

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

P. O. Box 3243

Telephone: 5517 700

Fax: 5517844

Website: www.au.int

**16th EXTRAORDINARY SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY
OF THE AFRICAN UNION ON TERRORISM AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES OF
GOVERNMENT IN AFRICA**

28 MAY 2022

MALABO, REPUBLIC OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.(XVI)

DECISION

**DECISION ON TERRORISM AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES OF GOVERNMENT
IN AFRICA**

The Assembly,

- 1- **TAKES NOTE** of the Reports of the Chairperson of the Commission on Terrorism and Violent Extremism; and Unconstitutional Changes of Government in Africa; the Report of the African Union (AU) Champion of the Fight Against Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Africa, H.E. Abdelmadjid Tebboune, President of the People's Democratic Republic of Algeria; the Report of the Chairperson of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the AU for May 2022, H.E. Paul Biya, President of the Republic of Cameroon; and the Report of the Chairperson of the African Peer Review Mechanism Forum of Heads of State and Government, H.E. Julius Maada Bio, President of the Republic of Sierra Leone;
- 2- **COMMENDS** the PSC for its efforts in preventing and countering terrorism and violent extremism; and unconstitutional changes of government, as well as supporting Member States in political transition and post-conflict situations;
- 3- **NOTES WITH DEEP CONCERN** the persistent threat of terrorism and violent extremism, and the proliferation of foreign terrorist fighters and armed groups in the five regions of the Continent, as well as the resurgence of unconstitutional changes of government in Africa;
- 4- **REFERS** to the Declaration adopted by the 16th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government in Africa, held on 28 May 2022 in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea;
- 5- **REITERATES** its commitment to redouble efforts to address governance deficits on the Continent in line with the AU normative frameworks and legal instruments;
- 6- **REQUESTS** the Commission to develop modalities for the operations of the AU Ministerial Committee on Counter Terrorism for due consideration by Executive Council in June/July 2022, **WHILE WELCOMING** the offer of the Republic of Togo to host the inaugural meeting of the Committee, once it is officially constituted;
- 7- **DIRECTS** the Commission to urgently operationalize the AU Special Fund for Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and Violent Extremism, in line with Assembly Decision [Assembly/AU/Dec.614(XXVII)] of July 2016 on the establishment of the AU Special Fund;
- 8- **REQUESTS** the Commission to undertake an in-depth research on the sources of financing, foreign interests and local collaborators of terrorist and extremist groups in Africa, and report to the next ordinary session of the Assembly in February 2023;
- 9- **CALLS ON** the PSC to immediately operationalize its Sub-Committee on Counter Terrorism in accordance with Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.(CCXLIX)] of November 2010;
- 10- **REQUESTS** the Commission, working with RECs/RMs, to expedite the finalization of the AU Guidelines for the Amendment of National Constitutions, in line with existing frameworks on constitutionalism and rule of law, and report to the ordinary session of the Executive Council in January/February, 2023;

- 11- **FURTHER REQUESTS** the PSC to establish a Sub-Committee on unconstitutional changes of government in line with Article 8(5) of the PSC Protocol, to monitor trends and report annually to the Assembly of Heads of State and Government;
- 12- **URGES** the PSC to reactivate its Sub-Committee on Sanctions towards coordinated oversight on the impact of sanctions, pursuant to the Lomé Declaration;
- 13- **REQUESTS** the Commission to continue providing technical support to Member States towards building sustainable democratic governance, justice, peace and development in the Continent, through the implementation of AU Transitional Justice Policy;
- 14- **DIRECTS** the Commission to review the implementation of the African Governance Architecture (AGA) and the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) towards robust response to the persistent and emerging challenges in the Continent;
- 15- **DELEGATES** to the Executive Council at its 41st Ordinary Session during the Mid-Year Coordination Meeting in June/July 2022, after the due consideration by the PSC, upon recommendations of the Board of Trustees of the Peace Fund, to promptly determine the appropriate level of funds for use from within the Crisis Reserve Facility (CRF) of the AU Peace Fund, to enable the Union to respond rapidly and effectively to emerging conflicts on the African continent, especially those arising from terrorism;
- 16- **RECALLS** Assembly Decision, [AU/Dec.818(XXXV)] which mandated the Third Africa Governance Report to focus on the nexus between Governance and the 4th Industrial Revolution (4IR); however, given the spate of unconstitutional changes of government on the Continent, **DIRECTS** the Commission and African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM) to remodel the Third Africa Governance Report-2023 to reflect issues related to unconstitutional changes of government;
- 17- **FURTHERMORE, NOTES WITH CONCERN** the latest developments on the common border between the Democratic Republic of Congo and the Republic of Rwanda, and in the framework of the principle of complementarity and subsidiarity, **MANDATES** the Chairman of the International Conference on the Great Lakes Region (ICGLR), H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola, to maintain contacts with the concerned parties and to report on his diplomatic efforts for an immediate silencing of guns in the region and the expeditious re-establishment of the dialogue mechanisms between the two Member States.

African Union Commission (AUC)

PAPS Digital Repository

<https://papsrepository.africa-union.org/>

Annual Reports, Decisions and Declarations

Assembly Decisions

2022-05-28

Decision and Declaration on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government in Africa Adopted During the 16th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union held on 28 May 2022, Malabo, Equatorial Guinea.

Assembly of the Union

African Union Commission

<https://papsrepository.africa-union.org/handle/123456789/1664>

Downloaded from PAPS Digital Repository, Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS)