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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
1138TH MEETING

8 FEBRUARY 2023
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/CN.1138 (2023)

CONCEPT NOTE

**BRIEFING BY COMMITTEE OF INTELLIGENCE & SECURITY SERVICE OF AFRICA
CISSA TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION ON THE PEACE AND
SECURITY OUTLOOK ON THE CONTINENT FOR THE YEAR 2023**

CONCEPT NOTE BRIEFING BY CISSA TO THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL OF THE AFRICAN UNION ON THE PEACE AND SECURITY OUTLOOK ON THE CONTINENT FOR THE YEAR 2023

I. BACKGROUND

1. At its 360th meeting held on 22 March 2013, the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), through Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.(CCCLX)], adopted a decision to fully operationalise all tools on preventive diplomacy to consolidate and preserve peace and security in the Continent of Africa. This decision is in accordance with the mandate and objectives of the PSC enshrined in the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union. As a standing decision-making organ for preventing, managing and resolving conflict, the PSC is a collective security and early warning arrangement that anticipates and prevents conflicts and facilitates timely and efficient responses to conflicts and crises in Africa.

2. Through the referenced decision adopted in 2013, the PSC specifically committed to receiving periodic reviews of the state of peace and security on the Continent at least every six months using horizon scanning approaches based on updates provided by the continental early warning system (CEWS), and relevant AU institutions, such as the Panel of the Wise, African and international think tanks, civil society organisation and other stakeholders. Furthermore, the PSC agreed to convene bi-annual meetings on preventive diplomacy and conflict prevention within its mandate and processes. Importantly, this decision has been upheld in subsequent Communiqués of the PSC, which has requested periodic briefings by the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA) and other AU institutions such as the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) and African Union Mechanism for Police Cooperation (AFRIPOL).

3. Within this context, the PSC has scheduled a meeting to receive a briefing from CISSA on the 'peace and security outlook for the year 2023'. As a primary intelligence provider to AU's policy organs, CISSA is well-positioned to apprise the Council on existing and emerging threats to peace and security. This will undoubtedly assist the PSC in adopting strategies for timely responses and effective deployment of preventive diplomacy efforts to deepen and preserve stability on the Continent.

II. OBJECTIVE

4. Bearing in mind the ever-evolving peace and security challenges on the Continent, the PSC session seeks to receive timely intelligence on the trends in the threats to peace on the Continent. It is envisaged that CISSA will provide a holistic analysis of these threats and detailed forecasts, which will guide PSC responses.

III. EXPECTED OUTCOME

5. From the briefing and deliberations by the Council, it is expected that there will be an enhanced understanding of the peace and security landscape on the Continent, emerging trends and areas which require immediate responses to stem the tide of insecurity. The session will be yet another platform for reflections on the best approaches needed to address threats to peace and security on the Continent and advance durable peace and stability.

IV. PARTICIPANTS AND FORMAT

6. The PSC session will be held at the Ambassadorial level. H.E. Ambassador Edward Xoliswa Makaya, Permanent Representative of the Republic of South Africa and the Chairperson of the PSC for February 2023, will preside over the meeting and give opening remarks. It is envisaged that H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, will make a statement. H.E. Ambassador Zainab Ali Kotoko, the Executive Secretary of CISSA, will provide the main presentation. Following the presentation by CISSA, the PSC members will deliberate on appropriate interventions to promote peace and security in the Continent.

V. TIME AND DATE

7. The AU PSC meeting will be held virtually, using the zoom platform, on Wednesday, 08 February 2023, starting at 10h00 a.m., Addis Ababa local time. English and French interpretation will be provided.

2023-02-08

Communiqué of the 1138th Meeting of the Peace and Security Council, Held on 8 February 2023, on the Briefing by the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA) on Peace and Security Outlook on the Continent for the Year 2023.

Peace and Security Council

African Union Commission

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