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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
1311ST MEETING

14 NOVEMBER 2025
ADDIS ABABA

PSC/PR/COMM. 1311 (2025)

COMMUNIQUE



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Adopted by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its 1311th meeting held on 14 November 2025, on Media, Peace and Security.

The Peace and Security Council,

Recalling AU Decisions on popularisation of the organization's initiatives and programmes, notably Assembly/AU/Dec.588 (XXVI), which calls for the continuous popularisation and awareness raising of Agenda 2063 through available platforms, including the Media and the African Editors Forum;

Recalling the previous decisions on Media, Peace and Security, notably those of the Press Statement [PSC/PR/BR. (DCXXXV). adopted by the Council at its 635th Meeting held on 17 November 2016 on the Role of the Media in enhancing accountability on Women, Peace and Security in Africa; Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1097.1 (2022) adopted by Council at its 1097th Meeting of 4 August 2022 on Emerging Technologies and New Media: Impact on Democratic Governance, Peace and Security in Africa; Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1214 (2024)] adopted at its 1214th Meeting of 13 June 2024 on Artificial Intelligence and its Impact on Peace and Security in Africa ;the Press Statement [PSC/PR/BR.1230 (2024)] of its 1230th meeting of 2 September 2024; and Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1097(2022)] adopted by Council at its 1097th meeting held on 4 August 2022;

Also Recalling the Conclusions of the AU-UNESCO African Media Convention (AMC) held in Accra, Ghana on 15-17 May 2024 on " The African Media We Want: Enhancing Freedom, Innovation and Environmental Sustainability in a Dynamic World;"

Further recalling Article 9 of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and Action 14 (1) of the Pact for the Future adopted in 2024, on the need to respect and protect journalists, media professionals and associated personnel working in situations of armed conflicts;

Taking note of the opening remarks by H.E. Ambassador Churchill Ewumbue-Monono, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cameroon to the AU and Chairperson of the PSC for November 2025; and **also taking** note of the statements by H.E. Adama Dieng, the African Union Special Envoy on Genocide and other Mass Atrocities and by Mr. Omar Faruk Osman, President of the Federation of African Journalists (FAJ); and

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

1. **Acknowledges** the inextricable link between Media, Peace and Security, as well as the critical role of an ethical, professional and responsible media in the popularisation of the AU peace and security agenda, including, Silencing the Guns in Africa by the Year 2030;
2. **Reaffirms** the AU's commitment to Aspirations 3 and 4 of its Agenda 2063, which underline "An Africa of good governance, democracy, respect for human rights, justice and the rule of law" and "A peaceful and secure Africa";
3. **Welcomes** the adoption of the "Resolution on the Safety of Journalists and Media Practitioners in Africa adopted by the ACHPR during its 67th Ordinary Session held from 13 November to 3 December 2020 and applauds the role of journalists and the media in contributing towards the promotion of peace, security, democracy and development of Africa;

4. **Commends** the role of the Media and journalists in the AU Policy Process, especially in the education and the popularisation of peace, security and governance policies, programmes and initiatives which enhance their understanding and implementation;
5. **Condemns in strongest terms**, all forms of violence and attacks against journalists and other media professionals, which prevent them from undertaking their popularisation activities and **calls** for objective investigations and prosecution of perpetrators in order to end impunity, ensure accountability and promote justice for the victims of such attacks;
6. **Welcomes** the 2025 global theme of the International Day to End Impunity for Crimes against Journalists, focusing on AI-facilitated gender-based violence against women journalists; and the message of 2 November 2025, the ACPHR's Special Rapporteur, on the occasion and **encourages** Member States, media organisations and practitioners to develop frameworks for addressing digital online and offline and gender-based threats facing women journalists; In the same context, **stresses the need** for all stakeholders to prioritise the development of gender-responsive policies, training and protection measures to protect the safety of women operating in both traditional and online media environments;
7. **Reiterates the call** on Member States to actively engage in the development and implementation of national and regional strategies that align with AU guidelines and principles that safeguard the safety of journalists and, other media professionals , particularly the October 1995 Johannesburg Principles on National Security, Freedom of Expression and Access to Information; Resolution 185 of 2011 of the Banjul Charter, 2013 AU Model Law on Access to Information; and the 2019 Declaration of Principles on Freedom of Expression and Access to Information in Africa;
8. **Encourages** the media to continue to play a more positive role of ethical, professional, responsible and objective reporting that would promote accountability, good governance as well as a safe and peaceful Africa based on information integrity and Media Sovereignty. In this connection, **requests** the AU Commission to urgently develop a Continental Media Regulatory Framework and Observatory and establish an African union Continental Media House and submit to Council as soon as possible for consideration;
9. **Further encourages** the media to play greater roles in the prevention, management and mitigation of disinformation, misinformation, hate speech, fake news, deep fakes and the negative use of artificial intelligence in disseminating dangerous information that may threaten the peace security and stability of Member States;
10. **Stresses the need** for the endorsement of the African Union Group of Friends for the Safety of Journalists (GoF) in Addis Ababa similar to those in other global diplomatic hubs;
11. **Underlines the importance** of mainstreaming and integrating communication and media dimensions across all the Pillars of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and African Governance Architecture (AGA) frameworks in the context of the on-going reforms; **underlines in particular**, the need to strengthen the role of media in the messaging and popularisation of AU's conflict prevention, peacekeeping, post-conflict reconstruction, peacebuilding, national reconciliation and transitional justice processes;
12. **Also underlines** the mainstreaming of media analyses, digital monitoring and fact-checking in the AU's early warning and preventive diplomacy, and to this end, **calls for** the development of a Continental Framework on Digital Peace and Information integrity in Africa to be expedited as directed earlier by Council;

13. **Encourages** Member States to develop dynamic public diplomacy programmes aimed at defending their national interests, manage, conflict and crisis situations guarantee the dissemination and counter disinformation, while contributing to the promotion of national cohesion and regional stability; of journalists and other media practitioners into their national peace and security plans and strategies by promoting access to information and to this end, **reiterates** its call for a comprehensive study on the legal institutional and policy framework and map for the protection of journalists and Access to Information in Cooperation with the relevant AU Organs;
14. **Emphasizes the need** to reinforce cooperation among the PSC, the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR), the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (African Court), Regional Economic Communities and regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs international partners, particularly UNESCO and African media organisations, including the Federation of African Journalists (FAJ);
15. **Further requests** the AU Commission to develop a Matrix of all PSC decisions and instruments on the role of the Media in popularisation of peace and security initiatives as well as the protection of journalists and to submit it to Council before March 2026 for consideration; and
16. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.