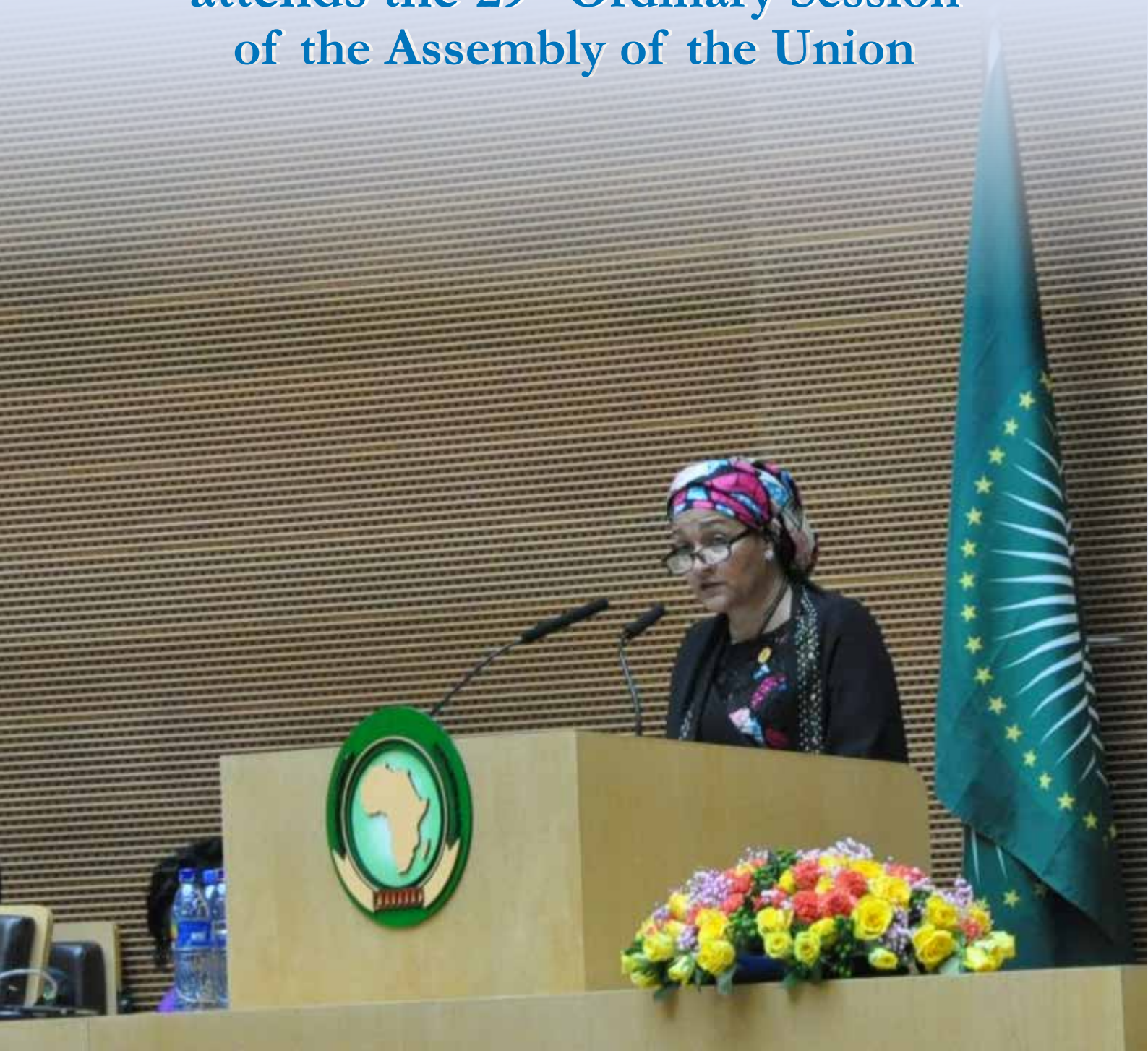




# UNOAU Bulletin

*A publication from the United Nations Office to the African Union  
May - July 2017*

## UN Deputy Secretary-General, H.E. Amina J. Mohammed, attends the 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union



## UNOAU Mandate

### Background on the establishment of UNOAU

Since the transformation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) into the African Union (AU) in 2002 and particularly since the 2004 launching of the AU peace and security architecture, there has been strong support among the UN and its Member States for closer UN 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 the World 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 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 GA 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.

The United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU) was established on 1 July 2010 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.

In 2016, the AUPSC Members adopted the 628<sup>th</sup> Communiqué on the partnership between the UN and the AU on issues of peace and security in Africa. Later the UN Security Council (SC) adopted resolution 2320 (2016) on partnership between the UN and Regional Organizations, in particular with the African Union. Afterwards, the UN Secretary-General report was presented on a new level of partnership. This was further strengthened by the new UN Secretary-General, through his expressed vision and priorities in which he stressed the fact that UN and AU must continue to keep a strong strategic partnership in the area of peace and security, through the implementation of both organizations programmes namely Agenda 2063 and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

On 19 April 2017, at the first UN-AU Annual Conference held at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, the UN Secretary-General, H.E. António Guterres and the AU Commission (AUC) Chairperson H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat endorsed a Joint UN-AU Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security as a basis for collaboration through joint mechanisms and regular consultations. In a Joint UN-AU Communique SG/2239 of 19 April 2017, the Secretary-General and the Chairperson reiterated their strong commitment to working hand in hand towards achieving the continent’s development goals.

### The mandate of UNOAU 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)

**About the UNOAU Bulletin:** UNOAU Bulletin aims to increase visibility and awareness on UNOAU’s mandate as it relates to UN partnership with the African Union Commission, the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms in the area of Peace and Security on the continent. The Bulletin illustrates the political and operational role that the United Nations plays with the AU and other stakeholders on conflict prevention and management, peacekeeping and peacebuilding.

## The UN Deputy Secretary-General, H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed attends the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union (AU Summit) took place in Addis Ababa on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and the 4<sup>th</sup> of July, 2017. The theme of the Summit was “Harnessing the Demographic Dividend through Investments in the Youth”.



*In his address that set the tone for the Summit, H.E. President Alpha Conde of Guinea, Chairperson of the African Union underscored that solidarity and fraternity, as well as a common determination for finding durable and viable solutions for the continent are key pillars of the African Union*

This mid-year Summit also touched on AU Institutional Reform, the financing of the AU and the AU Peace Fund; the 2018 AU budget, and internal elections.

On peace and security, the Summit considered two reports namely: the Peace and Security Council’s inaugural report on the implementation of the AU Master Roadmap; and the AU Chairperson’s report of the AU Commission (AUC). The first report listed practical steps to Silence the Guns in Africa by the year 2020 while the second focused on AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) activities, as well as the state of peace and security in Africa. The latter report also highlighted specific country and regional situations.

The AUC Chairperson outlined key peace and security challenges in South Sudan, Somalia, Libya and Central African Republic in his remarks at the opening ceremony of the Summit. He also pointed out tensions between Djibouti and Eritrea, Mali and the Jihadist challenge, in addition to political situations in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Burundi and Guinea-Bissau.

He recalled the first Annual Conference of the UN and the AU in New York on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2017 which resulted in the signing of the Joint UN-AU Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, and described the relationship between the two Organizations as never having been so promising. The AUC Chairperson paid tribute to the UN Secretary-General in this regard.

