



## Security Council

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### Letter dated 4 February 2019 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 18 January 2019 from Smaïl Chergui, Commissioner for Peace and Security of the African Union Commission (see annex). The letter transmits the communiqué of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union dated 20 December 2018. In the communiqué, the Peace and Security Council expresses support for the decision of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development to request the Security Council to review the composition and mandate of the regional protection force of the United Nations Mission in South Sudan, following the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan.

I should appreciate it if you would bring the present letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* António **Guterres**



## **Annex**

I am writing to transmit herewith the communiqué of the African Union Peace and Security Council adopted at its 820th meeting, held on 20 and 24 December 2018 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia (see enclosure). At that meeting, the Council considered the proposal by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) for a review of the composition and the mandate of the regional protection force for South Sudan.

During its meeting, the African Union Peace and Security Council considered the briefing given by the Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, in its capacity as Chair of IGAD, on the review of the composition and mandate of the regional protection force for South Sudan.

I should be most grateful if the attached 820th Peace and Security Council communiqué would be urgently transmitted to members of the United Nations Security Council, for their information and action, as appropriate.

*(Signed)* **Smaïl Chergui**  
Ambassador  
Commissioner for Peace and Security

## Enclosure

### Communiqué

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 820th meeting held on 20 and 24 December 2018, considered the proposal by the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) for the Review of the Composition and the Mandate of the Regional Protection Force (RPF) for South Sudan, and adopted the following decision:

#### Council:

1. **Takes note** of the briefing made by the Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, country chairing the IGAD, on the Review of the Composition and Mandate of the Regional Protection Force (RPF) for South Sudan. Council **also takes note** of the statement made by the Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Sudan;
2. **Recalls** all its previous pronouncements and decisions on the situation in South Sudan, particularly Communiqué [PSC/HGS/COMM. (DCCLXXXIII)], adopted at its 783rd meeting held at the level of Heads of State and Government, in Nouakchott, Mauritania on 30 June 2018. Council **also recalls** the outcome of the meeting of IGAD Member States Chiefs of Defense Staff/Forces held on 22 November 2018, pursuant to the communiqué of the 66th Extra-Ordinary Session of the IGAD Council of Ministers on Somalia and South Sudan, held on 16 November 2018, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the outcomes of the 33rd Extra Ordinary Summit of IGAD on 12 September 2018, in Addis Ababa;
3. **Further recalls** the relevant provisions of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council, in particular, Article 16, as well as the Memorandum of Understanding signed in January 2008, between the AU and the Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution;
4. **Reiterates** the unwavering commitment of the AU to support the efforts by IGAD and the AU in South Sudan, with a view to finding durable solutions to the current peace and security challenges facing the country. In this regard, Council **expresses its full support** to the decision by IGAD to request the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) to review both, the composition and the mandate of the RPF for South Sudan created pursuant to UNSC resolutions 2373 of 30 August 2016 and 2406 on 15 March 2018, bearing in mind the recent positive developments on the ground, following the signing of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS), in September 2018, and the need to create conducive conditions for the effective implementation of the Agreement;
5. **Invites** IGAD to continue engaging with the Peace and Security Council and AU Member States on peace efforts in South Sudan;
6. **Requests** the Chairperson of the Commission to transmit this Communiqué to the African Members of the UN Security Council (A3), as well as to inform the Secretary-General of the United Nations for their respective appropriate action;
7. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.