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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL  
1188<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

29 NOVEMBER 2023  
ADDIS-ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.1188 (2023)

COMMUNIQUÉ

## COMMUNIQUÉ

**Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 1188<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29 November 2023, on the Briefing on the Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development activities in Africa (PCRD).**

### The Peace and Security Council,

**Noting** the opening remarks by H.E. Ambassador Abdi Mahamoud Eybe, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Djibouti to the African Union and the Chairperson of the PSC for November 2023; and the remarks by H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security; **also noting** the Statements by H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Gad, the Permanent representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt; as well as by the representatives of the African Union Development Agency-New Partnership for Africa's Development (AUDA-NEPAD); the African Development Bank (AfDB); and the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU);

**Reaffirming** its commitment to promote the effective implementation of post-conflict reconstruction and development, as well as peacebuilding activities to consolidate peace and prevent the resurgence of violence, in line with Article 3 (c) of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union;

**Recalling** its previous decisions and pronouncements on PCRD in Africa, particularly, Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1122 (2022)] adopted at its 1122<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 28 November 2022; as well as the 2006 AU Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Policy Framework; and

### Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace, and Security Council:

1. **Welcomes** the efforts being deployed by the AU Commission in the implementation of the AU Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development Policy;
2. **Welcomes** the commemoration of the third AU PCRD **Awareness Week** and **urges** the participation of all stakeholders in raising public awareness and in mobilizing support for Member States undergoing PCRD processes;
3. **Also welcomes** the extensive consultations with all critical stakeholders during the review of the AU PCRD Policy, and **underlines the need** for the Commission to expedite the process and to urgently submit the Draft for consideration by Council and, subsequently, by the Permanent Representatives Committee, the Executive Council and, eventually, by the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government during the Ordinary session to be held in February 2024;
4. **Further welcomes** the progress achieved thus far, towards the full operationalization of the AU Centre for PCRD, including the recruitment of the Executive Secretary and the Human Resources Officer and, in this regard, **requests** the AU Commission to expedite the recruitment process for the remaining staff of the Centre, as well as to redouble resource mobilization efforts to ensure that the Centre discharges its mandate more effectively, bearing in mind the fact that the Centre is still at its nascent stage;
5. **Expresses appreciation** to H.E. Abdelfattah El Sissi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and AU Champion on PCRD for his efforts and to the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt for

graciously hosting the AU PCRD Centre, as well as for all the continued support towards ensuring effective functioning of the Centre;

6. **Underscores the importance** of ensuring that any PCRD support is based on the technical needs of the beneficiary Member States and, in this respect, **also underscores** the importance of promoting inclusivity, local community and national ownership, as well as leadership of all PCRD efforts with a view to ensuring ownership and sustainability of efforts and, to this end, **emphasizes the need** for institutional reforms and capacity building, as well as the need for fostering working synergies among all critical stakeholders;

7. **Welcomes and endorses** the establishment of the Working Group on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, and, in particular, the inclusion of the African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM), as a framework for enhanced coordination of efforts, to be co-chaired by the AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security and the Chief Executive Officer of the AUDA-NEPAD;

8. **Commends** the AU Commission for the continued technical support to Member States emerging from violent conflicts, and **directs** the deployment of AU Multidimensional Technical Support Teams informed by technical needs of the Member States and, in this regard, **underscores the need** for redoubling efforts in mobilizing the required resources;

9. **Encourages** the reinforcement of the AU Peacebuilding Architecture through enhanced collaboration between the AU Commission and the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs) and to this end, **encourages** the RECs/RMs to establish a network of PCRD Focal Points through the I-RECKE platform;

10. **Also encourages** and support the initiatives by Member States seeking to enhance capacity building of other Member States and Civil Society Organizations through collaborative efforts and coordinated initiatives with the AU Commission, encompassing training programmes, voluntary financial contributions, Policy Conferences, and the exchange of expertise;

11. **Further encourages** the AUC to ensure the provision of mental health and psycho-social support to victims of violent conflicts, particularly, women and girls who are often affected disproportionately, as well as to the youth and children and, in this regard looks forward to the expedited finalization of an AU Policy on Mental Health and Psycho-Social Support to victims of violent conflicts;

12. **Emphasizes** the need to ensure meaningful participation of women and youth in all PCRD efforts and **requests** the AU commission to explore innovative approaches that include the use of new technologies, artificial intelligence, digital economy, and E-platforms in exploiting the nexus between peace, security, governance and development;

13. **Expresses concern** over growing peacebuilding funding gaps; **commends** the African private sector, the development partners, including the international financial institutions for their continued support towards the implementation of PCRD efforts in Africa and, in this context, **calls** for sufficient financial and technical support; and the need for the UN to ensure predictable, adequate and sustainable financing for PCRD efforts in Africa, including through the UN Peace building Fund;

14. **Urges** the Commission to advocate for a global, integrated, and multidimensional approach based on the nexus between peace, security, and development and that seeks to build and sustain

peace, foster a culture of peace as endorsed by the AU recognized processes which include the Tangier Conference, the Aswan Forum, and the Biennale of Luanda.

15. **Also appeals** to the operationalization of the PSC Sub-Committee on PCRD and the revitalization of the African Solidarity Initiative to mobilize African financial, material, technical and in-kind support in favour of Member States in post-conflict phase;

16. **Decides** to remain actively seized on the matter.