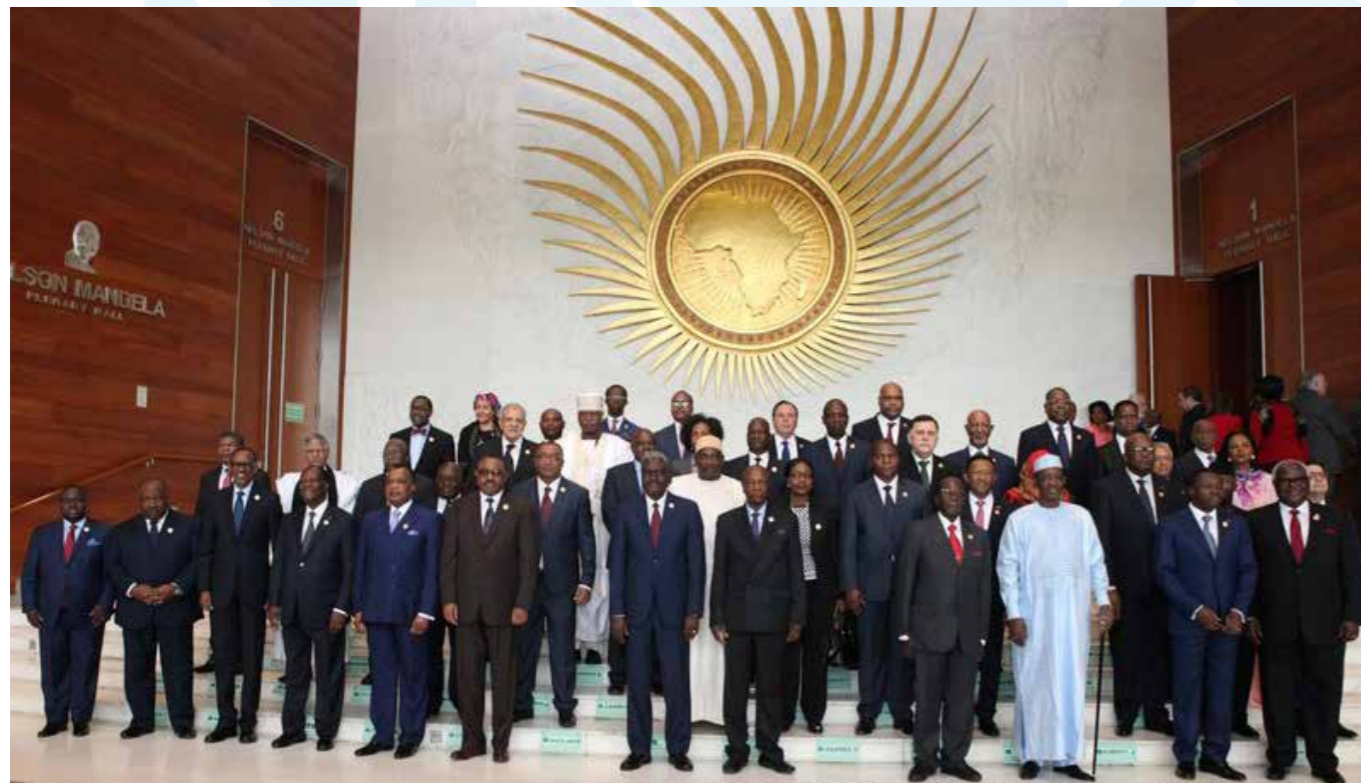


*H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission, delivering his remarks at the opening ceremony of the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit*



Second from left to right: Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa-Onochie, UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative in Ethiopia, Mr. Haile Menkerios UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of the UNOAU; Mr. Khassim Diagne, Director in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General and Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh, Chief of Staff of UNOAU

In her first official participation at the AU Summit in her capacity as the UN Deputy Secretary-General, H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed addressed the 29<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2017. Her statement reflected on the vision of the UN Secretary-General of a privileged partnership between the UN and the AU, and spoke to the importance of the implementation of the AU Agenda 2063 and the UN Agenda 2030.



The UN Deputy Secretary-General, H.E. Ms. Amina J. Mohammed joined the AUC Chairperson (centre-front), H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat in a group photo ahead of the Official Opening Ceremony of the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit

The Deputy Secretary-General also undertook a series of bilateral meetings with Heads of State and delegations, UN officials and the Chairperson of the AU Commission.



The UN DSG Ms. Amina J. Mohammed met with H.E. Mr. Paul Kagame, President of Rwanda in a dialogue on the African Union Commission institutional reform



In a meeting with the former President of Botswana and the Chairperson of the Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (JMEC), H.E. Mr. Festus Mogae, the UN DSG discussed the situation in South Sudan



The collaboration between the AU, Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the UN was touched upon in a meeting with the President of Togo, H.E. Mr. Faure Gnassingbe, who is also the Chairperson of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of the ECOWAS



Mme Bineta Diop, Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security of the African Union Commission briefed the UN DSG on women, peace and security issues in Africa



The implementation of the UN-AU Joint Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security was a key topic of discussion between the UN DSG and H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission



The UN DSG received a briefing on the Central African region from H. E. Mr. Ali Bongo Ondimba, President of the Republic of Gabon and Chairperson of the Authority of Heads of State and Government of Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)



H.E. Mr. Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, Prime Minister of Mauritius met with the UN DSG on specific issues relating to his country



H.E. Mr. Leonard She Okitundu, Deputy Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of Congo addressed the political situation in his country



The UN DSG reflected on her participation in the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit in a brief interview with the media

The UN DSG also met with the UN Country Team and the UN Liaison Team to the African Union before attending a State dinner hosted by H.E. Mr. Hailemariam Desalegn, Prime Minister of the Federal Republic of Ethiopia.



The UN DSG met with members of the UN Country Team (UNCT) in Ethiopia on issues related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Seen here (left to right) are Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa-Onochie, UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative; Mr. Haile Menkerios, UN Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOAU; Mr. Khassim Diagne, Director in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General; and Ms. Letty Chiwara, UNWOMEN Representative to Ethiopia, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa and the African Union



The UN DSG with UN Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, Ms. Ahunna Eziakonwa-Onochie (left) and UNOAU Chief of Staff, Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh (right)



The UN DSG with Mr. Haile Menkerios, Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOAU (right) and Mr. Khassim Diagne (left), Director in the Executive Office of the Secretary-General



The UN DSG with Col. Nuredeen Kolawole Azeez, Head of Operational Planning and Advisory Section (OPAS) in UNOAU



UNOAU team providing a briefing to the UN DSG and her delegation on key issues expected to feature in her bilateral meetings with Heads of State and Government, as well as AU and UN officials during the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit



UN DSG Ms. Amina J. Mohammed (center) with UNOAU/ECA technical and support team at the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit

## UNOAU joins the AU in bidding farewell to President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf



Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf with her Nobel Diploma at the Nobel Peace Prize Award Ceremony in Oslo, Norway, 10 December 2011

H.E. Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf became the first democratically elected woman to lead an African country, Liberia, in 2006. Liberia, had been embroiled in a long war that devastated the economy, the social fabrics of the country and affected regional stability. Her professional career has spanned working at the International Monetary Fund (IMF), The World Bank, CitiBank and the United Nations.

President Johnson-Sirleaf's efforts at integrating women in peacebuilding and conflict resolution earned her a Nobel Peace Prize in 2011. She was re-elected to lead Liberia for a second term in the same year.

Out of her country, President Johnson-Sirleaf became the first woman to be elected as the Chairperson of the Economic Community of West Africa States (ECOWAS) regional body in 2016. ECOWAS honored her contributions to democracy and promotion of women's rights not only in Liberia, but across the continent.

In her final address to the AU summit held in Addis Ababa in July 2017, she declared:

***'Liberia heads for a democratic transition in less than three months, for the first ever time in four decades and in an environment of peace for eleven consecutive years. I express, on behalf of the people of Liberia, our profound appreciation for the regional and sub-regional support that has brought us to where we are today. Much is owed to ECOWAS, the United Nations, to our brothers and sisters, and the African Union and the United Nations Mission in Liberia for contributing to peacebuilding and consolidation.'***

President Johnson-Sirleaf announced that she will not run for political office in the country's forthcoming national elections set for October 2017. Shortly after her final address at the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit in July in Addis Ababa, the African Union Assembly appointed her as a member of its Panel of the Wise in charge of the Western region of the continental body.



President Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf with members of the all-female Indian Formed Police Unit serving in the UN Mission in Liberia in February 2016

## Interview: UN Deputy Secretary-General Ms. Amina J. Mohammed



UN DSG Amina J. Mohammed

*Following her first mission to Addis Ababa, Ms. Amina J. Mohammed sat with UNOAU for an interview in which she shared reflections on her participation at the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit. The UN DSG also shared views on her recent mission to Nigeria and the Democratic Republic of Congo in what was the first ever UN-African Union mission focused on women, peace and security.*

**Q: . UNOAU supported you and your delegation during your recent participation in the African Union's Summit. From the bilateral meetings that you held, what are the key messages or outputs you took from your discussions with AU Officials, African Heads of State and Government and UN Officials?**

• This is the first time that I participated in an African Union Summit in my capacity as the UN Deputy Secretary-General. It was very important for me to consolidate the messages the Secretary-General delivered at the African Union Summit at beginning of the year; and also to underscore the importance, in that respect, in solidarity with Africa's priorities.

- Clearly there are three priorities that we refined. One is related to development – aligning Agenda 2063 and Agenda 2030. Second, expressing support to the African Union's Silencing the Guns initiative, which truly gives a perspective on conflict situations on the continent, and more specifically to countries where we need to see conflicts coming to an end. Third, reforms that are needed to achieve results. As you know, the UN is undergoing reforms to become fit for purpose and to deliver on Agenda 2030 in addition to management and peace and security reforms.
- Many of the bilateral meetings held with Heads of State really revolved around how to best support priorities in respective countries. I think there is common enthusiasm about a new era of implementation but we also recognized that a number of years went into fashioning out different frameworks such as Agenda 2063, Agenda 2030, the Paris Climate Agreement as well as Addis Ababa and Kigali financing related matters. I believe that one may feel we have enough roadmaps in our hands and that it is now time for implementation. So, where are the shortcomings and what messages do we need to take back?
- Clear messages around better coordination and collaboration at country level, more capacity building for certain skill sets that are needed for the agendas; and boosting data capacity so that investment plans are clear and have resonance. This requires baseline disaggregated data which is important for identifying needs and ensuring that no-one is left behind. Africa has the largest cohort of young people; we believe that investments especially in women shall be a priority. The AU and its demographic dividend theme is very useful for the UN because action can be taken around the different frameworks the UN is supporting. These include the issue of women and girls which is certainly critical for us, but also youth. Unless youth can get some alternatives from being exploited into destabilizing many of their communities and countries, we will not be able to build on much. Instead, we will lose on many of the gains unfolding from investments made for development.

***'We must never stop building bridges towards one another overcoming broken promises on both sides by fortifying them to bear the weight of the expectations we have for one another, and that the world has for us.'***

UN DSG, Ms. Amina J. Mohammed's statement at the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit, July 2017

**Q:** We noticed, and certainly welcome your approach of undertaking missions with other UN and/or AU women officials – as you recently did in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia and Nigeria. Can you please explain what are the key messages that you conveyed in those visits and why you believe that those messages can be reinforced through such a strong female presence that we once again appreciate?

- Well, I think that first and foremost, when you get the opportunity of having women in leadership positions and decision making, it is incumbent upon us to come together. We need to show how it is that we are better at integrating, communicating and demonstrating partnerships around our issues. This was an unusual opportunity for incredible leadership from UN WOMEN, the UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence on Conflict and to see that we have a leader like Mme. Bineta Diop in the African Union on issues related to women, peace and security. We took the opportunity; we targeted a couple of countries where there are very serious issues, and we showed leadership. We were able to meet with different levels of leadership within constituencies and also to underscore how important it is for leadership to be seen in action.



Prior to Deputy Secretary-General Amina Mohammed's visit to the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), she had spent several days in Nigeria. In this photo, she is appeared in Abuja with Nigerian women leaders, as well as women and girls affected by conflict in the north-eastern part of the country

- We emphasized on collaborating for issues such as women and girls' empowerment, gender-based violence and a number of complicated issues that sometimes fall to the bottom of the list. We integrated these issues; four women from different mandates coming together with the objective of improving the lives of women and girls, this I think is a powerful message sent to constituencies.
- It was never going to be an easy mission due to respective priorities. However, we did send strong messages that women's matters are essential if we are to invest on wider human resources in countries. We were very specific in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria and Ethiopia. These were messages sent to our UN Country Teams (UNCT) as well given that they are critical to our success. Without UNCTs at the country level, expected results from UN policies and frameworks cannot be obtained. We emphasized that we need peace for development and to ensure that human rights are engrained in outcomes from investments made and work done.
- This mission presented several opportunities for highlighting on our investments in this new era of implementation at country and regional levels – cross-border issues being extremely important.

**Q:** You are now the second woman selected to perform DSG's high-level responsibility within the UN. We certainly hope that moving forward more women will be considered for similar positions in the UN and other organizations. What do you believe are some of the key challenges women face to be identified for such positions? What would you say women would require to take on such responsibilities?

- First, I think I am very privileged and certainly humbled to have taken up this position. The Secretary-General has delegated a number of important issues to me ranging from Agenda 2030 to climate change, migration, the development-humanitarian nexus as well as UN financing and reform. These are important issues for women but also incredible responsibilities to take on. Once again, when you have the opportunity to lead, I think you should define decisions you need to make to ensure effective leadership. It is vital to remember who you are – I am an African woman coming into this space; but I am also a Muslim woman. I think when you look at the challenges of the world today and how many countries are polarized around these issues in addition to what the core values of the UN stand for, it is a very big opportunity for me to talk to peace, respect and tolerance and what really my religion is as opposed to the violence that we see today. So, there are a number of responsibilities for me as a person and as a UN senior official. One has to have the courage of one's conviction and to take action through the work that we do.
- What are the key challenges – I think that for women's issues to be clearly articulated and to come out in plans for implementing Agenda 2030 on the one hand, and the Paris Climate Agreement on the other, this has a lot to do with where women are in the daily work – whether in New York, in Country Teams or in government. Ensuring gender parity in the workplace is what we would like to see. In terms of taking leadership, we have seen the Secretary-General giving two top positions in his office to women and then stepping down to say that gender parity will be achieved within the Secretariat and the UN system; and then having a plan to articulate this. As we work on this plan, we come across huge gaps. In some cases, we do find women for whom we can put in checks and balances to ascertain that they too have opportunities. Other times, women are non-existent in particular fields such as peacekeeping. Here, we have to go beyond the pale to encourage academic institutions and governments to both create opportunities and to also advocate for women. Hard work is required to improve women's place at work and to make sure that this translates into plans and investments that will positively impact on the lives of women.

*Healthy, educated and empowered women and girls can drive the transformation we need for a better future for all. As they exercise their rights, raise their voices and help their societies thrive, they can – and will – build lasting peace.*

UN DSG Amina J. Mohammed's message  
on Every Woman, Every Child, 14 March 2017

workplace is what we would like to see. In terms of taking leadership, we have seen the Secretary-General giving two top positions in his office to women and then stepping down to say that gender parity will be achieved within the Secretariat and the UN system; and then having a plan to articulate this. As we work on this plan, we come across huge gaps. In some cases, we do find women for whom we can put in checks and balances to ascertain that they too have opportunities. Other times, women are non-existent in particular fields such as peacekeeping. Here, we have to go beyond the pale to encourage academic institutions and governments to both create opportunities and to also advocate for women. Hard work is required to improve women's place at work and to make sure that this translates into plans and investments that will positively impact on the lives of women.

- Also on key challenges, well, in many places it still is a man's world. At times where there is affirmative action, this is almost taken as though women are let off the hook from giving the required quality of experience and exposure to a job – this is usually not true. What affirmative action does, it allows women to leg up and catch up. We have to then reinforce the quality and relevance of women placed in positions. Moreover, women need networks to convene and strengthen their work in the field while connecting with various head-quarters globally. My experience is that I succeed much better when I am working with women to get women's issues across, but this is not to say that we do not work with men. I think that women together make a much better effort at cross-cutting and horizontal approaches to their abilities such as multi-tasking, women also do well at integration and collaboration. Men may have a focus of getting to results; I think together we work incredibly well.

