



STATEMENT BY H.E. BANKOLE ADEOYE
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SECURITY
ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE THIRD AFRICA DAY
OF PEACE AND RECONCILIATION
2025

Fellow Africans,

On this Africa Day for Peace and Reconciliation, I have the honor to join the AU Champion for Peace and Reconciliation, H.E. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola; the Chairperson of the Commission, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, and the AU Peace and Security Council in reflecting on the enduring commitment of the African Union, to the principles of peace, unity, and prosperity. With current disturbing conflict situations, this day is a solemn reminder of the importance of reconciliation and the tireless efforts required to heal the wounds of the past, overcome sharp divisions, promote justice, and build a future where every African can live in peace, security and stability.

Accordingly, the African Union remains unwavering in its commitment to the vision of Agenda 2063, which calls for a peaceful, integrated, and prosperous Africa driven by its citizens. The AU's work on peacemaking and peacebuilding continues to be far-reaching, encompassing not only the objective of silencing the guns on the continent but also the promotion of justice, protection of human rights, and cultivation of inclusive governance systems.

In this connection, I wish to recognize the continued efforts by the AU Special Envoys, the Panel of the Wise and its subsidiary mechanisms (PanWise,

FemWise-Africa and the WiseYouth Network), and the Special Representatives of the Chairperson of the Commission, who remain committed to address various challenges on the continent, through African-led and owned mediation, dialogue, reconciliation and preventive diplomacy processes. To this end, the lessons that we have learned from past locally-owned reconciliation efforts in African countries such as South Africa, The Gambia, Rwanda, and Burundi, provide us examples of practical good practices that can enhance our peace efforts. We must therefore redouble our commitment to resolve conflicts peacefully, promote a culture of peace and tolerance, ensure that justice prevails, and create conditions where all Africans can thrive. We can only build a continent free from conflict and division by embracing the principles of forgiveness, respect, and dialogue.

As we mark and celebrate this third annual Africa Day for Peace and Reconciliation, I urge us to reflect on the achievements we have made in our peacemaking and peacebuilding efforts over the years. More critically, we must look ahead and see how we can effectively utilize our resources to meet the challenges before us and attain the aspirations of our people for a more peaceful and prosperous Africa.
Happy Africa Day for Peace and Reconciliation!