



TANGIER DECLARATION

Key Conclusions of

THE AFRICAN UNION POLICY CONFERENCE ON PROMOTING THE PEACE, SECURITY AND DEVELOPMENT NEXUS IN AFRICA

Tangier, Kingdom of Morocco (25 October - 27 October 2022)

We, the Members of the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC), invited AU Member States / Organs / institutions, the Regional Economic Communities as well as the representatives of United Nations, African Development Institutions, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs); academia, practitioners, youth and women groups, other stakeholders and development partners, herein referred to as (the Participants) in the African Union (AU) Policy Conference on Promoting the Peace, Security and Development Nexus, held in Tangier, Kingdom of Morocco from 25 to 27 October 2022, **REITERATE** our commitment to address the growing linkages between peace, security, governance and sustainable development, **RENEW** our collective search for durable solutions, and **REAFFIRM** our determination to implement the outcomes of this Conference;

NOTING the statement by H.E Nasser BOURITA, Minister of Foreign Affairs, African Cooperation and Moroccan Expatriates of the Kingdom of Morocco, who declared open the Policy Conference; the keynote addresses by the Chairperson of the AU Commission, H.E. Moussa Faki MAHAMAT, ably delivered on his behalf by H.E. Albert MUCHANGA, AU Commissioner for Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals; and H.E Ms. Amina MOHAMMED, the Deputy UN Secretary General, as well as goodwill messages by the sponsoring Partners of the Conference, namely the African Development Bank Group, the African Export-Import Bank, the United Nations (UN) Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), the UN Development Programme (UNDP), and the AU Development Agency (AUDA-NEPAD);

FURTHER NOTING that the Conference provided a unique engagement platform for African policy and decision makers and peace, security and development practitioners, as well as international partners, to identify areas and concrete measures to advance the AU-led strategic goals of building peace, resilience and prosperity;

IN THIS CONTEXT RECALLING the AU Constitutive Act, notably its preamble, which states that the scourge of conflicts in Africa constitutes a major impediment to the socio-economic development of the continent, **WHILE REAFFIRMING** the need to promote peace, security and stability as a prerequisite for the implementation of Africa's development and integration agenda;

BEARING IN MIND the AU Peace and Security Council communiqué, [PSC/PR/COMM.1\(DCCCLXXXIII\)](#) adopted during the 883rd meeting held at ministerial level on 27 September 2019, in the margins of the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly, on "the Interdependence between peace, security and development: towards a collective engagement for action";

REAFFIRMING the commitment of the AU Member States to realize the seven (7) Aspirations and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) within the frameworks of the AU Agenda 2063 and the UN

2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development respectively, with particular reference to Aspirations 1, 3 and 4 and Goal 16 relating to the promotion of peace, justice and strong institutions;

RECALLING IN PARTICULAR that under Agenda 2063, the AU “recognizes that a prosperous, integrated and united Africa, based on good governance, democracy, social inclusion and respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law, are the necessary pre-conditions for a peaceful and conflict-free Continent”;

DRAWING ATTENTION ONCE AGAIN to the pledge made by the African Heads of State and Government to silence the guns and bring a definite end to all conflicts on the continent, as contained in the 50th Anniversary Solemn Declaration, adopted by the Assembly of the Union, on 25 May 2013;

REAFFIRMING the essence and fundamentals of human security, in line with the 2006 AU Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy framework, as a multidimensional notion of security encompassing socio-economic and political rights;

ACKNOWLEDGING that the promotion of regional economic integration is a continental good that will be realised through the promotion of peace and security as well as development investments. **IN THIS REGARD, EMPHASIZING** that success in the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Agreement hinges on peace and security, as conflict in any African country undermines the continent’s competitiveness as a destination for trade and investment;

RECALING the Malabo Declaration on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government adopted by the 16th Extraordinary Session of the AU Assembly held on 28 May 2022, in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea and its adoption of the Accra Declaration on Unconstitutional Changes of Government in Africa, following the AU Reflection Forum of March 2022;

MINDFUL of the vital role played by the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) as the building blocks of the continental integration process, as highlighted in the 1991 Abuja Treaty on the African Economic Community;

WE, THE PARTICIPANTS SPECIFICALLY ACKNOWLEDGE:

- i. The fundamental imperative to explore and effectively utilize the advantages of the interlinkages between inter-African trade, industrialization, infrastructure development and peace as well as the importance of free movement of people within Africa as a fundamental element for guaranteeing regional integration, peace and security;
- ii. The imperative of free movement of persons for the full implementation of AfCFTA, and bearing in mind its importance for trade facilitation, improved infrastructure and Africa’s industrialization agenda;
- iii. The AfCFTA can only be effective if we open our borders to Africans with readiness to frontally address the concerns of infringement on sovereignty and territorial integrity, insecurity, cross-border crimes, public health and safety associated with open borders;
- iv. The inter-connectedness between inclusive growth, sustainable development, and implication for peace in a continental and geopolitical challenging landscape and that Africa’s future growth needs to be stronger and more resilient in the long run to reach the targeted level of 7 to 10 percent annually;