**Q:** *Can you kindly advise on the key messages that you wish to convey on the implementation of the SDGs and what is the status of the drafting or development of a joint UN-AU framework on sustainable development?*

- Let me start with the second part of the question. On the status, we have two teams that are working jointly to bring agendas 2063 and 2030 together. These agendas are already aligned; what remains is to see how we can prioritize on Africa's mapping of its concerns. We hope the framework will be ready for launch in January at the next AU Summit in 2018. The teams have initiated the real work and we will have an opportunity to consult with non-governmental organisations and other partners. The key change in the way we currently do development is partnership. Partnership with businesses, the civil society, academia and others. If we are to create a joint framework, it will not just be about the UN and the AU but also about all of the other partners that would be expected to provide support during implementation. The framework is work in progress.
- In terms of messages on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), there are a number of reform activities that are taking place in the UN at head-quarter level but much more importantly, towards how we can better position the UN to support countries implement the Global Goals. This is a universal agenda but countries are at varying levels and hence, no one-size fits all. I would say here, it is vital to focus on the second six goals tackling economic growth. If we are to achieve sustainability in the funding behind the first six which includes basic services such as health and education, access to water, gender issues, reduction of poverty, then we need to generate revenue.



- There is huge focus on ensuring that if countries are investing in the second six goals, outcomes should be conditioned to revenue that boosts investments in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) that were left to be completed within the 2015-2030 era. There is an opportunity; while we focus on the second six goals in relation to economies, countries can also prioritize Goals 13, 14 and 15 so that climate change and environment matters are also integrated into country plans and pipelines of programmes and projects. I think that this is the difficult part because countries would be dealing with entire economic situations and not merely placing a band aid on specific issues that we addressed during the MDGs era.
- All of this cannot be achieved unless investments are made in rule of law and strong institutions. We need to scale up to meet capacities required to design programmes and ensure that no-one is left behind. We need to also safeguard that our programmes produce results that respond to existing gaps in attaining human rights through partnerships as articulated in Goal 17. Financing for development will be key. It is a message for us that at the country level, we can convene and find a platform that helps governments come together with both international and local private sector stakeholders to encourage partnerships for investing in the SDGs.

## 31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union

Prior to the AU Summit, the 31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union convened from the 30<sup>th</sup> of June to the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2017 and was preceded by the 34<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) meeting held from 27 to 28 June 2017.

The Opening Ceremony of the 31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2017 in Addis Ababa. Addressing Council Members, the AU Commission Chairperson emphasized the importance of reforming the Union to ensure the credibility of its institutions on the world stage. He noted that "African solutions to African problems" needed to be grounded in tangible outcomes and conflict could only be resolved through consensual approaches involving political dialogue and reconciliation.

The Council elected Mr. Victor Harrison of Madagascar as Commissioner for Economic Affairs and Ms. Sarah Anyang Agbor of Cameroon, as Commissioner for Human Resources, Science and Technology.

The Ministerial Committee on the Scale of Assessment and Contributions, explored ways to improve the rate of payments to the AU through strengthening sanctions against late and/or non-payment in tandem with reforming internal rules and regulations.



31<sup>st</sup> Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union

Continuing this meeting into the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July 2017, the Council considered: a) the draft inaugural report of the AU Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) on the implementation of the AU Master Roadmap of practical steps to Silence the Guns in Africa by the year 2020; b) the report of the PSC on its activities and the state of peace and security in Africa, including specific country and regional situations; and c) the Report of the AU Permanent Representatives' Committee, which focused on budget questions amongst others. The Chair of the Executive Council also explicitly congratulated the Chairperson of the Commission, H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki for taking initiative to sign a partnership agreement with the United Nations.

## Intergovernmental Authority on Development Council meeting convenes on situation in South Sudan

On Monday, the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, 2017 in the margins of the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit, the 57<sup>th</sup> Extra-ordinary Session of the Intergovernmental Authority on Development Council of Ministers was convened to consider the situation in South Sudan. Foreign Ministers of Ethiopia, Sudan, Djibouti, Somalia and Uganda; the Cabinet Affairs Minister from South Sudan; the Ambassadors of Kenya to the AU and to IGAD; the IGAD Special Envoy for South Sudan; the Chairperson of Joint Monitoring and Evaluation Committee (JMEC) and the Director of Peace and Security Department of IGAD were in attendance. The meeting considered ways of expediting preparations for the High-level Revitalization Forum of all parties to the Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan (ARCSS), including estranged groups based on the decision of the IGAD Summit held on the 12<sup>th</sup> of June 2017. The meeting discussed and approved a draft Communiqué that includes the approval of guidelines for the IGAD Council of Ministers, pursuant to the decisions of the 31<sup>st</sup> Extra-ordinary Summit of IGAD and a draft matrix for the High-level Revitalization Forum of ARCSS.

## Joint UN-AU stocktaking meeting on engagements in Sudan



SESG Nicholas Haysom (third from right), SRSG Haile Menkerios (far right), and representatives of the AU High-level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) attended a meeting convened to review past mediation experiences in Sudan and assess current situations

On the 29<sup>th</sup> of June 2017, the UN and AU engaged in a joint stocktaking exercise to assess their engagement in Sudan, particularly in Darfur and the Two Areas (South Kordofan and Blue Nile States). Convened by the UN Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan (OSESSS) Mr. Nicholas Haysom, representatives from the AU High-level Implementation Panel (AUHIP) and the UN reviewed past mediation experiences and assessed the current country situation. Representatives agreed at the meeting that the 2016 Roadmap Agreement, brokered by the AUHIP between the Government of Sudan (GoS) and the opposition, should remain the basis of UN-AU joint political engagement. They also established that flexibility in sequencing steps to be taken in negotiations for peace should also be allowed. The 2016 Roadmap Agreement represented an important and significant milestone towards a process of dialogue as a basis for lasting peace in the country when it was signed.



SRSG Haile Menkerios (far right) shared lessons learned on UN-AU engagement

Lead co-participants at this stocktaking meeting included Mr Abdul Mohamed, Chief of Staff of the African Union High-Level Implementation Panel (AUHIP); Kingsley Mamabolo, UNAMID Joint Special Representative; and SRSG Haile Menkerios. In addition, given the interconnected nature of conflicts in Sudan and South Sudan and the context of a turbulent wider region, OSESSS, UNAMID, UNISFA, UNMISS and AUHIP representatives discussed regional dynamics, bilateral issues between Sudan and South Sudan, and collaboration between UN-AU various missions on the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2017.

## Partnering on Reform and Human Security

The Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOAU Mr. Haile Menkerios sat on a panel organized by the Institute for Security Studies (ISS) on the topic: “29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit: Partnering on reform and human security”. Broadly defined, the primary purpose of the seminar was to bring together key partners of the AU in advance of the 29<sup>th</sup> AU Summit to exchange on issues and challenges related to joint action with the AU on human security.

SRSG Menkerios spoke on the nature of the Joint UN-AU Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, noting that no one single organization can address conflict in Africa alone. He added that Organizations held different comparative advantages and capacities while underlining that AU and UN Member States were right to ask whether the AU and the UN were “fit for purpose” to address present challenges. He outlined the package of reforms that the UN Secretary-General would present to the UN General Assembly and the UNSG’s emphasis on strengthening UN conflict prevention and mediation capacities.

Representatives from the United States of America and the European Union pointed out the continuing significance that Washington and Brussels placed on cooperation with the AU, with Ambassador Leonard of the US emphasizing that the current American administration’s policies do not come at the expense of partnerships and alliances.



US, Republic of Congo and EU Ambassadors join SRSG Haile Menkerios were key speakers at a panel on human security organized by the Institute for Security Studies

Panelists addressed a number of questions from the audience including one regarding the seeming discrepancy in the UN Security Council (UNSC) support for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and the G5-Sahel force. SRSG Menkerios and the other panelists replied that the UNSC recognized both situations as being of high importance but that it was crucial to understand the distinction between the ability to provide support to AMISOM - in the context of an established relationship and partnership with the AU – and support to an initiative that is ad hoc in nature.

Other key members of the panel were Ambassador Lazare Makayat Safouesse (Republic of Congo), Ambassador Mary Beth Leonard (US) and Ambassador Ranieri Sabatucci (EU office to the AU).

