



UNOAU Bulletin

*A publication from the United Nations Office to the African Union
Issue 01 September 2016*

Strengthening the partnership with Canada



UNOAU SRSR Haile Menkerios greeting Harjit Sajjan, Minister of Defense of Canada

UNOAU Mandate

Background to the establishment of UNOAU

Since the transformation of the Organization of African Unity into the African Union (AU) in 2002, and in particular the 2004 launching of the AU peace and security architecture, there has been strong support among the UN and its Member States for closer United Nations cooperation with the AU. In 2005, the World Summit underscored the need to devote attention to the special needs of Africa. In follow-up to this Summit, Secretary-General Kofi Annan, in the 2006 Addis Ababa Declaration “Enhancing UN-AU Cooperation: Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity-Building Programme for the African Union”, pledged the UN support for the development and strengthening of the AU Commission, focusing “with priority, on conflict prevention, mediation and good offices, peacekeeping and peace building”. In 2007, the General Assembly adopted resolution 61/296 on cooperation between the UN and the AU and requested the Secretary-General to take appropriate steps to strengthen the capacity of the Secretariat to meet the special needs of Africa.

By 1 July 2010, the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU) was established by UN General Assembly Resolution 64/288. The Office integrated three existing offices; Department of Political Affairs (DPA) Liaison Office, the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO) AU Peace Support Team and the Department of Field Support (DFS) Planning Team for Somalia to support the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), as well as the support component of the United Nations and African Union Mission in Darfur (UNAMID) Joint Support Coordination Mechanism (JCM) office in Addis Ababa.

UNOAU’s mandate is to:

- enhance the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union in the area of peace and security;
- provide coordinated and consistent United Nations advice to the African Union on long-term capacity-building and short-term operational support matters;
- streamline the United Nations presence in Addis Ababa to make it cost-effective and efficient in delivering UN assistance to the AU.

(A/64/762, A/RES/64/288)

Partnership with Canada



UNOAU and the Canadian Delegation

On 10 August, UNOAU SRSG Menkerios met with General Harjit Sajjan, Minister of Defence of Canada. The meeting focused on UN/AU peace support operations, defense policy strategies and the enhancement of UN-AU cooperation, particularly in the area of peace and security. Minister Sajjan was accompanied by a high-profile delegation, which included Louise Arbour, former Head of the Supreme Court of Canada, and former UN High Commissioner for Human Rights; Lt. Gen. Romeo Dallaire, former Canadian Senator and former Force Commander, UNAMIR, Rwanda; as well as the Canadian Ambassadors to Ethiopia and the United Nations. Minister Sajjan emphasized Canada’s intention to re-engage in peace support operations with a particular interest in Africa and the African Union.



UNOAU and the Canadian Delegation

Donald Kaberuka briefs AU Partners on Peace funds



UNOAU SRSR Haile Menkerios and Donald Kaberuka

The AU High Representative Donald Kaberuka, with Turkey and Sweden Representatives, (AU Partners Group co-chairs for the month of August)

On 24 August, UNOAU participated in the AUPG meeting in which the AU High Representative of the Peace Fund, Dr. Donald Kaberuka, briefed the international partners on the financing of the AU and the Peace Fund. Dr. Kaberuka recalled that the AU leaders' retreat, held in the margins of the Kigali Summit had endorsed his proposals on (i) funding of the AU, (ii) AU Peace Fund; and (iii) reforming the AU. He emphasized that funding the AU would not happen without reforming the AU itself.



AU Partners Group Representatives

Dr. Kaberuka explained the mechanism of the AU Peace Fund through 3 windows, namely (i) preventive diplomacy and mediation, (ii) institutional capacity, and (iii) peace support operations. 25% of the fund will be contributed from a levy on eligible imports into

the continent by AU Member States and through the Africa's five sub-regions. In this regard, a meeting of African Finance Ministers will be held in Addis Ababa on 16 September 2016 to discuss implementation modalities and regulations for introducing a 0.2% levy on all eligible imports into the African continent. In addition, Dr. Kaberuka expects that an agreement between the AU and the RECs will be required to realize a regional contribution to the AU Peace Fund.

