



Press Statement

On the Launch of Amani Africa's 'Insights on the PSC'

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It is with great pleasure that we at Amani Africa Media and Research Services announce the launch of our brand new flagship project 'Insights on the PSC'. The launch of this project, jointly hosted by the Embassies of Switzerland and Germany in collaboration with Amani Africa, took place at the residence of the Ambassador of Switzerland on 9 April 2018.

The event was graced with the presence of Ambassadors of African Union member states including PSC members present, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and Head of UNOAU, Ambassadors of AU partner countries, representatives of African AU Commission and policy research and civil society organizations. The launching event involved a briefing that Dr Solomon A. Dersso presented on Amani Africa and the background, content, methodology and challenges to the project and rich discussions with participants that followed the briefing.

'Insights on the PSC' provides analysis on the agenda of the sessions of the Peace and Security Council (PSC), AU's premier decision-making body on peace and security in Africa. The products include timely insights on the provisional monthly program of the PSC and on the agenda of the sessions of the PSC, which are published ahead of the convening of the session in the 'What is in Blue' format of the New York based Security Council Report. As a brand new project, the distinguishing feature of 'Insights on the PSC' involves both the production of policy relevant **pre-session** insights and the focus of the insights principally on the agenda of the sessions of the PSC. The project is an innovative platform to fill the information and analysis gap on the working methods, dynamics and procedures of the PSC as they relate to the agenda of its sessions.

'Insights on the PSC' aim at contributing to the effective preparation and participation of PSC actors including most notably members of the PSC on the agenda of the sessions of the PSC and thereby enabling focused and effective deliberations on the policy issues relating to the agenda of the session. Established in the spirit of Article 20 of the PSC Protocol, 'Insights on the PSC' thus serves as a tool that supports and promotes a more effective PSC and the AU where member states, the civil society and partners are well informed of the Council actions and dynamics, and contribute their share to its mission to bring a peaceful and stable African continent.

Amani Africa Media and Research Services is a pan-African Addis Ababa based independent policy research, training and consulting think tank with expertise on African and the Africa Union (AU) affairs. With this landmark launch and its various products, Amani Africa has become a new addition to the very few number of think tank and research institutions in Addis Ababa working on the AU. As one of the few Pan-African Ethiopian think tanks working exclusively on African multilateral processes related to the AU, Amani Africa's emergence to the think tank and policy research sphere in Africa's diplomatic capital Addis Ababa presents a much needed addition to the diversity and richness of independent perspectives on the work of the PSC and the AU broadly necessary both for inclusive and effective policy making and for deepening the knowledge and popular understanding of the role of the AU and its PSC.

Amani's is a commitment for 'Excellence in the service of Africa's peace and the dignity of its peoples!'

Amani Africa is an independent Africa based policy research, training and consulting think tank that operates as the first and only institution with a specialization and primary focus on African multilateral policy processes notably the African Union.

We support the pan-African dream of peaceful, prosperous and integrated Africa through research, training, strategic communications, technical advisory services, convening and facilitation.

Acknowledgement

Amani Africa wishes to express its gratitude to the Embassy Switzerland and the Embassy of Germany in Addis Ababa.

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