***‘A structured systematic and predictable partnership would mean that mechanisms are in place and working in both Organizations to ensure joint early and continuous engagement, from early warning and conflict prevention to mediation and peace support operations, and on to post-conflict construction and development.’***

*SRSG Menkerios statement at UNSC debate on ‘Cooperation between the United Nations and Regional Organizations including the African Union’, November 2016*

## AU Peace and Security Council Open Session on the Implementation of the AU Master Roadmap

### *Practical Steps to Silencing the Guns in Africa by the Year 2020*

On the 14<sup>th</sup> of June 2017, the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) held an Open Session on the implementation of the AU Master Roadmap on Practical Steps to Silence the Guns in Africa by year 2020. The meeting was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Zambia to the AU and PSC Chair for June 2017, Ambassador Susan Sikaneta.

Presentations were provided by Acting Director of the AU Commission Peace and Security Department Dr. Admore Kambudzi; Dr. Abdel-Fatau Musah, Director of Africa II Division of the UN Department of Political Affairs; and Dr. Désiré Assogbavi, Resident Representative of Oxfam office to the African Union. The meeting was attended by members of PSC, Morocco and AU partner countries including France, the United Kingdom, the United States of America, Canada, Finland, Norway, Japan, Poland, Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), the European Union, the League of Arab States (LAS), the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and UNOAU.



*Dr. Abdel-Fatau Musah, Director Africa II at UN Department of Political Affairs*

The main objectives of the open session were to identify: (i) practical steps to be undertaken by various stakeholders, to successfully implement the AU Master Roadmap by 2020; and (ii) concrete recommendations on the way forward in the process of implementing the AU Master Roadmap. During the session, partners outlined their support to the AU initiative.

Concrete recommendations for the implementation phase of the Roadmap included, among others: addressing root causes of conflict; strengthening early warning and conflict prevention; enhancing democracy and governance; and effective control of illicit proliferation of weapons through appropriate monitoring mechanisms. Following the open session, the closed discussions of the PSC finalized the progress report on the status of implementation of the AU Master Roadmap to be submitted at the AU Summit in July 2017, and which reflects practical steps and recommendations provided during the Open Session.



*Dr. Abdel-Fatau Musah, Director Africa II at UN Department of Political Affairs (right) with AU representatives and other PSC members during the PSC on practical steps to Silencing the Guns by 2020 AU Initiative*

## AU Peace Fund and the Financing of the Union

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of May 2017, the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) held its 689<sup>th</sup> meeting to consider the AU Commission Chairperson's report on relevant provisions of UN Security Council Resolution 2030 (2016) on UN assessed contributions for AU-led peace operations authorized by the Security Council.

The AU Peace Fund and the partnership between the AU and the UN with respect to predictable financing of the AU peace and security activities were discussed in depth. The Chairperson of the AU Commission, H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki Mahamat and the AU High Representative for the AU Peace Fund and the Financing of the Union, H.E. Dr. Donald Kaberuka briefed the PSC on the Enhanced Governance and Accountability Framework of the Peace Fund and its management structure, proposed eligibility criteria and fund management principles, as recommended in the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the AU Peace Fund. The PSC adopted the report of the Chairperson of the Commission, including relevant provisions of UN Security Council (UNSC) Resolution 2320 (2016) on UN Assessed Contributions for AU mandated or authorised Peace Support Operations (PSOs) by the UN Security Council.



*H.E. Dr. Donald Kaberuka (left), AU High Representative speaking on the AU Peace Fund*

The PSC urged the UN to establish financing and mission support models that are fit for purpose and adapted to the requirements of each operation based on the scope of operations, progress, benchmarks, and timelines for implementation of the AU Peace Fund, adherence to International Humanitarian Law (IHL), Human Rights, and conduct and discipline frameworks in the conduct of peace support operations. The PSC further requested the UNSC to take practical steps towards adopting a substantive resolution that establishes the principle that AU-mandated peace support operations (PSOs) authorised by the UNSC should be financed through UN assessed contributions with decisions on the financing of specific missions to be taken on a case-by-case basis. The AUC Chairperson's Report has been transmitted to the UNSC.

Subsequently, Dr. Kaberuka briefed AU partners on progress towards establishing the AU Peace Fund. He expressed an optimistic view on the progress Member States have made on domesticating legislation of the proposed 0.2 per cent levy, which would consist of country contributions to the Fund. He also emphasized the robust governance structures proposed for the Fund, as outlined in the AUC Chairperson's Report on the AU Peace Fund, which was adopted at the AU Summit in July 2017 in Addis Ababa. On the UN-AU partnership, Dr. Kaberuka stressed that the AUPSC recognized the AU Peace Fund as an important instrument to further enhance cooperation and partnership between the AU and the UN. He also noted that the AU Peace Fund would only be used for AU PSOs. AU partners welcomed the progress made by Dr. Kaberuka and the AUPSC on the AU Peace Fund.

***'Make significant contributions to show Africa's readiness to silence the guns by 2020'***

*Dr. Donald Kaberuka, 689<sup>th</sup> African Union PSC meeting in Addis Ababa, May 2017*

## Partnerships: IPSS - UNOAU

In May 2017, UNOAU signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS), an Addis Ababa based institution of higher learning that carries out peace and security research on Africa. The MOU is a basis for cooperation and collaboration between UNOAU and IPSS, which will primarily focus on raising awareness on the UN-AU partnership in peace and security. With the signing of this MOU, IPSS using innovative and diverse approaches, will contribute to the debates, discussions and awareness of the UN-AU partnership through research, policy recommendations and grassroots communities' engagement particularly targeting women and youth.



SRSG Haile Menkerios (left) discussing MOU signed between UNOAU and IPSS with Mr. Kidane Kiros, IPSS Director



Official signing of the UNOAU-IPSS MOU

The UN-AU cooperation within the context of Peace Support Operations (PSOs) was discussed in a half-day briefing session organized by the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS) in Addis Ababa in July 2017.



Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh, UNOAU Chief of Staff moderating the discussion on peace support operations (PSOs)

The panel included, Prof. Henrietta Mensa-Bonsu, Director of the Legon Centre for International Affairs and Diplomacy and member of the UN High-Level Independent Panel on Peace Operations (HIPPO); Dr. Jide Martyns Okeke, Chief, Policy Development Unit, Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD) at AU and Colonel Nuredeen Kolawole Azeez, Head of Operational Planning and Advisory Section in UNOAU. The panel was moderated by UNOAU Chief of Staff, Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh.



Participants at a workshop organized by IPSS under the title 'Towards a stronger UN-AU partnership in PSOs, included representatives from RECs, diplomatic community, academia, media, UN and AU officials

## Italian Director-General for Globalization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs meets UNOAU

UNOAU's meeting with the Italian Director-General for Globalization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Minister Plenipotentiary Massimo Gaiani discussed financing modalities of AU Peace Support Operations (PSOs) and the status of implementation of Kigali Summit decision on the AU Peace Fund on the 24<sup>th</sup> of May, 2017.



Italian Director-General for Globalization of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Minister Plenipotentiary Massimo Gaiani (left) meeting with UNOAU's Chief of Staff, Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh and Chief of the Political Affairs Section, Mr. Nicholas Shalita

The challenging environment around predictable funding for the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) was also discussed. UNOAU informed Mr. Gaiani that the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) was expected to submit its report to the UN Security Council (UNSC), pursuant to resolution 2320 (2016). Mr. Gaiani indicated that Italy was committed to working with other UNSC members to support more predictable funding for AMISOM. He added that the European Union's financial support to AMISOM through the Africa Peace Facility could not be expected to continue indefinitely, particularly in the context of ongoing discussions about burden-sharing

between the AU and the UN. He emphasized the importance of African countries securing their 25 percent contribution to AU PSOs as envisaged in AU decisions undertaken in Kigali.

## UNOAU Meets a Delegation from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO)

UNOAU met with representatives from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Joint Force Command in Addis Ababa on the 29<sup>th</sup> of June, 2017. NATO presented the "Southern Hub", a new structure created in the Strategic Communications Centre of the NATO Joint Force Command in Naples to monitor the situation in the southern flank of NATO with a focus on strengthening situational awareness and analysis; and strengthening NATO information-sharing with key partners. NATO informed UNOAU that the hub was expected to reach its initial operating capability by September 2017 and its final operating capability by January 2018.



