

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي

UMOJA WA AFRICA



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

UNIÓN AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. P.O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 5513 822 Fax: (251-11) 5519 321

Email: situationroom@africa-union.org

PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
1197TH MEETING

30 JANUARY 2024
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.1197 (2024)

COMMUNIQUÉ



COMMUNIQUÉ

Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 1197th meeting, held on 30 January 2024, on the Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) against Boko Haram and the Renewal of its Mandate, held on Tuesday, 30 January 2024.

The Peace and Security Council,

Recalling its previous decisions on the activities of the MNJTF and the situation in the Lake Chad Basin, in particular, Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1126.2 (2022)] adopted at its 1126th meeting held on 12 December 2022;

Noting the opening remarks made by Ambassador Amma Adomaa Twum-Amoah, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Ghana to the AU and PSC Chairperson for January 2024, as well as the statements delivered by H.E. Amb. Mamman Nuhu, the Executive Secretary of the Lake Chad Basin Commission (LCBC) and Head of Mission, and Major General Ibrahim Sallau Ali, the MNJTF Force Commander;

Reaffirming AU's unwavering commitment to continue to support the MNJTF until the Boko Haram terrorist group has been completely eliminated and lasting peace, security and stability fully restored in the Lake Chad Basin region; and

Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council,

1. **Endorses** the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the Activities of the MNJTF against Boko Haram and the Renewal of its Mandate; and **decides** to renew the mandate of the MNJTF for another period of twelve (12) months, effective from 1 February 2024;
2. **Welcomes** the achievements by the MNJTF in the fight against the Boko Haram terrorist group in the region and in the implementation of the Regional Strategy for the Stabilisation, Recovery and Resilience (RS-SRR) of the Lake Chad Basin areas affected by Boko Haram; and particularly, the continued operational successes that include: the reduced capabilities and operational reach of Boko Haram, the massive surrendering of the Boko Haram combatants and their families, as well as the continued voluntary return and re-settlement of the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) and refugees to their former communities across the region;
3. **Pays tribute** to the MNJTF Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) for their continued sacrifices. Pays particular tribute to the personnel that have paid the ultimate price and **expresses** heartfelt condolences to the families and Governments of the deceased;
4. **Expresses deep concern** over the security threat that continues to be posed by the Boko Haram terrorist group and its continued use of Improvised Explosives Devices (IED) within the MNJTF Area of Operation, abductions of civilians for ransom, and proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons across international borders in the region and, in this regard, **underscores the need** for enhanced border security in the region, in order to effectively monitor and control the proliferation of illicit small arms and light weapons;
5. **Emphasizes the need** to further enhance regional cooperation coordination among the TCCs, including through sharing of information, establishment of regional intelligence networks and collaborating with other international partners;

6. **Encourages** MNJTF and LCBC to work in close collaboration with local communities including establishing regular communication channels and cooperation mechanisms, addressing the legitimate grievances and needs of the local communities and inclusive peace building and peace strengthening projects in areas liberated from the terrorist group, as part of public diplomacy efforts;
7. **Stresses** the importance of promoting meaningful participation of women and the youth, in the processes aimed at conflict prevention, management and resolution in the Lake Chad Basin area;
8. **Requests** the AU Commission to redouble efforts in facilitating the provision of resources for the MNJTF, in particular equipment from the Continental Logistic Base (CLB), in order to significantly contribute towards enhancing the capacity of the Force to more effectively fight Boko Haram;
9. **Reiterates** the need to mobilize more resources to re-establish social and economic livelihoods of the re-settled communities; **encourages** Member States in a position to do so, and members of the international community, including the AU Commission and the United Nations, to provide humanitarian assistance to the population affected by the activities of Boko Haram and to support socio-economic projects that will improve the livelihoods of the resettled communities; in the same regard, **encourages** broader efforts by the LCBC and MNJTF TCCs to work closely to ensure coordinated and community-centered approach towards smooth re-integration of the surrendering Boko Haram combatants;
10. **Stresses the need** for continued implementation of the RS-SRR as a long-term solution to the heinous activities of Boko Haram;
11. **Appeals** to the international community for additional support towards the disarmament, demobilisation and re-integration programmes in the region;
12. **Expresses** gratitude to the AU's partners, in particular the European Union (EU), for the continued support to the activities of the MNJTF, including for the expressed willingness to support the MNJTF for the years 2023 to 2024;
13. **Requests** the AU Commission and the LCBC to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) and Support Implementation Agreement (SIA) between AU, LCBC and MNJTF TCCs, which will guide the provision of AU additional support to the MNJTF, for a period of one (1) year, effective from 1 February 2024;
14. **Also Requests** the AU Commission, working in coordination with the LCBC Secretariat, to report to Council regularly on the activities of the MNJTF; and
15. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.

2024-01-30

Communiqué of the 1197th Meeting of the Peace and Security Council held on 30 January 2024, on the Consideration of the Report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) against Boko Haram and the Renewal of its Mandate.

Peace and Security Council

African Union Commission

<https://papsrepository.africa-union.org/handle/123456789/2013>

Downloaded from PAPS Digital Repository, Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS)