

AFRICAN UNION

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INDUCTION OF THE NEWLY ELECTED AND RETURNING MEMBERS OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION

**27 - 28 MARCH 2019
ZANZIBAR, TANZANIA**

PSC/Induction/Rpt. (2019)

DRAFT SUMMARY RECORD



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I. INTRODUCTION

1. During the 32nd Ordinary Session of the AU, five (5) Member States were elected to serve in the Peace and Security Council for a three-year term, that is, beginning on 1 April 2019 and ending on 31 March 2022. In line with the established practice, since the operationalization of the PSC in 2004, from 27 to 28 March 2019, the Commission organized an induction training programme for these newly elected Member States of the PSC, from 27 to 28 March 2019, in Zanzibar, in the United Republic of Tanzania.

2. The Induction was chaired by H.E. Ambassador Catherine Muigai Mwangi, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya, in her capacity as the Chairperson of the PSC for the month of March 2019. The opening ceremony included welcoming statements by Honorable Haroun Ali Suleiman, Minister of Public Service and Good Governance, President's Office of Zanzibar, who welcomed the participants to the Island of Zanzibar and commended the PSC for its relentless effort in promoting peace, security and stability in Africa. It also included remarks by Ambassador Smail Chergui, the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security.

3. The Induction Programme brought together the newly elected members, Algeria, Burundi and Lesotho, the outgoing three-year term Members of the PSC, namely, Congo, Egypt and Zambia, the current ten (10) two-year term Members, namely, Angola, Djibouti, Gabon, Equatorial Guinea, Liberia, Morocco, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, Togo and Zimbabwe, as well as the re-elected Members, namely, Kenya and Nigeria. Some officers from the AU Commission also attended the Induction Programme.

II. PROCEEDINGS OF THE INDUCTION PROGRAMME

4. Participants listened to presentations that were made by the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, H.E. Ambassador Smail Chergui, who focused on some key strategic issues relating to the work of the PSC. This was followed by a presentation by the Acting Director for Peace and Security, Dr. Admore Mupoki Kambudzi, who

III. OBSERVATIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

5. Following the presentations, participants held extensive discussions in which they raised important issues that require urgent attention. These issues relate to the work and working methods of the PSC and the support from the AU Commission in line with the provisions of the PSC Protocol. They agreed as follows:

I. On African Standby Force (ASF), participants:

- i) Underscored the need for expeditious finalization of all processes relating to the legal framework and strategic airlift, as well as regional logistics depots, with a view to ensuring the Rapid Deployment Capability of the Force;

- ii) Welcomed progress made so far in terms of improving the facilities at the ASF Continental Logistics Base in Douala, Cameroon. They also commended Cameroon for hosting the Base;
- iii) Encouraged the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution (RECs/RMs) to mobilize resources from within the respective regions for purposes of establishing regional logistics bases.

II. On the AU Peace Fund, participants:

- i) Commended the progress made in terms of the financial contributions being made by the Member States;
- ii) Underscored the need to expedite the finalization of the establishment of the Governance Structures for the Fund;
- iii) Stressed the importance of regular updates to the PSC and enhanced transparency in the management of the Fund;
- iv) Also underscored the need for mobilization of support for the re-introduction to the UN Security Council of the resolution on financing peace support operations in Africa which are authorized by the UN Security Council that will be done during the Presidency of the Republic of South Africa.

III. On Coordination with the RECs/RMs, participants:

- i) Underscored the importance of harmonization and complementarity of decision-making processes between the AU and the RECs/RMs;
- ii) Also underscored the importance of more enhanced coordination between the PSC and the RECs/RMs, through the regular convening of an annual interaction at appropriate level. In this regard, they agreed to institutionalize regular briefings from the RECs/RMs and to convene an initial consultative meeting in May 2019 at the AU Headquarters as a build up to the upcoming AU Summit to be held in Niamey, Niger in June/July 2019.

