Letter dated 20 July 2010 from the Permanent Representatives of Gabon, Nigeria and Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

We have to honour to transmit herewith the communiqué of the consultative meeting of members of the Security Council of the United Nations and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, adopted on 9 July 2010 at an informal consultative meeting of members of the Security Council with the African Union Peace and Security Council (see annex).

We should be grateful if you would circulate this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Emanuel Issoze-Ngondet  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Gabon

(Signed) U. Joy Ogwu  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Nigeria

(Signed) Ruhakana Rugunda  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative of Uganda
Annex to the letter dated 20 July 2010 from the Permanent Representatives of Gabon, Nigeria and Uganda to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Communiqué of the consultative meeting of members of the Security Council of the United Nations and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union


2. Reaffirming the primary responsibility of the Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security and the mandate of the AU Peace and Security Council with regard to the maintenance of peace and security in Africa, and also recalling the communiqués of their previous consultative meetings held between 2007 and 2009, the meeting again reviewed matters of common interest, in particular how to strengthen the partnership between the two institutions consistent with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations with regard to the maintenance of peace and security in Africa.

3. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council reviewed the degree of cooperation between them 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 Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council welcomed decision Assembly/AU/Dec.269 (XIV), adopted by the African Union Assembly at its fourteenth ordinary session, held in January 2010, relating to the enhancement of the capacity of the African Union to address unconstitutional changes of government in Africa.

5. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council encouraged both national and regional authorities to fully implement the African Peace and Security Architecture, with the support of the international community. In this regard, the members of the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council also expressed their continued commitment to the United Nations Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for this purpose.

6. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council recognized the need to enhance the predictability, sustainability and flexibility of financing the African Union’s peace and security capability.

7. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council agreed to further consider undertaking collaborative field missions, on a case-by-case basis, and as appropriate, in respect of selected peacekeeping operations to enhance synergy in monitoring, assessment of results and response strategies.

8. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council noted with appreciation the positive efforts made in conflict resolution in Africa and encouraged all stakeholders to follow through with their efforts to enhance peace
and security in the continent. They called for enhanced cooperation to help achieve the goals of the Year of Peace and Security in Africa (2010).

9. There was broad agreement that the members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council will, as appropriate, support national efforts in consolidating democratic governance, combating impunity, and provide assistance by way of mediation and other conflict prevention strategies. They agreed that, together, the Security Council and the Peace and Security Council can implement effective strategies for lasting regional peace and security.

10. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council reviewed developments in the Sudan and the Horn of Africa and discussed how best to coordinate and work together to enhance peace and security.

11. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council underlined the importance of full and timely implementation of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement in the Sudan.

12. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council stressed the urgent need to protect civilians and secure a stable and durable peace in Darfur, including achieving a global political agreement for Darfur. The members stressed the need for close coordination between the African Union and the United Nations and acknowledged the work of the African Union High-level Implementation Panel. The members of the Security Council reiterated their support for the efforts being made on the ground by the African Union Panel, UNMIS and UNAMID, and the Joint Mediation Team.

13. The meeting reviewed the situation of peace and security in the Horn of Africa region, including the situation in Somalia, and the border disputes between Djibouti and Eritrea. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council expressed concern at the continued instability in Somalia, including the acts of armed robbery and piracy off the coast of the country and its implications for the region, and noted that the situation requires resolve and more sustained engagement. In this respect they welcomed the decision by the IGAD Heads of State and Government to raise African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) troops to the mandated force level of 8,000. The importance of greater international support to the Transitional Federal Government of Somalia and AMISOM was stressed and the Transitional Federal Government was encouraged to maintain unity and increase its reconciliation efforts.

14. The members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council welcomed the mediation efforts deployed by the Emir of Qatar to settle the border issue between Djibouti and Eritrea resulting in a memorandum of understanding, and called upon both parties to engage in the mediation process fully and in good faith, to refrain from the use, or the threat of use, of force, to abide by their commitments in full and to comply with all with the provisions of relevant Security Council statements and resolutions and communiqués of the Peace and Security Council.

15. It was agreed that a consultative meeting should be held on a rotational basis, annually no later than the end of June. The Chair or President, as applicable, of the host organization will initiate contact with the Chair or President, as applicable, of the visiting organization having prepared an agenda. The agenda should be agreed to in advance, focused, and allow for follow-up of previously agreed outcome points.
Further, the members of the Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council agreed that the consultative meetings should be substantive. It was agreed that at the conclusion of each consultative meeting the host organization shall be responsible for preparing and presenting the outcome document.

16. The next consultative meeting should be held at the headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa no later than June 2011.