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### PRESS RELEASE

#### **AU Peace and Security Council Undertakes a Three-Day Field Mission to the Republic of South Sudan**

**Juba, 24 March 2021:** The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), under the Chairmanship of the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya, Ambassador Jean Njeri Kamau, arrived in Juba, South Sudan, today, on a three-day field mission from 24 to 26 March 2021.

The field mission, which is the fifth to be undertaken by the PSC since October 2016, comes a year after the formation of the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity in February 2020. The Mission is taking place in line with the Council's mandate to promote and enhance peace and security in the Continent particularly as it relates to the implementation of its various decisions and those of the AU Assembly on the situation in South Sudan.

Essentially, the main objectives of the field mission, are to gather first-hand information regarding the political, security, economic and humanitarian situation in the country, as well as to assess the state of progress in the implementation of the R-ARCSS, challenges being faced. This information will be critical in informing the next steps to be taken by the AU in order to facilitate a successful transition in the country. Furthermore, the field mission is also being undertaken as a reaffirmation of the AU solidarity with the Government and people of South Sudan. It is also a reaffirmation of the unwavering commitment of the continued support to the ongoing transition in South Sudan.

To achieve the objectives of the field mission, the Delegation of the PSC will hold consultations with representatives of the Government of South Sudan and all other relevant stakeholders, that include political parties, civil society, African Diplomatic Community, representatives of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), the Reconstituted Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Commission (R-JMEC), the United Nation (UN), the European Union (EU) and other development partners of South Sudan. The Delegation will also visit Rajaf Training Center.