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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL  
276TH MEETING  
28 APRIL 2011  
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

**PSC/PR/BR.(CCLXXVI)**

**PRESS STATEMENT**

**PRESS STATEMENT OF THE 276<sup>th</sup> MEETING**  
**OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL**

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 276<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 28 April 2011, was briefed by Dr. Jakob Kellenberger, President of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), on its activities related to peace and security in Africa from the perspective of the promotion of the international humanitarian law. The Commissioner for Peace and Security made a presentation on the sustained efforts of the African Union in fostering the protection of the dignity and value of human life under all circumstances, and on the status of the AU-ICRC cooperation.

Council welcomed the cooperation and regular consultations between the AU and the ICRC, within the framework of the activities undertaken by the ICRC towards the promotion and respect of International Humanitarian Law in situations of armed conflict in Africa and those of the African Union aiming at preventing conflicts and promoting peaceful settlement of disputes and eliminating the causes of tensions and crises.

Council expressed its gratitude to the ICRC for its humanitarian efforts and assistance to victims, in particular to children and other vulnerable groups, of armed conflicts in Africa.

Council re-affirmed AU's commitment to human rights and International Humanitarian Law, as well as to the sanctity of human life, as enshrined in Article 4 (o and m) of the AU Constitutive Act and Article 4 (c) of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union.

Council stressed the need for the Commission of the African Union, in line with the AU Convention on Protection and Assistance to Internally Displaced Persons in Africa, to work closely with the ICRC and the other concerned partners, including in the mobilization of resources, towards the promotion of peace, security and stability in the Continent.

Council appealed to all Member States to continue to extend their cooperation and to facilitate the work of the ICRC in its provision of support and assistance to those in need, in both conflict and post-conflict situations in the Continent.