



## **SIXTH JOINT CONSULTATIVE MEETING OF THE AU PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL (AU PSC) AND THE EU POLITICAL AND SECURITY COMMITTEE (EU PSC)**

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**Addis Ababa, 11 June 2013**

### **A. Background**

The two continental bodies are at the heart of the decision-making processes of their respective organizations in the area of peace and security. Since 2008 the Political and Security Committee of the European Union (EUPSC) and the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AUPSC) have held Annual Joint Consultative Meetings in the context of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. The last meeting took place in Brussels on 29 May 2012 and was co-chaired by Ambassador Olof Skoog, Permanent Chair of the EUPSC, and Ambassador Jacques-Alfred Ndoumbe Eboule of Cameroon, Chairperson of the AUPSC for the month of May 2012.

### **B. Objective**

This meeting is taking place during the OAU/AU 50th anniversary year, at a time marked by encouraging developments on the African continent including high economic growth and a steady reduction in conflict. Nevertheless, there remain several complex political, security and humanitarian crisis situations in West Africa, the Great Lakes region and the East/Horn of Africa. The EU PSC and the AU PSC consultation aims to enhance coordination on issues of common interest and to highlight the need for continued cooperation to achieve common goals of peace and security, as well as promoting democratic governance, respect for human rights and the rule of law.

### **C. Agenda items**

The discussion will focus on Guinea Bissau, Mali/Sahel, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan, Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic and the campaign against the Lord's Resistance Army. Also on the agenda is enhancement of the cooperation between the two PSCs.

### **D. Media and Communication**

Ambassador Olof Skoog, Permanent Chair of the EUPSC, current AUPSC Chair Ambassador Rachid Benlounes of Algeria and Ambassador Ramtane Lamamra, African Union Commissioner for Peace and Security will be available to brief the media about the objectives and outcome of the PSC to PSC meeting at 1:30 PM.

### **E. Participants**

The annual PSC to PSC meeting brings together the 15 African ambassadors from the Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU-PSC) and their 27 EU counterparts of the Political and Security Committee (EUPSC).