According to Dr. Kaberuka's proposal on the new financial scheme for AU Peace Support Operations, the remaining 75% of the AU Peace Fund will be contributed by the international community through UN assessed contributions. During the



AU Partners Group Representatives

meeting, international partners exchanged the possible formalities and necessary conditions for the utilization of the UN assessed contributions. Dr. Kaberuka looks forward to a positive outcome of the AU-UN Joint Review of Mechanisms to finance and support African Union Peace Support Operations while highlighting the importance of the AU-UN close cooperation in AU Peace Support Operations. Dr Kaberuka stressed the fact that African leaders are committed to operationalize the AU Peace Fund: the building will between the AU and the UN is critical important for the implementation of future AU Peace Support Operations.

UNOAU SRSR and OSESSS Special Envoy jointly brief UNSC members on Sudan and South Sudan

On 30 August, the Special Representative to the African Union (UNOAU), Haile Menkerios and the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan (OSESSS), Nicholas Haysom briefed the UN Security Council members based in Addis Ababa, on the internal developments in Sudan and South Sudan, and the bilateral relations. SRSR Haysom provided an update on the signing of the AUHIP proposed Roadmap Agreement on 8 August by National Umma Party (NUP), Sudan's People Liberation Movement-North (SPLM-N), the Justice and Equality Movement (JEM) and Sudan Liberation Movement led by Minni Minawi (SLA-MM). It would be recalled that the Government of Sudan had signed the Roadmap in March 2016. Subsequently, the parties had entered into cessation of hostilities talks in which substantive gaps had been narrowed. However, talks had stalled on the modalities for the delivery of humanitarian aid. SRSR Haysom also briefed on his visit to Khartoum where he had met key government officials and discussed Sudan – South Sudan bilateral issues; encouraged progress on the humanitarian access and cessation of hostilities; and discussed the situation in South Sudan. SRSR Menkerios and SRSR Haysom provided an update on the efforts of the international community in South Sudan while underscoring the imperative need to strengthen the political process.



Member States observed the precarious economic situation experienced by both Sudan and South Sudan and discussed prospects of reaching a cessation of hostilities agreement. SRSR Menkerios and SRSR Haysom expressed hope that reaching a cessation of hostilities agreement will pave the way for both the Government of Sudan and the SPLM-N to address more substantive issues. Member states welcomed the opportunity presented during the briefing, to regularly interact with UNOAU and OSESSS and exchange on issues of common interest.



In the situation room reacting to the implications of the outbreak of violence in South Sudan. From right to left: Nathalie Ndongo-Seh Chief of Staff; Azeez Nurudine Chief OPAS; Nicolas Shalita Chief PAS and Siril Herseth Political Affairs Officer



UNSOM SRSG briefs AU Partners on Somalia



On 29 August 2016, SRSG Keating briefed partners and Troops Contributing Countries on developments in Somalia. Thereafter, SRSG Michael Keating and SRSG Haile Menkerios met with the AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Dr Aisha Laraba Abdullahi. They exchanged on challenges and opportunities ahead of the upcoming elections in Somalia.



UN Security Council induction programme for the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs

On 16-17 August, UNOAU facilitated an induction programme for Officials of the Ethiopian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in preparation for Ethiopia's non-permanent membership in 2017-2018 in the UN Security Council. The programme provided an opportunity for open and candid discussions, including on Ethiopia's focus and priorities during its two-year tenure in the Council.

The two-day induction programme included an introduction to peacekeeping, conflict prevention and mediation, peacebuilding, and the policy trends in these areas following the High Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO) report and other reviews conducted in 2015. UN country team experts and UNOAU staff made presentations and facilitated discussions on the Protection of Civilians; Sexual Exploitation and Abuse; Women, Peace and Security; and Child and Armed Conflict. Current and former diplomats, who have served in the Council exchanged at length with the Ethiopian team on the opportunities and challenges that lie ahead. This has been the first programme of its kind offered by UNOAU.

During the programme, Ethiopian Officials emphasized their commitment to represent Africa and the decisions of the African Union throughout Ethiopian's term. They further committed to prioritize strengthened coordination and effectiveness of the A3, and improve collaboration and communication between the UNSC and the AUPSC. In addition, Ethiopia expressed interest in prioritizing sustainable and predictable funding for African Peace Support Operations (AU PSOs), as well as support to the UNSC's efforts in conflict prevention.



Ethiopian Diplomats attending the Workshop



UNOAU Chief of Staff, Nathalie Ndongo-Seh, presenting on sexual violence



UNOAU Head of Political Affairs Section Nicolas Shalita, presenting on peace and security challenges in Africa



UNOAU Head of Operational Planning and Advisory Section, Azeez Nouredine, presenting on peacekeeping issues



UNOAU Political Affairs Officer Johnstone Oketch, presenting on the political situation in the Horn of Africa



UNOAU Political Affairs Officer Diana Baker coordinating the programme on behalf of UNOAU



UNOAU Political Affairs Astrid Evrensel, presenting on the elections impacts.



