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PRESS RELEASE

AU Peace and Security Council Undertakes a Four-Day Field Mission to the Central African Republic

Bangui, 28 June 2021: The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), under the Chairmanship of the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Burundi to the AU, Ambassador Joel Nkurabagaya, arrived in Bangui, Central African Republic (CAR), on a four-day field mission from 28 June to 1 July 2021. The delegation is comprising Permanent Representatives of the following PSC Member States, namely: Burundi, Cameroon, Egypt, Kenya, Mozambique, Senegal and the Deputy Permanent Representative of Ethiopia, as well as the representatives of Algeria, Chad, Djibouti, Ghana, Lesotho, Malawi and Nigeria.

The Field Mission is taking place in line with the Council's mandate to promote and enhance peace, security and stability in the Continent, in particular, as it relates to the implementation of the Political Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation (PAPR-CAR) signed between the Government of CAR and 14 arms groups on 6 February 2019, in which the AU is a Guarantor, as well as to follow up on the implementation of PSC and AU Assembly decisions on the situation in the CAR.

The Field Mission is also taking place following the holding of the presidential and legislative elections in the CAR, which has contributed to the promotion of relative institutional stability, safeguard constitutional order, and deepening of democracy; the installation of the new National Assembly; the appointment of a new Prime Minister and formation of a new Government on 23 June 2021.

During its mission, the Council will gather first-hand information on the prevailing political, security, economic, social and humanitarian situation on the ground, including the status of progress in the implementation of the Political Agreement. The information gathered during the field mission will be instrumental in shaping the decisions of Council regarding the required next steps in supporting the Government and people of CAR in its efforts to find lasting solutions to the plethora of challenges facing their country. The field mission will also be undertaken as an expression of the AU solidarity with the Government and the people of CAR, as well as to reaffirm the unwavering commitment of the AU to support CAR.

The Delegation will hold consultations with a number of stakeholders, among others, the high officials of the Government, political parties, religious leaders, civil society organizations, armed groups that are party to the APPR-RCA, African Diplomatic Community, representatives of the G5+ members (United Nations, European Union, African Union, Economic Community of Central African States,

World Bank, France, United States of America, Russian Federation, China). The Delegation will also visit the African Union Military Observer Mission in the Central African Republic (MOUACA).