms its primary responsibility under the Charter for the maintenance of international peace and security.

"The Security Council welcomes the briefing of the United Nations Secretary-General, Ban Ki-moon and that of the African Union High Representative for Mali and the Sahel (MISAHEL), Former President Pierre Buyoya.

"The Security Council acknowledges the progress made in the ongoing cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, and stresses the importance of further strengthening cooperation and developing effective partnership with the African Union Peace and Security Council consistent with Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, to address common collective security challenges in Africa.

"The Security Council reiterates that cooperation with regional and subregional organizations in matters relating to the maintenance of international peace and security and consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations, can improve collective security.

"The Security Council recognizes that regional organizations are well positioned to understand the root causes of armed conflicts owing to their knowledge of the region which can be a benefit for their efforts to influence the prevention or resolution of these conflicts.

"The Security Council acknowledges the role of the African Union in efforts to prevent or settle conflicts in the African continent and expresses its support for the African Union's continued efforts to promote peace initiatives



conducted by the African Union, and similar initiatives of subregional organizations.

“The Security Council commends the African Union’s increased contribution to the maintenance of peace and security including peacekeeping in particular in Sudan (Darfur), Mali, CAR and Somalia, as well as the African Union Regional Task Force (AU-RTF), and efforts to further strengthen its capacity, including through the operationalization of both its African Standby Force (ASF) and its Rapid Deployment Capability (RDC), and welcomes the UN-AU continued cooperation on different components of the African Peace and Security Architecture, including on early warning, preventive diplomacy, mediation, electoral assistance, peacekeeping, conflict prevention and resolution, promotion of human rights and the rule of law, and post-conflict recovery and reconstruction.

“The Security Council welcomes the African Union decision to declare ‘2014-2024 as the Madiba Nelson Mandela decade of reconciliation in Africa and to take appropriate measures to promote reconciliation as means of securing peace, stability and development in Africa, as well as to also take appropriate steps in collaboration with its Member States to promote the lessons learned from his indelible legacy in the areas of truth, reconciliation and peace building.

“The Security Council welcomes the efforts undertaken by the AU to end impunity and ensure accountability, including by strengthening national justice institutions.

“The Security Council stresses the importance of further strengthening cooperation with the African Union in order to assist building its capacity to deal with common collective security challenges in Africa, including through the African Union’s commitment of rapid and appropriate responses to emerging crises situations, and the development of effective strategies for conflict prevention and resolution, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

“The Security Council reiterates that regional organizations have the responsibility to secure human, financial, logistical and other resources for their organizations, including through contributions by their members and support from partners and welcomes the valuable financial support provided from partners in this regard.

“The Security Council recognizes that one major constraint facing the African Union, in effectively carrying out the mandates of maintaining regional peace and security is securing predictable, sustainable and flexible resources.

“The Security Council encourages closer coordination and cooperation on policing issues between the United Nations Secretariat and international, regional and subregional organizations, including through training, the sharing and exchange of knowledge, thematic expertise and operational support as appropriate.

“The Security Council recognizes the role that the AU can play in the protection of civilians, and in particular women and children affected by armed conflict, as well as in the prevention of and response to sexual and

gender-based violence in armed conflicts and post-conflict situations and supports the critical role that women play in all peace and security efforts, including those to prevent and resolve conflict and mitigate its impact.

“The Security Council welcomes the United Nations partnership in the field of peacekeeping, including support to the African Union’s efforts to develop policy, guidance and training in particular in the areas of security sector reform, post-conflict reconstruction, women, peace and security and the protection of civilians including child protection and the prevention of and response to sexual and gender-based violence in armed conflicts and post-conflict situations.

“The Security Council recognizes the valuable contribution of relevant regional and subregional organizations and arrangements for the protection of children affected by armed conflict and commends in this regard the declaration signed on 17 September 2013 between the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Children and Armed Conflict and the Peace and Security Department of the African Union Commission, in order to mainstream protection mechanisms in all peace and security activities of the African Union, in close partnership with UNICEF.

“The Security Council encourages in this regard the African Union Commission to help address the widespread impact of armed conflict on children, invites it to continue the mainstreaming of child protection into its advocacy, policies, programmes and mission planning, the development and expansion of guidelines to protect children affected by armed conflict as well as the training of personnel and the inclusion of child protection staff in its peacekeeping and field operations, and reiterates its call for the establishment of child protection mechanisms within its secretariat, including through the appointment of child protection focal points.