OCHA Representative, presenting on Humanitarian situation

“ UNOAU staff made presentations and facilitated discussions on several topics related to peace and security in Africa ”

Joint Planning and Coordination in support of a Regional Protection Force in South Sudan

A UN Team composed of DPKO, DFS, DSS, OSESS, UNMISS, and UNOAU personnel met with the Head of AU Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD) and his team to discuss the implementation of the measures outlined in UNSC resolution 2304(2016). The resolution established a Joint AU-IGAD-UN Planning Conference to work on the Deployment of a Regional Protection Force in South Sudan, and on the implementation of the UNSC resolution. Discussions focused on support to Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs), the development of joint relevant documents such as the Concept of Operations (CONOPs) pending the submission of the next UN Secretary-General's report to the UN SC. Participants emphasized joint planning and coordination in order to unpack the new UNSCR. Prior to the meeting with the AU, the UN team had held consultations with the Head of UNOAU, who indicated that it was important to deliberate on how UNSCR 2304(2016) can be implemented, while IGAD is expected to contribute the troops for the Regional Protection Force (RPF).



UNHQ, UNMISS and OSESS team in consultations with UNOAU SRSG Haile Menkerios

“ UNOAU coordinated, facilitated and participated in a Planning conference held in Addis Ababa between 18-19 August 2016 for the deployment of a Regional Protection Force for South Sudan pursuant to UNSCR 2304(2016) of 12 August 2016 ”

Highlights of UNOAU engagements for the month



Commissioner Chergui received Head of UNOAU, SRSG Haile Menkerios on Tuesday 23 August. They discussed AU-UN partnership in peace and security.



Consultations were held with Dr Donald Kaberuka, AU High Representative for the AU Peace Fund, on Wednesday 24 August 2016.



SRSG Haile Menkerios met Erik Solheim, the newly appointed Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme, in Addis Ababa on 22 August to discuss issues of mutual interest, including global environmental challenges, conflict in Africa, and areas for potential cooperation between UNEP and UNOAU.



SRSG Haile Menkerios met with Mr. Pekka Haavisto, Special Envoy for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, as well as Mr. Jarno Syrjala, DG for African and Middle East to exchange on Somalia, Sudan/South Sudan and Ethiopia/Eritrea.



SRSG Haile Menkerios met with Ms. Fiona Blyth, UK Foreign Office Senior Policy Advisor on Africa, to exchange on the AU/UN strategic partnership, and AU proposals for financing the Union and its PSOs.



Visit of DPKO/DFS Chief of Staff Ms Ayaka Suzuki, from 25-27 August 2016. Ms Suzuki met with UNOAU staff, AU officials and Partners in Addis Ababa.



UNOAU, in consultation with DPA/EAD, sent a Principal Electoral Affairs Officer to Moroni, Comoros in April 2016



The UN RC in Comoros, Agostinho Zacarias, congratulates the President-elect, HEM Azali Assoumani (UN Photo)

UNOAU SRSG Haile Menkerios visited Comoros in April 2016 to hold consultations with relevant stakeholders. At that time, ahead of the Presidential elections, he urged restraint in the resolution of grievances, respect for the decisions of the Constitutional Court and freedom from political influence for the electoral institutions.

The Electoral Affairs Officer provided expert advice and counsel to the UN Resident Coordinator, UNDP Resident Representative and the international partners on the one hand and, on the other hand, provided technical support to the national electoral institutions in their organization of a partial re-run of the Presidential and Gubernatorial elections in the Anjouan Island on 11 May 2016.

UNOAU's presence was instrumental in engaging key stakeholders, including the electoral institutions, and in facilitating the deployment of short-term AU electoral observers. The technical support extended by the UN and other partners and also assisted in the holding of peaceful and inclusive elections, the results of which were accepted by all sides. This success contributed to building the confidence of the population in the consolidation of peace, democracy and the rule of the law in the Comoros. The elections allowed Comorians to select, in a transparent manner, the President of the Union of Comoros and the Governors of the Autonomous Islands of Grand Comoros, Anjouan and Moheli.

The United Nations will continue to work in collaboration with members of the international community to support Comoros to consolidate peace, democracy and to achieve their development aspirations. The next step in UN assistance to Comoros will be the support to the organization, funding and facilitation of a lessons learned meeting, scheduled for September 2016, to take stock of recent legislative, presidential and gubernatorial elections, and to identify strengths and weaknesses in the electoral process.

