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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

1301ST MEETING

17 SEPTEMBER 2025

ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.1301 (2025)

COMMUNIQUE



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Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 1301st meeting (Open Session) held on 17 September 2025 on the Nexus Between Climate Change, Peace and Security.

The Peace and Security Council,

Recalling the AU Assembly Decision [Assembly/AU/Dec. 815 (XXXV)] adopted by the 35th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held on 5-6 February 2022, which acknowledged the “inextricable link between climate, peace and security” and the request to the Commission to expedite the finalization of a climate-related security risk assessment study, in consultation with AU Member States, as well as to expeditiously develop a Common African Position on the nexus between Climate, Peace and Security; and also adopted the AU Climate Change and Resilient Development Strategy and Action Plan (2022-2032) which underlined the role of climate change as a potential threat multiplier in the context of conflict and human security;

Further recalling its previous decisions and pronouncements on the nexus between climate change and peace and security, in particular Communiqués [PSC/PR/COMM.1263 (2025)] adopted at its 1263rd meeting, held on 6 March 2025; [PSC/PR/COMM.1240 (2024)] adopted at its 1240th meeting held on 30 October 2024; [PSC/MIN/COMM.1114 (2022)] adopted at its 1114th meeting, held at Ministerial Level on 18 October 2022; [PSC/PR/COMM.1079 (2022)] adopted at its 1079th meeting held on 21 April 2022; and Press Statement [PSC/PR/BR.(DCCLXXIV)] adopted at its 774th meeting held on 21 May 2018;

Taking note of the Opening remarks by H.E. Ambassador Professor Miguel Bembe, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Angola to the AU and Chairperson of the PSC for September 2025; and the presentations by H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security and by Dr. Solomon A. Dersso, Founding Director of Amani Africa Media and Research Services (AMANI Africa);

Also taking note of the statements by the AU Member States and Representatives of Regional Economic Commitments and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), namely, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa namely (COMESA) and Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) as well as the statements by AU partners; and

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

1. **Welcomes** the Second Africa Climate Summit (ACS2) convened by the AU Commission in collaboration with the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, held from 8 to 10 September 2025, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia and **looks forward** for the implementation of its outcomes;
2. **Acknowledges** the differentiated impacts of climate change on peace and security across the continent, and **underscores** that climate change is a risk multiplier that aggravates vulnerabilities, heightens insecurity, and undermines livelihoods, thereby, exacerbating existing conflicts and creating new security challenges or social, economic, and environmental factors that can lead to food insecurity, forced migration, conflict and economic disruption through extreme weather events like droughts and floods;

3. **Highlights the imperative** for coordinated efforts to address the causes and impacts of climate change on peace and security; in this respect, **underscores** the importance of strengthening institutional collaboration frameworks between AU Member States, RECs/RMs, African Climate Commissions, AU centres of excellence, civil society, the private sector, and international partners, to build coordinated responses to climate-related security risks;
4. **Underlines** the need to develop more inclusive, effective, and equitable climate adaptation strategies that acknowledge the vital role of Women and youth, bridge existing gaps, and prevent further marginalization, and **calls on** the AU Member States to redouble their efforts in incorporating the Women Peace and Security (WPS) and youth Agendas into national and local priorities, taking into account the specific situation and socio-cultural dynamics of each country;
5. **Also underlines** the need to strengthen early warning systems as strategic climate, peace and security measure for anticipating how climate variability interacts with fragility and conflict drivers and climate-informed peacebuilding to build resilience and foster sustainable development, including the need to ensure that climate indicators are incorporated in the early warning system; in this connection, **stresses** the need to for Member States to develop National Adaptation Plans to address the impacts of climate change, and support further means for transfer of technological cooperation, capacity building and developing early warning systems for African countries;
6. **Takes note of the** progress towards the finalization of the Common African Position (CAP) on Climate Change, Peace, and Security and **reaffirms** its value as a unifying framework to amplify Africa's voice in global processes; in this regard, **reiterates** its call for the AU Commission to expeditiously develop the CAP on the nexus between Climate, Peace and Security in consultation with Member States to ensure their ownership; and **encourages** AU Commission to continue consultations with RECs/RMs, African Climate Commissions, the African Group of Negotiators (AGN), civil society organizations, African centres of excellence and the United Nations, with a view to finalize the CAP;
7. **Highlights the need** to accelerate the operationalization of the Continental Mechanism of Civil Capacity for Disaster Preparedness and Response, building on existing early warning systems and multi-hazard approaches to fill gaps in risk knowledge and response capacity; **and requests** the AU Commission to support and strengthen its collaboration with initiatives aimed at strengthening African capacities to anticipate, prevent and effectively manage the challenges of climate change, particular with Member States, RECs/RMs, centres of excellence, civil society, and international partners to scale up climate-security action;
8. **Highly encourages** sub-regional and regional initiatives on sustainable cross border transhumance, which are mindful of the requirements for biodiversity conservation, the fight against the negative effects of climate change and **supports** the efforts of sustainable cross border transhumance geared towards improving the living conditions and livelihoods of pastoralists, without prejudice to the environment, peace and security between human communities, transhumance host countries or to the social and cultural systems of indigenous and local communities;
9. **Underscores** the urgency need for mobilization of predictable and sustainable financing for adaptation, loss and damage, just transition, and the scaling up of Africa-led climate-security initiatives, as well as in relation to the loss of livelihoods, energy and food insecurity in line with previous PSC calls; and in this regard, **calls** for accelerated mobilization of resources to close Africa's adaptation finance gap,

and expand innovative financing instruments that are conflict-sensitive and accessible to countries affected by insecurity, complex political transitions and displacement;

10. **Highlights** the need strengthen African financing facilities by leveraging private sector investment, enhancing domestic capital markets, increasing access to international funds, and promoting tailored financial instruments like concessional debt and debt swaps; and **calls on** for implementation of both the commitment to mobilize climate finance to the scale of \$ 300 billion per year by 2035 adopted at COP 29 and the earlier goal of mobilizing USD 100 billion per year through 2025 to address the financing needs of developing countries;

11. **Underscores** the critical need for implementation of Article 3(5) of the UNFCCC, which calls for a supportive and open international economic system to enable sustainable development and climate change mitigation, especially for developing countries, which was emphasized by the COP28 which reiterated the call for the avoidance of unilateral trade measures based on climate or environment, with the view of promoting equitable global cooperation for climate action;

12. **Upholds** the importance of implementing the Climate Response for Sustainable Peace (CRSP) launched at COP27, which is considered as one of the first initiatives establishing the nexus between Climate Change, Peace and Security;

13. **Takes note** the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on 23 July 2025, following the UN General Assembly's request in Resolution 77/276 of March 2023, where the ICJ unanimous opinion affirmed that states have a binding legal obligation under international law to protect the climate system and environment from the harmful effects of greenhouse gas emissions, failure to comply with these obligations constitutes an internationally wrongful act, potentially making states liable for full reparation, including restitution and compensation, to injured states, particularly small island developing States vulnerable to harmful effects of climate change;

14. **Looks forward** to the organization of the forthcoming inaugural Africa Biodiversity Summit schedule to take place in Gaborone, Botswana, from 2 to 5 November 2025;

15. **Also Looks forward** for the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference (COP30) to be held in Belém, Brazil, from 10 to 21 November 2025; and **reaffirms** the importance of projecting a unified African voice on climate, peace and security at COP30, UN General Assembly (UNGA 80), and the G20 Summit, as well as in other international forums; and

16. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.