UNOAU Chief of Staff Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh and Mr. Pankaj Joshi of the Operational Planning & Advisory Section (left) in a meeting with General Reinhardt Kloss (ACOS J9 JFC NP - Chief NATO Joint Force Command in Naples), Lieutenant-colonel Cyrille Montaru (Acting SMLO - based in Addis Ababa) and Captain Antonio Sportelli (ACOS J9 staff officer) on NATO's 'Southern Hub'

From the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup> of June 2017, NATO convened a seminar on NATO Principles of Operational Planning Process at the East African Standby Force headquarters in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The seminar was organized for the AU with 26 participants from the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms. The strategic intent was to execute support in a decentralized manner; on an opportunity basis, as capabilities allow and against a set of underpinning principles that include modest, request driven and African ownership as part of a comprehensive approach.

## Special Representative of the Secretary-General meetings and briefings

### *Japanese Director-General of International Cooperation meets with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General*

Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of UNOAU, Mr. Haile Menkerios met with the Japanese Director-General of the International Peace Cooperation Headquarters in Japan, Mr. Akio Miyajima. The Director-General visited the region to attend an equipment handover ceremony to the UN Mission in South Sudan (UNMISS). This handover followed the end of a five-year term of the Japanese Self Defense Forces (JSDF) in South Sudan. He also visited a dam constructed over the Nile. He described this successful project as one that could create new dynamics and opportunities for peace, security and development. He reiterated Japan's willingness to continue their engagement in the region. The meeting focused on the political and security developments in South Sudan, and among neighbouring countries. In Addis Ababa, Mr. Miyajima also met with the Special Envoy for Sudan and South Sudan, Mr. Nicholas Haysom.



Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General and Head of UNOAU, Mr. Haile Menkerios

### *The Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General meets with a New Zealand delegation*

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of May, 2017, UN SRSG Menkerios met with Deputy Heads of Missions from the New Zealand embassies in the Middle East and Africa, and briefed them on the UN-AU partnership, the recently signed Joint UN-AU Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, and issues of peace and security in Africa. Addis Ababa is becoming a hub for such missions as UNOAU has previously briefed representatives from Sweden, Norway, Canada, Belgium and Italy during their respective regional missions.

## Updates

### *The UN Assistant Secretary-General visits Addis Ababa*



Mr. Tayé-Brook Zerihoun, UN Assistant Secretary-General for the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA)

From 26 -29 May, 2017, Mr. Tayé-Brook Zerihoun, UN Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) for the UN Department of Political Affairs (DPA) met with counterparts at the AU Commission, Member States and the League of Arab States representatives on a range of UN-AU-Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) partnership issues. These included matters related to changing continental dynamics vis-à-vis the conflict in Yemen, commercial and strategic investments in Africa by Gulf countries, and the importance of developing a shared analysis and fostering dialogue within the region on such changing dynamics. Similarly, SRSG Menkerios, SESG Haysom and ASG Zerihoun met with the Ambassadors of the UK, the US, the European Union, Norway and Australia to update the latter on political processes in South Sudan. The updates outlined recent engagements with the Government of South Sudan and regional leaders, national dialogue and the security situation in the country. Strategies for engaging the AU and IGAD Member States on the mediation process were also discussed.

### *European Union regional meeting explores emerging trends in the Horn of Africa*

UN SRSG Menkerios accompanied AU Commission (AUC) counterparts to the European Union's (EU) Regional Heads of Delegation meeting in Djibouti where the changing geo-strategic dynamics in the Horn of Africa were discussed. Other important topics reviewed in the meeting included growing commercial and political interests of Gulf countries, means to promote cohesion between countries of the Horn, the EU's role, as well as the roles that the AU and the UN could play in supporting the IGAD Secretariat and Member States.

### *AU Peace and Security Council adopts "Kigali Conclusions"*

Important decisions made at the tenth retreat of the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC) Secretariat held in Kigali, Rwanda were highlighted in PSC's Communiqué issued in May 2017. According to the Communiqué, the PSC Secretariat formally adopted the "Kigali Conclusions". Among various issues relating to PSC working methods and effective implementation of previous PSC decisions, the Kigali conclusions included modalities of cooperation with the UN and other international organizations, namely the annual joint consultative meetings between the PSC and members of the UN Security Council (UNSC), as well as informal interactions with the five Permanent Representatives of the UNSC (P5) based in Addis Ababa.

### *Conflict Prevention Cluster meets AU Commission and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Representatives*

UNOAU, the Division of Early Warning and Conflict Prevention of the AU Peace and Security Department (AU PSD), the AUC Political Affairs Department and political officers of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) met in June 2017. The purpose of the meeting was to exchange views and provide updates on UN and AU positions on a range of country situations.

### *The AU Peace and Security Council considers mandate renewal for Regional Cooperation Initiative for the Elimination of the Lord's Resistance Army*

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of May 2017, the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC), under the chairmanship of Uganda, held its 685<sup>th</sup> session. The PSC considered the report of the AU Chairperson on the implementation status of the Regional Cooperation Initiative for the Elimination of the Lord's Resistance Army (RCI-LRA) and the renewal of its mandate, which was to expire on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2017.

The report of the AUC Chairperson highlighted the positive impact against the operations of the RCI-LRA; the gains made from the political and diplomatic efforts of the AU and partners including the UN; and provided recommendations on the way forward. There was broad consensus that the AU-RTF had successful in degrading LRA threat substantially. Uganda reiterated its readiness to host the AU-RTF headquarters and the US assured that it would provide targeted support despite withdrawing its forces. In addition, the EU confirmed willingness to support efforts to curb LRA threats. The PSC agreed to extend the mandate of the RCI-LRA for another year.

## *African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) mandate renewal*

The PSC agreed to renew AMISOM's mandate until the 30<sup>th</sup> of November 2017 with a maximum authorized strength of 22,126 uniformed personnel pending the outcomes of the Joint AU-UN Strategic Review of AMISOM in May 2017.

The Review explored options for a reconfiguration of AMISOM to best support the next phase of state-building in Somalia in line with the principles of the Somali National Security Architecture. This review was one in a series of initiatives planned to inform the international strategy on Somalia namely the UN Strategic Assessment and AU Lessons Learned Exercise on AMISOM. A conference held in London in May 2017 likewise generated outcomes to be taken into consideration. In the margins of the London conference, the Chairperson of the AU Commission held high level consultations with the Presidents of Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, and the Prime Minister of Ethiopia, the UN Secretary-General, United Kingdom Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands, the State Secretary for International Cooperation of Denmark, the Vice President of the European Union (EU) Commission, and the High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and Secretary-General of the League of Arab States (LAS). He stressed the need to support Somalia's government in overcoming challenges and highlighted the importance of fully implementing the country's National Security Architecture to capacitate Somali Security Forces, as this is critical to AMISOM's exit strategy. Moreover, the Chairperson appealed for predictable and sustainable funding for AMISOM and humanitarian assistance in Somalia.

## *AU Peace and Security Council briefs partners on the fight against terrorism and violent extremism*

The PSC briefed partners on the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. Chaired in May 2017 by the Ambassador of Uganda, the session saw participation of three African members of the UN Security Council (UNSC) and representatives of the European Union (EU). The Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA) updated participants on existing terror threats and outlined activities carried out by the African Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism (ACSRT). UNOAU highlighted UN-AU partnership in countering terrorism, making reference to the UN Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism. UNOAU further identified a number of thematic activities that were recommended within the Plan of Action. Egypt requested the PSC to implement recommendations of the UN Secretary-General's Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism.

## *AU - International Committee of the Red Cross roundtable on International Humanitarian Law in Peace Operations*

The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the AU convened a roundtable on respect for International Humanitarian Law (IHL) in peace operations. The AU and the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) highlighted ongoing efforts to strengthen respect for human rights in AU peace operations. In addition, UN-AU collaboration on developing a Comprehensive Human Rights and Code of Conduct Compliance Framework as part of on-going efforts to reinvigorate the AU Peace Fund and mitigating measures such as the Civilian Casualty Tracking, Analysis and Response Cell in AMISOM were also mentioned. AMISOM highlighted specific challenges facing adherence to IHL in a high-risk peace enforcement context like Somalia. AMISOM presented an argument in favour of greater UN-AU involvement in pre-deployment training to ensure streamlining of training standards across police/troop contributing countries (P/TCCs) and prepare uniformed personnel for specific challenges facing adherence to IHL in the face of asymmetric threats. The need to strengthen internal coordination and ensure regular troop rotation also came up in these discussions.