“ UNOAU’s presence was instrumental in engaging key stakeholders, including the electoral institutions, and in facilitating the deployment of short-term AU electoral observers. ”

Interview with UNOAU SRSG and Head of Office, Haile Menkerios



Questions: SRSG, can you give us a brief background on UNOAU, its creation and its mandate?

SRSR Menkerios: The United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU) was established in 2010 with a mission to enhance the UN-AU partnership in the area of peace and security. The focus has since broadened to strengthening cooperation throughout the conflict cycle, from joint analysis of potential crises, developing joint preventive measures, mediation and conflict management.

Question: Since your appointment as Head of UNOAU, what have you seen as major UNOAU achievements?

SRSR Menkerios UNOAU has assumed a key role in 2014, in developing and implementing effective, timely and synchronized approaches to conflict management. The office has strengthened the peacekeeping partnership with the AU through ongoing technical support to mission planning and management, and enhanced engagement on policy questions related to AU-led and UN-led peace operations. UNOAU conducts joint analysis and information sharing with the AU on political and security developments on the African continent with the aim of arriving at a common understanding of conflict situations between the two organizations in support of peace operations. UNOAU has been instrumental in facilitating better synchronized planning and management of African-led peace operations, chiefly in the largest AU mission, AMISOM, as well as transitions from AU Peace Support Operations to UN operations. Mali and the Central African Republic immediately come to mind. Concrete outcomes include joint benchmarking and joint statements on emerging and ongoing crises; harmonized briefs to the United Nations Security Council and Peace and Security Council on key peace and security issues; joint assessment missions to, inter alia, Mali, the Central African Republic, South Sudan and the Sahel; as well as joint and closely synchronized political engagement in Libya.

“ UNOAU has shared many successes with the AU, from greater alignment of perspectives to joint statements on emerging crises, and realizing a vision of integrated continental military capabilities for Africa. ”

Question: Can you enlighten us more on the Strategic partnership of UNOAU with the AU? What is the meaning of <strategic> in this context? How exactly should this partnership be implemented?

SRSR Menkerios UNOAU and the AU Commission (AUC) Departments of Peace and Security (PSD) and Political Affairs (DPA) have begun to undertake joint horizon scanning and analysis of potential conflicts and on-going crises with a view to understanding each other's positions and, where possible, ensuring convergence of views and harmonization of preventive action. The aim is to facilitate common responses by

leveraging each organization's comparative advantage. On-going and planned activities include:

- ▶ Monthly joint UN-AU horizon scanning meetings and ad-hoc joint assessment missions to support coordinated analysis and coherent approaches;
- ▶ Thematic seminars / lessons learned activities, (e.g. unconstitutional change of government, electoral violence);
- ▶ Conflict analysis training for staff of the AUC, RECs/RMs and UN.

Question: How important are partnerships with regional and sub-regional organizations, as outlined in Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, in the UN's response to threats to international peace and security?

SRSR Menkerios: The AUC is involved in a range of preventive diplomacy and mediation activities across the continent in support of member states and Regional Economic Communities/Regional Mechanisms. The AUC has begun to strengthen mediation support to special envoys, liaison offices, RECs/RMs and member states to make mediation support more predictable and sustainable. The UN has been a key partner in providing technical advice and support to this process. A project document is being drafted with plans to strengthen AUC mediation support. Further UN support will be in the form of:

- ▶ Mentoring and sharing experiences in establishing a mediation support unit;
- ▶ Providing expertise on substantive issues (e.g. process design, briefings to envoys, etc.);
- ▶ Undertaking joint assessments and other capacity building initiatives;

Participating in AU/RECs/RMs lessons learned exercises on preventive diplomacy and mediation priorities

“ UNOAU has been instrumental in facilitating better synchronized planning and management of African-led peace operations, chiefly in the largest AU mission, AMISOM, as well as transitions from AU Peace Support Operations to UN operations. ”

Question: With regard to the HIPPO report which emphasizes that < political solutions should always guide the design and deployment of United Nations peace operations > How important is UN-AU partnership in early warning, joint assessment of potential conflict situations in shaping a common understanding, and joint responses in conflict prevention? Can you cite some examples?