“The Security Council urges Member States and relevant international organizations to contribute to strengthening the capacity of the African Union and its subregional organizations, in conflict prevention and crisis management, and in post-conflict stabilization, including through the provision of human, technical and financial assistance.

“The Security Council reiterates the importance of establishing a more effective relationship between the Security Council and the African Union Peace and Security Council including through achieving more effective annual consultative meetings, the holding of timely consultations, and collaborative field missions of the two Councils, as appropriate, to formulate cohesive positions and strategies on a case-by-case basis in dealing with conflict situations in Africa.

“The Security Council calls for the strengthening of cooperation between the United Nations Secretariat and the Commission of the African Union including in the area of mediation efforts, and underscores the importance of developing the follow-up programme to the 2006 United Nations- African Union Ten-year Capacity-Building Programme; as an important contribution towards conflict prevention, management and resolution on the African Continent. In this regard, the Security Council welcomes the United Nations African Union joint decision during the 15th Session of the Regional

Coordination Mechanism for Africa (RCM) in Abuja in March 2014 to establish a working group to start formulating a successor programme that will also reflect the support of the United Nations to Agenda 2063.

“The Security Council welcomes the appointment of the High-Level Panel to review peace operations, and invites this Panel to consult closely with the African Union.

“The Security Council welcomes regular interaction between the United Nations Secretariat and the African Union Commission, through the United Nations-African Union Joint Task Force on Peace and Security, and encourages the Task Force to continue to focus on strategic and country-specific issues of the African continent that are of interest to both organizations and requests that the Task Force consider ways to enhance United Nations and African Union cooperation on conflict prevention in Africa and that it provides updates to the Security Council subsequent to its meetings.

“The Security Council commends the transfer of authority from the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA) to the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA) on 15 September 2014 and welcomes the ongoing lessons learned exercise on the transitions from AU to UN peacekeeping operations in Mali and the Central African Republic, pursuant to operative paragraph 13 of resolution 2167 (2014) and looks forward to concrete recommendations from this lessons learned exercise, which would seek to strengthen the management of transitions from AU to UN peacekeeping missions.

“The Security Council stresses the importance of supporting the political role of the AU, both during the transition from AU to UN peacekeeping missions, as well as in the formulation and implementation of governance and other reforms to be carried out in addressing the root causes of conflict in Africa.

“The Security Council encourages the United Nations and the African Union to take concrete steps to strengthen their relationships and develop a more effective partnership when addressing issues of mutual interest and underscores the need to enhance the United Nations and African Union pre-deployment joint planning and joint mission assessment processes to promote common understanding and increase effectiveness of peacekeeping missions.

“The Security Council calls on the Secretary-General to coordinate with and support the African Union Commission in its development of a list of needed capacities and recommendations on ways the African Union can further develop its military, civilian, police, technical, logistic and administrative capabilities, welcomes the practice of staff exchanges, especially between the UN and AU and encourages its continuity particularly the staff in the financial and logistical areas, and further encourages the African Union to identify its priorities in personnel training, particularly in those areas dealing with financial, logistic and administrative matters.

“The Security Council notes the progress in the level and process of preparation for the 8th Joint Consultative meeting of the UNSC and AUPSC on 6 June 2014 in New York, including, the finalization in advance of the

agenda for the annual consultative meeting, joint press briefing by the President of the UNSC and the Chairperson of the AUPSC (African Union Peace and Security Council) and recommends that next year's 9th Consultative meeting scheduled to take place in Addis Ababa in 2015 address the issue of follow-up and implementation of previous communiqués.

“The Security Council welcomes the adoption of the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration by African leaders in May 2013, pledging “to end all wars in Africa by 2020” and “achieve the goal of a conflict-free Africa”; expresses its readiness to contribute and calls on all, in particular relevant United Nations entities to help achieve this goal including by considering defining a concrete five-year actionable plan in support of the goal of achieving a conflict-free Africa by 2020. The Security Council notes in that regard that instability and violence in CAR, DRC, Libya, the Sahel, Mali, Somalia, South Sudan and Sudan need to be addressed and resolved as a matter of urgency.

“The Security Council recognizes the important role of the good offices of the Secretary-General in Africa, and encourages the Secretary-General to continue to use mediation as often as possible to help resolve conflicts peacefully, working in coordination and closely with the African Union and its subregional organizations in that regard, as appropriate.