## *AU Strategic Lift Assessment Team visits the Eastern Africa Standby Force*

The AU Strategic Lift Assessment Team made up of experts from the AU Commission Peace Support Operation Division (PSOD) and UNOAU visited the Eastern Africa Standby Force (EASF) headquarters in May 2017. This visit was conducted within the context of the Maputo African Standby Forces (ASF) Strategic Plan (2016-2020) and the Specialized Technical Committee on Defense Safety and Security (STCDSS) recommendations of the second Extraordinary Summit of 15 January 2015 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The team identified EASF RMCCs' strategic lift needs including personnel and training, assessed EASF



*AU and UNOAU strategic lift assessment team calls on leadership of EASF Secretariat*

strategic lift infrastructure and capabilities, facilitated the review of existing agreements between EASF and its Member States in the provision of strategic lift for peace support operations (PSOs), and assisted in building a strategic lift database. Overall, the key outcome was the development of an EASF strategic lift action plan to be submitted to its policy organ for approval and implementation.

## *8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the AU-Regions Steering Committee on Small and Light Weapons and Disarmament*

The month of May came to a close with the AU and Regions Steering Committee on Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) and Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration (DDR) holding its eighth meeting at the AU in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting reviewed progress achieved during 2016 and 2017 in the implementation of the relevant aspects of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) Roadmap 2016-2020. The need for better coordination and information-sharing between all actors to prevent duplication was greatly emphasized, in addition to a call for an annual mapping exercise to remove this challenge. The implementation of related aspects of the AU Master Roadmap of Practical Steps to Silencing the Guns in Africa by the Year 2020 was also discussed. The meeting developed the scope, priorities and implementation modalities for the Continental Plan of Action on SALW which will support the implementation of the APSA Roadmap. The Continental Plan of Action is expected to be launched later this year following consultations with implementing partners.

## West and Central Africa

### Multinational Joint Task Force against Boko Haram

Major General L. E. Irabor of Nigeria has been appointed Force Commander for the Multinational Joint Task Force against Boko Haram (MNJTF) taking over from Major General L. O. Adeosun of Nigeria. An AU humanitarian liaison mission to Baga Sola in Chad was also deployed in May 2017 following the approval of the Force Commander. This mission provides timely information on the humanitarian situation on the ground. Additionally, civilian and military components of the MNJTF conducted a joint field mission in May 2017 that assessed the situation of women and human rights. The mission also collected information on human rights violations committed by Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin region. At the AU Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD) weekly operations briefing, the AU indicated that the Republic of Turkey had pledged USD 244,620 in support of the MNJTF. The AU awaits China's pledged donation of assorted equipment.

### 44<sup>th</sup> Ministerial Meeting of the UN Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa

From the 29<sup>th</sup> of May to the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June 2017, UNOAU attended the 44<sup>th</sup> Ministerial meeting of the UN Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa (UNSAC). The meeting took place in Yaoundé, Cameroon where a majority of UNSAC Member States were represented. Key participants in this meeting included UN peacekeeping and political missions in the Central African Republic (MINUSCA), in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUSCO) and West Africa (UNOWAS), the UN Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), the UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UNWOMEN, the UN Center for Human Rights and Democracy in Central Africa and the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).

In addition to security and geopolitical issues, the meeting deliberated on the report of the assessment Committee which had been commissioned at the 43<sup>rd</sup> session and granted an observer status to La Francophonie at the latter's request. Member States were encouraged to work harder towards holding a joint Summit of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) and the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) on insecurity in the Lake Chad Basin. Two Declarations were adopted on the Central African Republic (CAR) and the revitalization of UNSAC. The Sao Tomé Declaration on the inclusion of more women in Member States' delegations to UNSAC meetings was renewed. Cameroon was designated President of the Committee, and Rwanda and the Republic of Congo became first and second Vice-Presidents, respectively. Chad reported on the overall process. The 45<sup>th</sup> session is likely to take place in Kigali, Rwanda.



UN Photo

*A schoolboy watches as a vehicle of the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO) negotiates a muddy road in the town of Pinga, North Kivu. Tanzanian and Uruguayan troops serving with MONUSCO conducted patrols of the town (04 December 2013)*

## East Africa and the Horn

### Joint UN-AU Review of the African Union Mission in Somalia

A Joint UN-AU Review of the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) carried out in May 2017, and requested by the UN Security Council (UNSC) in Resolution 2297 (2016) explored options for a reconfiguration of AMISOM to support the next phase of state-building in Somalia.



*Mr. Atul Khare, Under-Secretary-General in the Department of Field Support together with Mr. Hubert Prince, Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) in the Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS) held a briefing for partners at UNOAU in Addis Ababa ahead of their mission to Mogadishu*

The Joint Review was conducted by members of the UN Departments of Peacekeeping Operations, Field Support and Political Affairs, UNOAU, the UN Assistance Mission in Somalia (UNSOM) and Support Office in Somalia (UNSOS), the AU Peace Support Operations Division (PSOD), AMISOM and partners (EU, France, Italy, the UK and the US). Consultations with the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), Federal Member States, AMISOM and partners in Addis Ababa and in Mogadishu underlined the importance of a Somali-led process based on the Somali National Security Agreement of 17<sup>th</sup> April 2017, the Security Pact agreed at the London Conference on Somalia in May 2017, and a new policing model among others. The findings and recommendations of the Joint Review were finalized ahead of transmittal to the AU Peace and Security Council (AUPSC) and UNSC for consideration.



*UN-ASG Mr El Ghassim Wane briefing UNSC members in Addis Ababa on preliminary findings of the UN-AU Joint Review of the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM)*

Also in May, UN Assistant Secretary-General (ASG) for the Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), Mr. El Ghassim Wane briefed representatives of the members of the UN Security Council (UNSC) in Addis Ababa on the preliminary findings of the UN-AU Joint Review of the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM). ASG Wane highlighted the need for closer UN-AU coordination at both strategic and operational levels in line with the Joint UN-AU Framework on enhanced partnership peace and security. During the discussions, the continued need for addressing the question of funding for AMISOM was emphasized.

## Africa Day

### AU Commission successfully marks its 54<sup>th</sup> Africa Day Celebrations

On the 25<sup>th</sup> of May 2017, the AU marked its 54<sup>th</sup> Africa Day with celebrations in Addis Ababa. The SRSG Menkerios attended the celebrations in which the AU Commission Deputy Chairperson, H.E. Mr. Thomas Kwesi Quartey, delivered the AUC Chairperson's message. He recalled the adoption of Agenda 2063 in January 2015; which in turn has led to a historic decision to adopt a new mechanism to finance the AU Commission (AUC). He stressed the fact that swift and rigorous implementation would not only be a response to financial emergencies, but also a matter of credibility and an assertion of African leadership.



AUC Deputy Chairperson, Mr. Thomas Kwesi Quartey delivering the message of the African Union Chairperson, H.E. Mr. Faki Mahamat at the 54<sup>th</sup> Africa Day celebrations



Ambassador Fatoumata Sidibe Kaba, Chairperson of the Permanent Representatives Committee delivered the message of the Chairperson of the Assembly, President Condé

He also restated the need to continuously promote synergy between Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda. The signing of the Joint UN-AU Framework for Enhancing Partnership in Peace and Security on 19<sup>th</sup> April 2017 was another highlight of the message. H.E. Kwesi Quartey reiterated that an enhanced partnership with the UN in peace and security is a key priority in the tenure of the AU Chairperson, H.E. Mr. Moussa Faki. The event was also addressed by the Permanent Representative of Guinea and Chairperson of the Permanent Representatives Committee, Ambassador Fatoumata Sidibe Kaba who conveyed the message of the Chairperson of the Assembly, President Condé.