SRSR Menkerios: The UN High Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO) and the subsequent report of the Secretary-General on the Future of Peace Operations emphasized the importance of global-regional partnerships, particularly with the African Union, in addressing emerging and ongoing conflicts in Africa. Furthermore, it highlighted the centrality of conflict prevention and mediation in efforts to resolve conflicts sustainably.

UNOAU has shared in many successes with the AU, from greater alignment of perspectives to joint statements on emerging crises, and realizing a vision of integrated continental military capabilities for Africa. Yet much remains to be done, and existing sources of funding have proven insufficient for UNOAU to fully deliver on its mandate.

The UN and AU have strengthened their collaboration in planning, deploying and managing peace

operations, including transitions from AU to UN peace operations. UNOAU has been instrumental in providing support and advice in the planning and management of AU Peace Support Operations (PSOs). This includes facilitating joint UN-AU planning sessions for AU PSOs and transitions to UN Peacekeeping Operations; sharing of UN best practices, including on supply chain management and other mission support issues; and the Joint Lessons Learned Exercises of Transitions in Mali and CAR.

Strengthening cooperation in counter-terrorism and Small Arms and Light Weapons.

The UN-AU partnership in early warning and joint assessment of potential conflict situations in shaping a common understanding and joint responses is evolving. The unity of purpose displayed by the UN, the AU, ECOWAS and other stakeholders during the political crisis in Burkina Faso in 2014 until the country's return to constitutional normalcy is salutary. The success could not have been possible without the coordinated and harmonized approach by the AU, ECOWAS and the UN in addressing the crisis and in providing support for the transition, including through the establishment of the International Follow-up and Support Group for the Transition in Burkina Faso (GISAT-BF).

The joint approach adopted by the UN, AU, and ECOWAS contributed to the successful completion of the transition in Burkina Faso. This coordination was particularly crucial in ensuring that the transition was not derailed by the coup d'état of 16 September 2016. It is a true example of what we are striving to see from the partnership.

In Mali, UNOAU has been involved in efforts to find a common agreeable solution to the security challenges in northern Mali and the Sahel, between the UN and the AU. In this regard, UNOAU recently participated in the AU-UN joint technical assessment mission (TAM) to Mali from 19 March to 2 April 2016.

Another example is Libya, where the UN continuously consulted with the AU and the international community to encourage progress in the political process. The marked improvement in and coordinated approaches by the AU and the UN-led political process to reunite the country and form a legitimate government in Libya is today a fundamental prerequisite to the restoration of security and stability in the country.

“The UN and AU have strengthened their collaboration in planning, deploying and managing peace operations, including transitions from AU to UN peace operations. UNOAU has been instrumental in providing support and advice in the planning and management of AU Peace Support Operations (PSOs).”

Question: AMISOM Troops Contributing Countries recently convened a Summit (February 2016 in Djibouti) to further enhance the operational effectiveness of AMISOM, in particular issue related to command and control. How do we take the outcomes forward?

SRSB Menkerios: There is a clear demonstration of will to implement the decisions of the Summit. Recently, the UN-AU Joint Task Force met in New York to address peace and security related issues on the continent. Prominent among the issues discussed was the issue of AMISOM; how to enhance operational effectiveness and also cover the funding gaps. The outcome of that meeting led to the establishment of a UN-AU Joint AMISOM Working Group to look at how to enhance the operational effectiveness of AMISOM, as well

as address the funding gaps. The WG already commenced its work and has come up with far reaching recommendations that was also considered by the AMISOM Military Operation Coordination Committee during its last meeting in Addis Ababa. The AMISOM CONOPS has been reviewed in order to reposition the force to address issues related to the security of the upcoming election and to further degrade the capabilities of Al-Shabaab.

Question: How is your Office advance the Women, Peace and Security agenda?

SRSB Menkerios: The HIPPO and associated reports and the global study on the implementation of the UN SC resolution 1325 made it very clear that mainstreaming gender in all aspects of conflict prevention, management and in peacekeeping is central to ensuring sustainable peace and security. The latest UN SC resolution 2242 stresses specifically the important role of women in developing strategies to counter violent extremism. UNOAU tirelessly advocates for gender-equality in our work with partners to enhance the protection of women and children in conflict and increase women's participation in all mediation and peacekeeping activities. Concretely, we engage with the AU and troop-contributing countries to review policies, guidelines and training to strengthen the accountability of peacekeepers and make our work more gender-sensitive.

Question: What are some of the main challenges facing UNOAU?

