

Declaration Reaffirming the Principles of the United Nations-African Union Joint Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security (2017), the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2018), and the African Union-United Nations Joint Framework on Human Rights (2023)

We, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission,

Recalling the Charter of the United Nations, the Constitutive Act of the African Union, Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, and relevant decisions of the Assembly of the African Union, and the United Nations General Assembly and Security Council;

Recalling the United Nations-African Union Joint Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security (2017), the African Union-United Nations Framework for the Implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2018), and the African Union-United Nations Joint Framework Agreement on Human Rights (2023), (hereinafter "the Joint Frameworks"); the United Nations General Assembly resolution 79/329 on cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union;

Recognizing the central role of multilateralism, regional cooperation, African ownership and leadership, and the principles of subsidiarity, complementarity and comparative advantage in addressing evolving global and continental challenges;

Acknowledging the growing interlinkages between peace and security, sustainable development, human rights, climate change, governance, humanitarian action, public health, food security, digital transformation and inclusive economic growth;

Reaffirming our steadfast commitment to the strategic partnership between the United Nations (UN) and the African Union (AU);

Noting that over the past years, cooperation between the two organizations has deepened, anchored in the shared commitment to international law, and the principles of mutual trust, solidarity and respect;

Further noting that cooperation between the two organizations also rests on the conviction that collective coordinated action is essential to addressing complex global and regional challenges and advancing peace and security, sustainable development and human rights;



Therefore, jointly express the following:

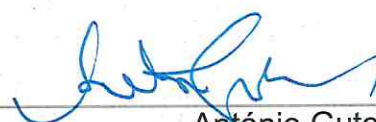
1. We renew our shared determination to advance our cooperation through the Joint Frameworks, in line with our respective mandates. We commit to further strengthen the above-mentioned Joint Frameworks by formalizing, institutionalizing and adequately resourcing the coordination mechanisms developed since their adoption, namely the AU–UN peace and security coordination mechanisms, the AU–UN sustainable development coordination mechanism, including the College-to-College platform, with a view to enhancing policy coherence, strategic alignment, accountability, predictability and system-wide implementation across the peace and security, development and human rights pillars.
2. We further reaffirm that partnership between the two organizations reinforces the three pillars of cooperation - peace and security, development, and human rights - and underscores their interconnectedness, including the imperative of conflict prevention, sustaining peace, democratic governance, gender equality, youth empowerment and climate resilience as essential foundations for inclusive and sustainable development in Africa.
3. We further recognize the importance of sustained and structured coordination between our organizations, including at regional and country levels. To this end, and as part of our renewed commitment, we recall and underscore the strategic value of the cooperation and coordination mechanisms that drive our collective efforts.
4. We underscore the importance of strengthening joint monitoring, reporting, evaluation and strategic communication mechanisms to support implementation of the Joint Frameworks and to promote greater visibility, transparency and impact of the AU–UN strategic partnership.
5. We welcome the institutionalization of the partnership review and enhancement mechanisms outlined in the Joint Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, namely the Annual Conference, the biannual Joint Task Force on Peace and Security, the regular Director-level meetings, and the annual Consultative Meetings on the Prevention, Management and Resolution of Conflicts ('Desk-to-desk'), and reaffirm our commitment to further strengthen those mechanisms, including ensuring that they are active and meet periodically. We recognize that enhancing coordination and cooperation between their respective field mission leadership is critical. To this end, we welcome the institutionalization of the annual high-level joint retreat of the Special Representatives of the Chairperson of the AU Commission and the Special Representatives and Envoys of the UN Secretary-General, to coordinate conflict prevention, resolution and management efforts at the country and regional levels.
6. We further commit to enhancing information-sharing, early warning cooperation, joint analysis, coordinated planning, horizon scanning and prevention strategies, including through strengthened collaboration between the Continental Early Warning System and relevant United Nations mechanisms.

7. We agree that the AU-UN Annual Conference referred to in the Joint Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security will continue to meet at least once a year, alternately in Addis Ababa and in New York. The Conference will continue to provide strategic guidance on emerging peace and security challenges in Africa, including unconstitutional changes of government, terrorism and violent extremism, maritime insecurity, transnational organized crime, cyber threats, and the security implications of climate change.
8. We acknowledge the AU-UN High-level Strategic Dialogue (HLSD) on Sustainable Development, established in 2023 as the primary mechanism to advance the joint implementation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. The HLSD will further promote policy coherence and alignment between continental and global development frameworks, including the Second Ten-Year Implementation Plan of Agenda 2063, the Sustainable Development Goals, and relevant regional and global financing frameworks.
9. In this context, we welcome the institutionalization of the AU-UN College to College (C2C), established in 2024 between Commissioners and United Nations Principals, which serves as a key mechanism to set strategic priorities, translate commitments into action, and steer implementation. The mechanism will further promote integrated approaches across sectors, including education, health, agriculture, infrastructure, energy access, climate adaptation, digital transformation, migration, science and innovation, and women and youth economic empowerment.
10. We welcome the establishment and institutionalization of coordination mechanisms set up in the Joint Human Rights Framework, including internal consultations and the AU-UN Steering Committee. We commit to further strengthen these mechanisms, ensuring their regular convening, and enhancing awareness and implementation of the Framework across the UN system and within the AU and its organs.
11. We further commit to strengthening coordination and complementarity between the African Governance Architecture and relevant United Nations human rights and governance mechanisms.
12. We encourage our respective agencies and technical bodies to use the aforementioned framework as the guiding reference for engagement on human rights, including for their key development documents like national plans.
13. All other terms of the above-mentioned Joint Frameworks remain in effect.

Signed in Addis Ababa on 13 May 2026:



Mahmoud Ali Youssouf
Chairperson
African Union Commission



António Guterres
Secretary-General
United Nations