- v. Industrialization and productive transformation in regional value chains are deemed as strategic tools to strengthen integration and shall be at the core of national, regional, and continental strategies to widen economic opportunities for all segments of the African population, specifically women and youth;
- vi. The need for widening economic opportunities for all segments of the African population through the formalization of the private sector and the need for framing concrete policy options and actions aimed at meeting Africa's development challenges in an inclusive and sustainable manner in the decades ahead, while noting the role of women and youth as key actors at the heart of the triple nexus with a strong private sector, and building capable state institutions necessary to create synergy between the public and the private sectors, and the establishment of starts-ups for the youth (both urban and rural) to enable Africa have a better playing field globally;
- vii. Education, Science, Technology Innovation and Youth Development as well as communication to be at the forefront of the business of planning education on the continent, ensuring that it is comprehensive and inclusive;
- viii. The strong link between peace and security with the good governance of borders and the attainment of sustainable development of borderlands;
- ix. The necessity of strengthening the synergies between the African Governance Architecture (AGA) and the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) through robust engagement between the AU, the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), through nurturing and proactive support of this synergy, especially in the strategic areas of early warning, conflict prevention, conflict management and peacebuilding; and
- x. Consolidating this nexus compels fostering genuine, strategic, value-driven and smart partnerships in support of inclusive growth and sustainable development which is a multi-faceted process, involving the contributions of diverse local, national, sub-regional, regional and continental stakeholders as well as international partners;

WE, THE PARTICIPANTS, THEREFORE, ADOPT THE TANGIER DECLARATION AND HEREBY:

AFFIRM our unwavering commitment to the full implementation of the outcomes of the Policy Conference whose nine (9) plenary sessions addressed the challenges and opportunities facing the continent and **IN THIS REGARD, AGREE** to continue providing the requisite support to this nexus issues in order to give maximum effect, convinced that these commitments offer our Union a more enhanced and cost-effective means of maintaining peace and security on the continent;

COMMIT to take all necessary measures to promote Africa's leadership and ownership of our peace, security and development agenda by strengthening the continental and regional institutions through the mobilization of necessary resources to enable them discharge their respective mandates as they relate to the promotion of peace, security, good governance and development;

FERVENTLY URGE the African Heads of State and Government, AU Organs and different African stakeholders, to, individually and collectively, scale up the promotion and safeguard of the peace, security and development nexus within their national, regional and continental contexts;

EQUALLY COMMIT to promote a shared vision of holistic and sustainable development in the continent in order to attain regional integration and unity through the harmonization of economic, financial and monetary cooperation instruments, fostering smart cities as hub for citizen-centric

development and innovation for youth as well as the implementation of regional policies for the free movement of people, goods and services, including on the high seas towards ensuring maritime security and safety;

UNDERLINE that a paradigm shift to development-oriented and innovative approaches to ensure the nexus between peace, security humanitarian and developmental programmes is therefore called for;

1. The AU Member States, in coordination with the relevant RECs/RMs and the AU Commission and other Organs, to establish programmes of economic integration for border communities including internally displaced persons, refugees and migrants;
2. The African Development Bank Group, the African Export-Import Bank, International Financial Institutions, along with the UN Agencies, and other development partners to step up efforts to identify financial options that minimize the high-risk premium associated with investments in Africa and leverage their positions and instruments to address the structural causes of conflicts in Africa, reduce growth volatility, and consolidate development outcomes for a more secure and resilient continent;

WELCOME the progress made in the implementation of the AU Assembly decision ([Assembly/AU/Dec. 817\(XXXV\)](#)), pertaining to amongst others, the implementation of the Security-Indexed Investment Bonds; a financial instrument aiming to mobilize scalable and flexible resources to address the root causes of insecurity, enhance the capacity of formal institutions, and rehabilitate communities and infrastructure adversely impacted by insecurity;

FULLY SUPPORT the ongoing efforts of the African Development Bank Group to operationalize the Security-Indexed Investment Bonds (SIIBs); and **COMMIT** to scale-up efforts to accelerate the operationalization of the AfCFTA and plug regional infrastructure gaps in water and energy security, transport, and ICTs;

ENCOURAGE AU Member States, AU Commission and AU Organs to undertake more accurate data collection and inclusive reporting, to ensure increased investment in governance, and to maintain and advance more peaceful, just, and inclusive societies;