SRSB Menkerios: UNOAU has shared in many successes with the AU, from greater alignment of perspectives to joint statements on emerging crises, and realizing a vision of integrated continental military capabilities for Africa. Yet much remains to be done, and we need to take stock and better position the office to enable it be an effective partner to the AU on new and emerging peace and security priorities. This is a continuous reflective process for any Organization and I am confident that we will be able to gradually align our resources with our core priorities and mandate.

“We see the successful conduct of Exercise AMANI Africa II that took place in South Africa last year as a major milestone in the operationalization of the African Standby Force (ASF) and APSA as a whole. UNOAU actively supported the AU and the RECs/RMs in this endeavor.”

Question: What does the future hold for Africa amidst apparently unending conflicts on the continent?

SRSB Menkerios: I am an eternal optimist! I believe the future of the continent is bright. If you look at the strides taken since decolonization more than 50 years ago, you will agree with me that economies have strengthened and there have been improvements in access to basic social services. Even politically, we have many more democratically elected governments in Africa than was the case in the 1960s, 1970s and 1980s. However, we are not there yet. Many of the challenges have their origin in weak governance and accountability, as well as political, social and economic marginalization. The AU has developed the African Governance Architecture to help address these issues, as well as the African Peace and Security Architecture to address instances where mediation, good office or peace operations become necessary. The United Nations has been an active partner in the development and operationalization of these mechanisms. With regard to changing nature of conflict, we are greatly concerned about the growth in violent extremism, particularly in the Sahel and the Horn of Africa. It is important that we recognize this as a threat to international peace

and security, and the entire community of nations work together to address this challenge. It is not just a problem for Africa, or the countries directly affected, it is a global challenge that require a global response.

“UNOAU tirelessly advocates for gender-equality in our work with partners to enhance the protection of women and children in conflict and increase women’s participation in all mediation and peacekeeping activities.”

Question: What would be your concluding message?

SRSR Menkerios: : As the HIPPO report and the SG’s subsequent report recognize, effective partnership with regional organizations is absolutely critical in addressing peace and security challenges across the globe. Each organization brings to the table certain comparative advantages, so it is important that the UN and AU work closely together for the mutual benefit of both organizations and for societies adversely impacted by conflict. The AU-UN partnership on peace and security is based on mutual respect, collaboration and a shared interest and responsibility to address peace and security challenges in Africa.

The role of UNOAU in enhancing this partnership is critical. Our daily contacts and engagements with the AU not only position us well to understand the AU better and therefore put us in a good position to support and advise it, we are also able to effectively analyze and explain issues and trends taking place across Africa and in the AU to our colleagues across the UN system.

There has been tremendous progress over the last few years in developing this partnership. But I firmly believe there remains great scope for further strengthening of the partnership – between the two Councils and between the UN Secretariat and the AU Commission. We must harness the political will and take the necessary actions to bring this about.

“The AU-UN partnership on peace and security is based on mutual respect, collaboration and a shared interest and responsibility to address peace and security challenges in Africa.”

Staff Movements

We said our farewell to:



Rania Dagash, UNOAU Former Chief of Staff - March 2016



Former Deputy Head of Office Colin Stewart receiving an award from AUC Commissioner for Social Affairs Dr Kaloko, and UNOAU former Medical Planning Officer Papa Fall - March 2016



Theresa Pirkl former SRSR Special Assistant - May 2016



James Aji former Political Affairs and Mathew Brubacher former DDR Officer - May 2016



Former UNOAU DDR Planner, Kjell Ivar Breili - June 2016



Former Head of Political Affairs Section, Abdel Kader Haireche - May 2016

Inaugural UNOAU Happy Hour

On Thursday 25 August 2016, UNOAU held its first Happy Hour: a tradition that UNOAU wishes to perpetuate as it provides a welcome distraction from the routine and stress that UNOAU work entails. Special thanks to Margaret and Betty for their excellent organization and to all staff who contributed to the success of this event. (Appointment is taken for next month happy hour: all are welcome).



Upcoming Events

13 September 2016

09 October 2016

26-27 October 2016

24-31 January 2017

Opening of the 71st Regular Session of the UN General Assembly, New York USA

Extraordinary Summit on Maritime Security, Lomé, Togo

7th High Level Retreat on the promotion of Peace, Security & Stability, Cairo, Egypt

African Union Summit, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

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UNOAU Bulletin aims to increase visibility and awareness on UNOAU mandate and activities in relation with the African Union Commission, the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms in the area of Peace and Security on the continent. It illustrates the political role that the United Nations is playing with the AU and other stakeholders on conflict prevention and management, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

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