

AFRICAN UNION

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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL 645TH MEETING

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA 22 DECEMBER 2016

PSC/PR/COMM.(DCXLV)

COMMUNIQUE

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 645th meeting held on 22 December 2016, adopted the following decision on the mandate of the AU High-Level Implementation Panel on Sudan and South Sudan (AUHIP):

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the briefing provided by the Commission on the activities of the AU High- Level Implementation Panel on Sudan and South Sudan (AUHIP);
2. **Recalls** its earlier communiques and press statements on the activities of the AUHIP, including communique PSC/PR/COMM.(DLXII) adopted at its 562nd meeting held on 10 December 2015, which extended the mandate of the AUHIP until 31 December 2016;
3. **Commends** the Chairperson of the AUHIP, PresidentThabo Mbeki, and its members, Presidents Abdulsalami Abubakar and Pierre Buyoya, as well as the support team, fortheir patient and unwavering engagement towards the full implementation of the mandate of the Panel in Sudan and South Sudan, as well as the Horn of Africa, dating back to the establishment of the AU Panel on Darfur (AUPD) in July 2008 [PSC/MIN/COMM(CXLII)], as well as in line with the communique [PSC/AHG/COMM/2.(CCCXCVII)] of its 397th meeting, held on 23 September 2013, at the level of the Heads of State and Government;
4. **Decides** to extend the mandate of the AUHIP for another period of twelve (12) months, starting from 1 January 2017;
5. **Requests** the AUHIP to present to Council a comprehensive report on its activities, as soon as possible;
6. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.