SRSG Menkerios (right) and Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh, Chief of Staff represented UNOAU at the Africa Day celebrations

## UNOAU in Action



H.E. Mr. Eric Muller, Chargé d'affaires a.i., Ambassador of the Grand-Duché de Luxembourg in a meeting with UNOAU Chief of Staff Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh and Mr. Nuredeen Azeez, Chief of the Operational Planning and Advisory Section (OPAS) on partnerships for peace and security operations in Africa



UNOAU's Operational Planning and Advisory Section (OPAS) team session on its work in providing technical support to the AU military and police operations, mine action, security-related matters and mission support planning



UNOAU representatives with AU partners in a consultation regarding the development of a matrix for the implementation of the UN-AU Joint Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security



SRSG Menkerios presenting the recently signed UN-AU Joint Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security to the UN Liaison Team (UNLT) in Ethiopia



Mr. Nicholas Shalita (left), UNOAU Chief of Political Affairs, delivering UN statement at the 699<sup>th</sup> AU PSC session in July



The Special Representative for Mali and Head of the United Nations Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) Mahamat Saleh Annadif of Chad addressed the AU PSC in July regarding situation in Mali



From left to right: Mr. Nicholas Shalita, Mr. Khassim Diagne, Ms. Nathalie Ndongo-Seh and SRSB Menkerios observe a minute of silence for the late UNFPA Executive Director, Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin at the 31st Ordinary Session of the Executive Council of the African Union on 30th June, 2017



Mr. Idrissa Kane (right), the Ethiopia Representative of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (UNOHCHR) in Ethiopia and Ms. Nwanneakolam Vwede-Obahor (middle right), OHCHR Regional Representative conducted a meeting at UNOAU where a strengthened UN and AU partnership on human rights was explored

## Staff Movements

### UNOAU bade farewell to:

Mr. Stefano Failla, *Security Sector Reform Officer* (End of duty)  
 Ms. Margaret Maina, *Administrative Assistant* (Retirement)  
 Mr. Yoseph G. Michael, *CITS Assistant* (End of assignment)  
 Ms. Falmata Liman, *Political Affairs Officer* (End of duty)  
 Mr. Johnstone Oketch, *Political Affairs Officer* (End of duty)  
 Ms. Amy Scott Hill, *Political Affairs Officer* (End of duty)

### In addition to:



Mr. Andrzej Grzelka, *Logistics Planner* (Retirement)



Ms. Line Holmum Andersen, *Reporting Officer/ Policy & Best Practices* (End of duty)



Ms. Falmata Liman, *Political Affairs Officer* (End of duty)

### UNOAU welcomes

Mr. Jeffrey Means, *Political Affairs Officer* (Short-term assignment)  
 Ms. Mary Ann Espedillon, *Administrative Assistant to the Chief Of Staff*  
 Ms. Christian Aragaw, *Protocol Assistant*  
 Ms. Edda Zekarias, *(National) Public Information Officer*  
 Mr. Seth Appiah-Mensah, *Chief, Mission Support Planning Section*



## Key UN facts



### The United Nations

- Provides food and assistance to 80 million people in 80 countries
- Supplies vaccines to 45% of the world's children, helping save 3 million lives a year
- Assists and protects 65.3 million people fleeing war, famine and persecution
- Works with 195 nations to hold the rise in global temperature below 2°C/3.6°F
- Keeps peace with 117,000 peacekeepers in 15 operations on 4 continents
- Fights extreme poverty, helping improve the lives of more than 1.1 billion people
- Protects and promotes human rights globally and through 80 treaties/declarations
- Coordinates US\$22.5 billion appeal for the humanitarian needs of 93.5 million people
- Uses diplomacy to prevent conflict: assists some 67 countries a year with their elections
- Supports maternal health, helping over 1 million women a month overcome pregnancy risks

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## Upcoming Events

AU-PSC meetings/briefings (Chair of the month of August, Algeria)

22 August	Briefing on implementation of the 455 <sup>th</sup> AUPSC Communiqué on the prevention and combating of terrorism and violent extremism in Africa
24 August	Briefing on post-elections analysis and upcoming elections in Africa
15-17 August	Conference on Regional Stabilization Strategy for Boko Haram affected areas in the Lake Chad Basin
17 August	Open session on the role of democracy and national reconciliation in prevention and fight against terrorism
20-22 August	Department of Political Affairs (DPA) Africa Desk 1 visit to Ethiopia to exchange views on peace and security in the Horn of Africa
22 August	455 <sup>th</sup> Communiqué on the prevention and combating of terrorism and violent extremism
21-25 August	Consultative session on the AU Conduct and Discipline and Human Right policies being drafted
22-23 August	SRSG Said Djinnit, the Secretary-General's Special envoy on the Great Lakes Region will brief AU-PSC on situation in the DRC
22-24 August	ASF Pledges Verification Exercises: Visit to East African Standby Force(ESAF), Nairobi
24 August	Briefing on post-election analysis and upcoming elections in Africa
22-25 August	SRSG Farid Zarif, the Secretary-General's Special Representative for Liberia will meet with AU representatives and UNOAU SRSG on forthcoming elections in Liberia
29 August	AU-PSC briefing on the situation in South Sudan
28 Aug - 1 Sept	Strategic Lift Assessment Mission to ECCAS, Libreville, Gabon
6-8 September	UNSC Members mission to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
15 September	UN-AU Joint Task Force (JTF) meeting
12-25 September	72 <sup>nd</sup> Regular Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA 72)
2-4 October	ECOWAS Standby Force, Abuja, Nigeria
October	UNOAU Annual Retreat

## UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING WE ARE A GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP

### COUNTRIES CONTRIBUTING TO PEACEKEEPING

OVER **128** COUNTRIES  
CONTRIBUTE  
TROOPS, POLICE AND CIVILIAN PERSONNEL

### WORKING WITH INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS

SUCH AS { AU African Union } { EU European Union }  
& SUPPORTED BY  
**193** MEMBER STATES  
WHICH PROVIDE  
PERSONNEL, EQUIPMENT, FUNDS,  
TECHNOLOGY & TRAINING

### PEACEKEEPING INCLUDES

**15** MISSIONS  
ACROSS **4** CONTINENTS

### LARGEST MISSION IS IN

[MONUSCO] **DR Congo**  
**22,492** authorized strength  
Troops: 16,938  
Military observers: 454  
Police: 1,226  
International civilians: 816  
Local civilians: 2,654  
UN Volunteers: 404

### A GLOBAL LOGISTICS OPERATION

**54** AIRPLANES  
**158** HELICOPTERS  
**26** UAV  
unarmed, unmanned  
aerial vehicle  
**7** SHIPS  
**14,000** VEHICLES  
**310** MEDICAL CLINICS

### WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE HOST COUNTRIES WE HELP PEOPLE AROUND THE WORLD

**7 Million** TOTAL SQUARE KILOMETRES  
IN WHICH WE OPERATE | **125 Million** TOTAL POPULATION OF AREAS  
IN WHICH WE OPERATE

United Nations  
Peacekeeping  
[un.org/peacekeeping](http://un.org/peacekeeping)

Data used from 2014-2015  
\*Approved resources for the period from 1 July 2014 to 30 June 2015

**\*BUDGET 7.3**  
**BILLION**  
LESS THAN  
**0.5%** OF GLOBAL  
MILITARY  
EXPENDITURES

OVER **122,000**  
FIELD PERSONNEL  
INCLUDING MILITARY,  
POLICE AND CIVILIANS

## UNOAU Bulletin

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### Editor:

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**Corrigendum:** 'However, beyond the International Women's Day or any International Men's Day that one may wish to celebrate, we shall remember that women's rights and men's rights are primarily fundamental rights.' (UNOAU Bulletin, March-April 2017/p.11 – question 3; paragraph 2, line 3)

Address: UNOAU Menelik II Avenue; UNECA compound Zambezi building; 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> floors;

Tel.: +251 11 544 2275; Fax: +251 11 551 1652; P. O. Box: 1357; Addis Ababa-Ethiopia

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