IV. On PSC Working Methods participants agreed as follows:

- i) Consolidation of the conclusions of the PSC Retreats: They agreed on the need to develop a consolidated manual incorporating conclusions of all PSC retreats on its working methods, building on the Conclusions of the Kigali Retreat.
- ii) Drafting PSC Documents: they emphasized on the need for the Council to take ownership of its working documents by ensuring that Council members take charge of drafting process.

- iii) The level of participation during field missions: They stressed the need to have a minimum threshold on the level of representation of Member States in all activities of the PSC, particularly, field missions and meetings.
- iv) Participation in Open Sessions: They stressed the importance of effective time management during PSC Open Sessions. In this regard, they reiterated the need to always reduce the number of speakers, in order to allow Council sufficient time for deliberations and decision making in closed session.
- v) Engagement with Civil Society Organizations: They emphasized the imperative of upholding the integrity of the Council and confidentiality of its deliberations. In this regard, they agreed on the need to streamline and rationalize the participation, as well as involvement of civil society organizations in the work of the Council. They proposed to have a consultative meeting with ECOSOCC and CSOs in August 2019 to reflect and agree on the modalities and parameters for their collaboration.
- vi) Briefings to the PRC by the PSC Chairperson: They emphasized the need to implement the PSC standing decision on regular briefing to the PRC on the activities of the Peace and Security Council at the end of every month. They further emphasized the need for the monthly Chairpersons of the PSC to always consult with the PRC Chairperson with a view to ensuring synchronization of the activities of the two Organs and avoid clashes. They also emphasized the need for the PSC to further enhance its visibility and image through regular press conferences on some of the activities of Council.
- vii) Engagements between the PSC and the Commission and Relevant PRC Sub-Committees: They underscored the need for more enhanced transparency, among others, through regular interactions between the Council and the Commission, in particular, the Chairperson of the Commission and the Commissioner for Peace and Security. In the same context, they stressed the need for improving the working synergies between Council and the Department of Political Affairs, as well as with the PRC Subcommittee on Humanitarian Affairs, Refugees and IDPs.

Furthermore, they stressed the need for Council to be informed in real time through reports on peace and security activities and engagements of the Chairperson of the Commission and the Commissioner for Peace and Security.

They agreed on the need for strict adherence to the Provisions of Article 4 of the PSC Protocol in relation to the deployment of special envoys and special

representatives with a view to ensuring coherence and complementarity between the activities of the PSC and those of the Commission.

- viii) Cycle of reporting to the AU Assembly: Bearing in mind the AU Assembly decision to have only one Ordinary Session annually, they agreed on preparing reports on its activities every six months, but submit to the Assembly the consolidated report for the six months period preceding the date of the Summit.
- ix) Quarterly regional briefings: they agreed for the Council to receive briefings on peace and security situation on regional basis with a view to allow Council to be able to follow-up on peace and security issues across the continent.
- x) PSC Sub-Committees: they stressed the need to fully revitalize other PSC Committees, namely the PSC Sub-committee on Sanctions, Counter Terrorism and Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, apart from the Committee of Experts and Military Staff Committee.
- xi) Engagement with UNPBC: they underlined the need to ensure active engagement with the entire spectrum of actors working on PCRDR including the United Nations Peace Building Commission (UNPBC) on the best means and ways of effectively supporting African countries emerging from conflicts.
- xii) Engagement with the AU Liaison Offices, High Representatives/Special Envoys: they stressed the need to regularly evaluate the work of AU Liaison Offices, Special Representatives of the Chairperson of the Commission, AU High Representatives, as well as AU Special Envoys with a view to ensuring rationalization and better utilization of scarce resources, as well as effective coordination with the PSC.

V. CONCLUSION

6. Participants expressed gratitude to the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania, particularly, the Revolutionary Government and people of Zanzibar for hosting the induction and for the warm welcome and hospitality accorded to the PSC delegation throughout the Induction.

African Union Commission (AUC)

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Peace and Security Council

Induction - Reports

2019-03-28

Report of the Induction Programme for the Newly Elected and Re-Elected Members of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, 27 - 28 March 2019, Zanzibar, Tanzania.

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