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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
950TH MEETING
29 SEPTEMBER 2020
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.(CML)

COMMUNIQUÉ

COMMUNIQUE

Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 950th meeting held on 30 September 2020 on the consideration of the revised Draft Strategic Concept Note on Planning Guidance for the Deployment of 3000 troops,

The Peace and Security Council,

Recalling the decision [Assembly/AU/Dec.792(XXXIII)] on the situation in Libya and Sahel, adopted by the 33rd Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held from 9 to 10 February 2020, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, relating in particular to the possible deployment, within the relevant provisions of the PSC Protocol related to the African Standby Force (ASF), of a Force composed of the Joint Multinational Task Force (JMTF) and 3000 troops for six (6) months, in order to further degrade terrorist groups in the Sahel,

Also recalling to the PSC communique [PSC/PR/COMM.(CMXXXIX)], adopted at its 939th meeting, held on 30 July 2020, in which, among others, took note of the Revised Strategic Concept Note on Planning Guidance for the Deployment of 3000 Troops to the Sahel; and requested the AU Commission to ensure due consultations by the relevant decision-making bodies of the G5 Sahel and ECOWAS, in order to incorporate contributions from their respective Member States; and also requested the Commission to revise Strategic Concept Note based on the guidance provided by the Council and submit it to Council for consideration;

Noting the consultations undertaken by the AU Commission with the relevant stakeholders for the implementation of the Assembly's decision [Assembly/AU/Dec.792(XXXIII)] and the subsequent decisions of the Peace and Security Council;

Recalling Articles 6 and 7 of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and its previous communiqués and press statements on the activities of the G5 Sahel Joint Force, in particular communique [PSC/PR/1/COMM.(CMXX)], adopted at its 920th meeting, held on 21 April 2020 and communique [PSC/PR/COMM.(CMXXXIX)], adopted at its 939th meeting, held on 30 July 2020.

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

1. **Reiterates its support to** the G5 Sahel Member States for their efforts in degrading the fighting capacity of the terrorist, armed and criminal groups operating in the Sahel, despite the challenges facing the force, including the impact of COVID-19 pandemic in the continent;
2. **Endorses** the Revised Strategic Concept Note on Planning Guidance for the Deployment of 3000 Troops to the Sahel; **requests** the Commission to ensure operationalization of the Technical Committee provided for in the Revised Concept Note;

3. **Requests** the AU Commission together with the G5 Sahel and the ECOWAS to develop the Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for the deployment of the 3000 troops and submit it to the Council for consideration;
4. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.