ALSO WELCOME the critical role of the borderlands, border communities and agro-pastoralists in promoting regional socio-economic integration and connecting communities for sustainable development, in line with the AfCFTA Agreement, Agenda 2063 and the SDGs; and **STRESS** that agro-pastoralists' resilience, resourcefulness and innovations can only be harnessed for sustainable development if their roles and contributions to the peace, security and development nexus are recognized, curated, harnessed and utilized;

CALL ON the AU and its Member States, the UN system, development partners, private sector, non-governmental organizations and other key stakeholders to continue to support the significance of cross-border cooperation, and in doing so, invest more in border areas in order to fill the infrastructure gaps and increase the presence of the State in the hinterland;

WELCOME the UN Economic Commission for Africa's study on "Realizing the Triple Nexus and Trade: Towards A New Agenda For Africa", which stresses that trade agreements can foster integrated economies and reduce conflicts by creating disincentives among states and their actors due to the disproportionate cost of conflicts;

ENCOURAGE AU Member States and relevant Organs, the UN system, development partners, private sector, non-governmental organizations and other key stakeholders to mainstream efforts towards ensuring transit cargo integrity and an enhanced security across borders, using technology;

IN DUE RECOGNITION of the role of AUDA-NEPAD as the development arm of the Union, **RECOMMEND** the implementation of the Peace, Security and Development Nexus at the country, regional and continental levels to be spearheaded by AUDA-NEPAD, in collaboration with the AU Commission, Organs and relevant partners;

WELCOME the UNDP's preliminary findings on the ongoing primary research on the drivers of unconstitutional changes of government in Africa, **WHILE NOTING WITH SATISFACTION** progress made by UNDP and AU Commission's Political Affairs, Peace and Security Department to establish the Africa Facility for Supporting Inclusive Transition (AFSIT), to prevent and effectively respond to unconstitutional changes of government, and other forms of complex political transitions in line with the Declaration by the 16th Extraordinary Session of AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Malabo, in May 2022;

EXPRESS APRECIATION AND FULL SUPPORT for the Inter-Regional Knowledge Exchange (I-RECKE) on Early Warning and Conflict Prevention, jointly launched by the AU, RECs and RMs in July 2022 in Lusaka, Zambia and **CALL ON** all the stakeholders, as Watchdogs of Democratic Governance, to use this platform designed to improve cross-regional learning on best practices, conflict prevention and resilience building against the propagating factors and triggers of conflicts especially ineffective governance, unconstitutional changes of government, terrorism, violent extremism and climate-induced insecurity;

COMMEND the renewed commitment of the AU to the Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) through its Policy framework review and institutionalization of the annual PCRD Awareness Week in November and **INVITE** all stakeholders to join on the commemoration of the 2nd PCRD Awareness Week from 21 to 28 November 2022, in support of peacebuilding in post-conflict areas;

EMPHASIZE the need for the AU, the UN and their strategic partners to continue mobilizing a united front against climate change, through promoting resilience and adaptation on the continent, within the context of the 2015 Paris Agreement as well as supporting the African initiatives and strategies in order to eradicate the negative impact of climate change on peace and security in Africa;

URGE all the African stakeholders including the AU Commission, AUDA-NEPAD and sponsoring partners to work collaboratively on a common nexus agenda-setting and prioritized programming covering the five (5) regions of the Union through operational triple nexus projects in Member States, particularly in cross-border regions, towards making the nexus a reality on the ground; and to consider the utility of a special purpose-driven AU Development Facility to promote the nexus projects.

RECOMMEND to the AU Commission to institutionalize the Policy platform on the triple nexus, to be co-organized by the AUC Departments of Political Affairs, Peace and Security and Economic Development, Trade, Tourism, Industry and Minerals, with the strong support of partners of the Conference - AfDB, Afreximbank, AUDA-NEPAD, UNDP and UNECA, while other partners should be encouraged to join;

FURTHER RECOMMEND the holding of the Policy Conference in Tangier, Kingdom of Morocco, under the theme "*Tangier Process on the Triple Nexus of Peace, Security and Development*" on a regular basis, subject to availability of resources;

REQUEST the AU PSC to consider convening an annual Council session on this triple nexus as part of its efforts in concretely addressing the structural drivers of conflicts and to generate the necessary conditions conducive for political governance and socio-economic development, in line with Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda on SDGs; and **URGE** the PSC to recommend this Declaration to the next AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government for due consideration, given its landmark outcome; and

EXPRESS profound gratitude to the Government and People of the Kingdom of Morocco for the generous hospitality and the excellent facilities provided for the convening of the inaugural Tangier Policy Conference, **WHILE APPRECIATING** the organizers, partners and participants, for the successful outcome of the Conference.

African Union Commission (AUC)

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PSC Outcomes

Communiqués

2023-01-27

Communiqué of the 1134th Meeting of the Peace and Security Council, Held on 27 January 2023, on the Consideration of the Tangier Declaration.

Peace and Security Council

African Union Commission

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