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**Constitutive Meeting to Operationalize the Peace and Security Cluster Committee of  
the AU ECOSOCC**

**13<sup>th</sup> – 14<sup>th</sup> October 2015, Nairobi Kenya**

In line with the decisions of the 1<sup>st</sup> ordinary session of the ECOSOCC Standing Committee held in Khartoum, Sudan from May 26 – 29, 2015 and the Extra-Ordinary session of the Standing Committee held in Nairobi from August 10 – 14, 2015 which calls on the operationalization of cluster committees, the chairperson of the Peace and Security cluster organized a meeting in Nairobi from 13 – 14 October 2015 to brainstorm on and consider the different elements related to the functions of the Peace and Security cluster and approve work plans and implementation strategies for the cluster as a prerequisite for its functioning.

The Peace and Security Cluster has as a mandate of: Conflict anticipation; prevention; management and resolution; post-conflict reconstruction and peace building; prevention and combating of terrorism; use of child soldiers; drug trafficking; illicit proliferation of small arms and light weapons and security reforms etc. The cluster intends to provide advisory opinion to the African Union by engaging both the members of the 2<sup>nd</sup> ECOSOCC General Assembly and the wider civil society organizations working on issues of peace and security. The meeting considered important decisions and recommendations pertaining to the framework of the operationalization and functioning of the cluster. The report is structured into three main sections; (I) Opening, (II) Presentations (III) Decisions and Recommendations.

**SECTION I: Opening Session**

Mr. Ngalim Eugene Nyuydine, Chairperson of the Peace and the Security Cluster welcomed the participants and introduced the Peace and Security Cluster and its objectives, and the expectations from the participants of the meeting.

Mr. Ngalim's welcome speech was followed by remarks by Dr. Jinmi Adisa, Director of CIDO who recalled how ECOSOCC brings about the "people centred" aspect of the AU and where its members are individuals elected from the civil society. He emphasized the importance of the Peace and Security Cluster in ECOSOCC and the value its Operationalization will offer to the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa. Finally he added that the Livingstone Formula provides the framework for the full involvement of ECOSOCC.

Mr. Joseph Chilengi, ECOSOCC Presiding Officer then proceeded with his opening address through which he extended his condolences to victims of terrorist attacks in Cameroon, Chad, Nigeria and Somalia. He emphasized the importance of the operationalization of the clusters within ECOSOCC and especially the Peace and Security Cluster. The clusters are key operational mechanism of ECOSOCC that facilitate the work of ECOSOCC in complementing the work of the African Union. He expects that the operationalization of clusters will provide an added value to the work of the Union. He urged participants to discuss and put in place a framework for an effective functioning of the Peace and Security Cluster. He further reiterated that all advisory opinions issued by any of the ECOSOCC clusters will always feed into the ECOSOCC report that is submitted to the Executive Council.

## **SECTION II: Presentations**

- a) **Presentation of the AU Constitutive Act** by Mr. Jalel Chelba, Head of Civil Society, CIDO

In his presentation Mr. Chelba highlighted the Constitutive Act of the AU and its organs and stressed on Article 5 that provides for the organs that form the Union with ECOSOCC as the advisory organ of the Union.

- b) **Presentation on the role of ECOSOCC** by Dr. Jinmi Adisa – Director CIDO

In his presentation Dr. Adisa traced the historical context of the creation of ECOSOCC and compared it to the Pan African Parliament (PAP) where PAP is the parliament for Parliamentarians, ECOSOCC is the parliament for the civil society in

the Union. ECOSOCC is thus expected to have a structured opinion, provide advice on policies and programmes, and accordingly issue advisory opinions.

- c) **The Livingstone Formula as a gate way to Civil Society involvement in peace and Security Process of AU** by Mr. Ngalim Eugene Nyuydine, Chairperson- Peace and Security Cluster.

Mr. Ngalim provided Legal Framework especially Article 20 of the PSC Protocol, Background that is the basis of the civil society in the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa, Provisions of the Formula, Procedure for Engagement, Criteria for Engagement, Mechanism for Interaction and Areas for Contribution by CSOs.

