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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL 938<sup>TM</sup> MEETING**

**ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA 29 JULY 2020**

**PSC/PR/COMM.(CMXXXVIII)**

COMMUNIQUE

Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 938<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 29 July 2020, on the situation in Mali, following the Declaration of Economic community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) Heads of State and Government on the Socio-Political crisis in Mali adopted on 27 July 2020:

**Taking note** of the Extraordinary Summit of the Heads of States and Government of ECOWAS convened by videoconference on 27 July 2020 on the socio-political crisis in Mali;

**Recalling** its previous communiqués and press statements on the situation in Mali and in the Sahel region, in particular communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM(CCCXV)] adopted at its 315<sup>th</sup> meeting, on 23 March 2012 and communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.(CMXXXIV)] adopted at its 934<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 26 June 2020;

**Reaffirms** the relevant AU instruments, in particular the provisions of the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, the Protocol Relating to the establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, as well as the ECOWAS Supplementary Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance, which reject any unconstitutional change of government, including seizure of power by force;

**Further reaffirming** the unwavering AU respect for the sovereignty, unity and the territorial integrity of Mali, as well as AU's solidarity with People and Government of Mali;

**Mindful** of the need for Malian stakeholders to uphold their commitment towards the full implementation of the Peace and Reconciliation Agreement in Mali, emanating from Algiers process, as a unique and balanced framework for Malians to resolve their differences, on the basis of the principles of transparency and inclusivity;

**Reaffirming** the need for all Malian stakeholders to work together towards addressing the root causes of the crisis in their country, in particular the central issues relating to governance, security and development.

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

1. **Commends** ECOWAS for its continued leadership and engagement in efforts towards finding a lasting solution to the socio-political crisis in Mali, currently facing multifaceted challenges that have the potential to undermine peace, security and development efforts in the country; in this regard, **welcomes** the initiatives by ECOWAS, including the deployment of a Special Envoy and Mediator, H.E. President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, former President of Nigeria, to lead the mediation process, a visit of a Delegation of Heads of State and Government to Bamako, led by H.E. Mahamadou Issoufou, President of Niger and Chairperson of the ECOWAS Authority, and comprising the Presidents of Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Nigeria and Senegal;
2. **Endorses** the Declaration of ECOWAS Heads of State and Government on the Socio- Political crisis in Mali, adopted on 27 July 2020, with a view to resolving the crisis in Mali, in

line with Article 16 of the PSC Protocol; **calls on** the United Nations Security Council to endorse the Decisions contained in this Declaration, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the UN Charter;

3. **Requests** the Chairperson of the Commission to consult the ECOWAS with a view to finding a lasting solution to the socio-political situation in Mali, based on dialogue, within the framework of implementation of the Peace and reconciliation Agreement in Mali, emanating from the Algiers process;

4. **Calls on** all Malian stakeholders to uphold the supreme interest of their country above any other consideration and therefore, take full responsibility of the Declaration by the ECOWAS Authority; **further calls on** all Malian parties to expedite the implementation of the Peace and Reconciliation Agreement in Mali, as a priority towards preserving the political and security achievements made thus far;

5. **Expresses concern** at the threat posed by the current tensions to the constitutional order in the Republic of Mali, which potentially constitutes a serious setback for the country and the region as a whole, in particular given the current spread of terrorism, violent extremism and inter-communal tensions in the Sahel that continue to hinder the necessary efforts towards improving governance and living conditions of the people;

6. **Appeals** to all Malian citizens to remain calm and refrain from any actions or public declarations that could further exacerbate the situation in the country and create the necessary conditions for peaceful and inclusive dialogue and mediation efforts currently underway; in this regard, **encourages** the Malian stakeholders to continue with the dialogue and negotiation processes to promote a peaceful and durable solution to the ongoing crisis in the country;

7. **Reiterates** AU's continued support to the efforts of the ECOWAS in Mali and **calls on** the international community, in particular the United Nations, to continue to providing support to Mali, in efforts aimed at addressing the root causes of the crisis in this country, particularly issues related to governance, security and development;

8. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.