



**STATEMENT ON BEHALF OF  
THE AFRICAN UNION PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL (AUPSC)**

**BY**

**AMBASSADOR JAINABA JAGNE  
PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE GAMBIA TO THE  
AU AND CHAIRPERSON OF THE PSC FOR THE MONTH OF APRIL 2024**

**AT THE HIGH-LEVEL AFRICAN COUNTER-TERRORISM MEETING**

**ABUJA, NIGERIA, 22 – 23 APRIL 2024**

Thank you Chairperson, Excellency Dr. Omar Alieu Touray, President of the Commission for the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS).

Good afternoon all. I am Jainaba Jagne, Permanent Representative of The Gambia to the African Union. I have the honor to deliver this statement on behalf of the African Union Peace and Security Council (AU PSC) as the Chairperson of the Peace and Security Council for the month of April 2024.

As this is the first time that the Peace Security Council is taking the floor, allow me to express our sincere gratitude to the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria for organizing this landmark meeting on terrorism and violent extremism. I would also like to thank the members of the panel for sharing their excellent and insightful perspectives on the evolving phenomenon of terrorism in Africa.

On behalf of the Peace and Security Council (PSC), let me take this opportunity to pay our respects to the thousands of victims affected by terrorism and violent extremism. As we express our solidarity with these victims, let me reaffirm our collective resolve to stamp out this menace across the continent.

The African Union Peace and Security Council condemns all acts of terrorism and is committed to fighting for, and supporting, all efforts aimed at defeating terrorists and their networks wherever they are across Africa.

We are deeply concerned about the latest data presented by the African Union's Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT), which highlights that civilians continue to bear the brunt of the numerous terrorism incidents on the continent.

With terrorism being an undeniable reality across all five regions of Africa, it is critical that we adopt strategic responses to address the escalating threat of terrorism in places such as the Horn of Africa, the Sahel, and the Great Lakes region, as well as, in the Cabo Delgado area. In view of this ugly reality, we believe it is imperative to accelerate the full implementation of the Malabo Declaration on Terrorism.

The Peace and Security Council's commitment to the consolidation of peace and security across Africa is unwavering. We will continue to call for the development of more effective counter-terrorism operations, mechanisms and strategies. As a Council, we will continue to enhance our support to the African Union Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS) fighting against Al Shabab, and other missions such as the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) fighting against Boko Haram, and the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Mission in Mozambique (SAMIM) fighting against terrorists in Cabo Delgado.

We reiterate our commitment to working with regional and international partners, notably the United Nations, the European Union, and the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), to find common solutions. We believe solutions must extend beyond military efforts and be holistic to address the threat of terrorism in Africa.

We strongly believe that addressing the structural drivers of terrorism, often rooted in poverty, inequality, marginalization and political instability, will not only prevent the spread of terrorism but also promote social and economic development, and strengthen governance and the rule of law.

In closing, let me reiterate the Peace and Security Council's call on all stakeholders to use the vast array of tools and resources at their disposal and redouble efforts to advance peace and security in Africa by fighting terrorism to build a safer, more prosperous continent for all.

I thank you Chair.

**African Union Commission (AUC)**

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# High-Level African Counter-Terrorism Meeting held from 22 - 23 April 2024, Abuja, Nigeria.

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