- d) **Strategy on rolling back terrorism:** By Colonel Christian Emmanuel MOUAYA POUYI, Specialist on Alert, Prevention, Analysis, Studies and Publications,

Colonel Mouaya provided the background of the legal framework for the prevention and combating of terrorism in Africa that dates back to the 1992 AU summit held in Dakar Senegal. The African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT) came into existence in 2004. The centre is aimed at: (1) Collecting, centralizing and analysing information on terrorism in Africa, (2) Developing training programmes for capacity building, (3) Issuing monthly, midterm and annual reports on the state of terrorism in Africa and also publishing daily briefs on terrorism, (4) Assist member states in training and drafting of strategies on the fight against terrorism. One of such strategies were recently concluded for the SADC countries, (5) Establishing focal points at the various regions and member states of the African Union

- e) **Experience Sharing On The Promotion Of Peace And Security**

Experience sharing in this session was presented by the West African Network on Peace building (WANEP) on WANEP's support to the African Union presented by Ms. Levinia Addae-Mensah, Deputy Executive Director of WANEP. This was followed by the African Youth Forum for Peace (AYFP) on the insurgence of terrorism in West Africa as security challenge and international intervention with the

case study of Nigeria presented by Ms. Josephine Alabi, Peace and Conflict Management Officer of AYFP. The session concluded by a presentation on Youth extremism and social media by General Ishola Williams, Pan African Strategic and Policy Research Group (PANAFSTRG).

### **SECTION III: Decisions and Recommendations**

#### **a) On mechanisms for cooperation between the Peace and Security cluster and other departments and institutions of the AU**

- i. Decides to build linkages with AU organs and institutions with Peace and Security mandate. Including the Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and the Regional Mechanisms (RMs) ;
- ii. The need to establish cooperation between the different ECOSOCC clusters, the relevant departments in the AU commission and the wider civil society.
- iii. Develop a Communication strategy along with the Department of Information and Communication (DIC) and other relevant stakeholders to provide visibility to the work of ECOSOCC
- iv. Explore ways to involve the Diaspora in the work of the peace and security cluster since the Diaspora is considered as an important stakeholder of the Union.
- v. Work closely with the ACSRT and other related institutions on areas of Peace and Security.

#### **b) On Cooperation with Member states on Peace and Security process**

- i. Encourage and support member states in the establishment of ECOSOCC national chapters and focal points on peace and security.
- ii. Encourage Member state of the African Union to develop and/or enhance national peace policies as national peace and security architecture.
- iii. Develop an African approach and experience sharing with other regions on counter terrorism and organized crime.

**c) On Civil society involvement in Peace and Security process**

- i. The need for mobilization of CSOs to advance the peace and security agenda
- ii. Utilize the Civil society to condemn those who take part in financing terrorist groups through payment of ransom as per relevant AU decisions and conventions
- iii. Involve and capacitate civil society including faith based organizations, trade unions and other communities to help in mediation
- iv. Train Civil society as a part of the early warning mechanism to help monitoring of illicit movement of Small Arms and light weapons

**d) On the promotion of peace and security by the Peace and security Cluster**

- i. Decides to create Youth Peace and Security Councils wherein the youths can meet and have a platform to discuss matters affecting them.
- ii. Decides to organize and embark on sensitization missions to provide insight into the advisory opinions of the cluster

**e) Operationalization of Livingstone Formula**

In accordance with the executive council decision in operationalizing the Livingstone formula on the provisions of the Formula, Procedure for Engagement, Criteria for Engagement, Mechanism for Interaction and Areas for Contribution by CSOs.

**f) On the Work plan**

Developed and adopted a work plan for the year October 2015 to December 2016  
(Enclosed)

These included:

- a) Operationalization Meeting of the peace and Security Cluster;

- b) Round table on: Extremism, Terrorism and the Illicit Proliferation and misuse of SALW in Africa;
- c) Consultation with the Peace and Security Department to determine the framework for the operationalization of the Livingstone Formula;
- d) Conference on: Youths as patriots against extremism and terrorism;
- e) Silencing the guns by 2020
- f) Civil society consultation on the operational framework on the Livingstone Formula;
- g) Capacity building of journalists on: Effective communication/reporting techniques in conflict situations;
- h) Field visits to conflict stricken countries.