“The Security Council takes note of the election of the new 5 members of the African Union Panel of the Wise and acknowledges the key preventive role that the Panel can play and calls for increased political support to it in the implementation of its mandate, and encourages the Panel's early engagement in deteriorating situations at risk of conflict.

“The Security Council stresses the importance of strengthened AU and UN capacities for early warning, conflict analysis, dialogue and mediation and increased AU-UN collaboration in the area of good offices and between UN-AU Envoys. The Security Council underscores the need to allocate resources to support and strengthen the Continental Early Warning System (CEWS), the good offices role of Special Envoys and Representatives, as well as post-conflict reconstruction and development efforts, including through the African Solidarity Initiative.

“The Security Council stresses the importance of a coordinated international response to causes of conflict and recognizes the need for the development of effective long-term strategies and emphasizes the need for all United Nations organs and agencies to pursue preventive strategies and to take action within their respective areas of competence to assist Member States and regional and subregional organizations to eradicate poverty, strengthen development cooperation and assistance and promote respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

“The Security Council welcomes recent developments regarding cooperation between the United Nations, the African Union (AU) and the European Union (EU), including the contribution of the EU to the enhancement of African Union capacities; and further encourages regional and subregional organizations to strengthen and increase cooperation among them, including efforts to enhance their respective capacities, in the maintenance of international peace and security.

“The Security Council reaffirms its previous resolutions and statements by its President regarding the Prodi Report, including [S/PRST/2010/21](#), [S/PRST/2009/26](#), and [S/PRST/2013/12](#) as well as resolutions 1809 (2008), 1863 (2009), 2033 (2012), 2086 (2013) and 2167 (2014).

“The Security Council stresses the need to secure more financial resources from within the African continent, without prejudice to the support from the United Nations and other partners.

“The Security Council reiterates its resolve to give peacekeeping operations clear, credible and achievable mandates matched by appropriate resources.

“The Security Council stresses the need to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing regional organizations, when they undertake peacekeeping under a Security Council mandate, and recognize the benefit of joint planning missions and assessment visits in determining the needs of regional peace support operations.

“The Security Council welcomes the renewed efforts of the African Union for the full operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), and looks forward to the finalization of the ongoing APSA assessment report, as well as to the successful conduct in 2015 of the Amani Africa II Exercise, which will validate the full operational capability of the African Standby Force (ASF).

“The Security Council welcomes the steps taken for the operationalization of the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises (ACIRC), including through enhanced decision-making to facilitate rapid deployment.

“The Security Council stresses the importance for the United Nations of developing African Union and its subregional organizations’ ability to deploy peacekeeping forces rapidly in support of United Nations peacekeeping operations or other Security Council-mandated operations, and welcomes recent initiatives taken in this regard by the AU.

“The Security Council takes note of the commitments made by the European Union and Africa in the EU-Africa Summit held in Brussels in April 2014 to strengthen the operationalization of the African Peace and Security Architecture, in particular by supporting the African Standby Force (ASF) and its Rapid Deployment Capacity (RDC), supported and managed in a sustainable way, as reaffirmed by the European Union Political and Security Committee and the African Union Peace and Security Council in Brussels on 15 May 2014. The Security Council further encourages initiatives aiming at creating more synergies between the AU, EU and UN in this endeavor, and further takes note of close cooperation between the EU and AU, with the relevant regional and sub-regional organizations, the UN and its agencies, and with other international coordination mechanisms. The Security Council commends all the efforts already achieved by the EU to this end and further welcomes the expressed intention by the EU to allocate increased funding, including through the African Peace Facility.

“The Security Council further takes note of the first AU-China Strategic Dialogue for Peace and Security in Africa, launched in October 2014, which considers further cooperation measures in peace and security area, including supporting the African Capacity for Immediate Response to Crises (ACIRC).

“The Security Council further takes note of the first U.S. Africa Leaders’ Summit and welcomes the announcement of the African Peacekeeping Rapid Response Partnership, which seeks to strengthen the capabilities of African countries to rapidly deploy peacekeepers in response to emerging conflict.

“The Security Council requests the Secretary-General to present an annual report to the Security Council on ways to strengthen the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union on issues of peace and security in Africa including the work of the UNOAU.”

---