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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
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ANNUAL REPORT

**OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION (AUC) ON POST CONFLICT
RECONSTRUCTION DEVELOPMENT & PEACEBUILDING**

JANUARY – DECEMBER 2025

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE AFRICAN UNION COMMISSION (AUC) ON POST CONFLICT RECONSTRUCTION DEVELOPMENT & PEACEBUILDING

A. INTRODUCTION

1. This annual report covers the period January-December 2025 and highlights the key challenges and achievements by the AU Centre for PCRD in the implementation of its programs and operations on the continent, specifically those in conflict, political transition and post-conflict contexts. It is critical to mention that the Centre was officially operationalized in September 2023, with the onboarding of its first set of staff.

B. Results & Accomplishments

- i. **Building Resilient National Institutions: Enhancing Governance and Rule of Law in Somalia's Post Conflict Transition on 14 – 16 April 2025 in Mogadishu – Somalia;** A Capacity Building Program for National/State Institutions was held on 14 – 16 April 2025 in Mogadishu, Somalia. The aim of this program was to introduce and expose the stakeholders in Somalia to the newly adopted revised AU PCRD Policy (2024) with focus on the four (4) pillars. These were: i) Political Governance Transition, ii) Security Sector, iii) Women, Peace & Security & iv) Human Rights & Transitional Justice. The purpose was to contribute in Somali efforts towards capacitating stakeholders on how to effectively improve their democratic-governance mechanisms, especially as they strive towards sustainable development.
- ii. **Inclusion of Women and Youth in Political Spaces and Peacebuilding in Madagascar on 28 – 30 April 2025 in Antananarivo – Madagascar;** The objective of this dialogue on inclusion of women and youth in political spaces and peacebuilding platforms in Madagascar was premised on two segments; i) to identify and derive effective mechanisms for the involvement and ii) To amplify women's and youths' voices as active players and participants in decision-making/leadership processes and above all as drivers of the development agenda in Madagascar. Noting that women and youth inclusion in political spaces and peacebuilding talks present a comprehensive yet complex landscape, the dialogue incorporated the WPS, and Youth Inclusion Pillars of the revised AU PCRD as central to influence and inform conversations. Participants were drawn from key sectors such as Ministry of Youth, Ministry of Interior, CSOs and other relevant national stakeholders. A roadmap was developed as an outcome document for future steps towards embarking on robust programmatic engagements that would reshape the discourse of women and youth in different policy and action-oriented platforms, thereby enhancing their role as agents of change for transparent, inclusive and accountable governance.
- iii. **AU Centre for PCRD Engagement with The African Ambassadors Group, Cairo, Egypt: May 28, 2025.** The Centre engaged with the African Ambassadors Group based in Cairo on the 28th May 2025, Cairo, Egypt. The objective of this engagement with to introduce and expose to the African Ambassadors Group the revised AU PCRD Policy (2024), current projects being implemented by the Centre with the aim of creating opportunities for future bilateral engagements with member states regarding possible interventions on PCRD and peacebuilding in specific countries.
- iv. **Briefing to PSC Committee of Experts: Reactivation of PCRD Sub-Committee AU PCRD, Debre Zayit, Ethiopia on the 25-26 July 2025.** Pursuant to Article 8 (5) of the PSC Protocol, and relevant decisions of the Assembly of the African Union on peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and post-conflict reconstruction, the Centre provided a broad briefing to the PSC

Committee during validation of the Terms of Reference for reactivation of the PCRD-Sub-Committee PCRD, held at Debre Zayit, Ethiopia on the 25-26 July 2025. The objective of this briefing was to provide a comprehensive overview of the African Union Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (AU PCRD) Centre, in particular its mandate, strategic pillars, objectives, achievements, and current projects and contributions to sustainable development & peacebuilding across Africa such as the on-going quick impact project on a school renovation in Liberia.

- v. **The 3rd Coordination Meeting of the African Union High Level Working Group (HWG) held on 27 August 2025 (virtual).** The 3rd Coordination Meeting of the African Union High Level Working Group (HWG) held on 27 August 2025 under the leadership and co-chairmanship of **the Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace & Security and the CEO for AUDA-NEPAD** had as its main objective to update themselves on the state of play vis-à-vis the implementation of PCRD & Peacebuilding initiatives in relevant contexts, abreast themselves on the key upcoming activities/plans for the remainder of 2025 and plan for the future. This was instrumental in paving the way for the implementation of the triple nexus project on ‘peace-security-development’ in its eight (8) pilot countries.
- vi. **Awareness Raising and Knowledge Sharing between AU, RECS/RMS & relevant Stakeholders on the Implementation of the revised AU PCRD Policy on 11 – 13 September 2025 in Kigali - Rwanda;** A technical engagement was held between AU Organs, RECs/RMs and relevant stakeholders on the implementation of the revised AU PCRD Policy on the continent. The aim of this engagement was to update ourselves on the level of progress in the implementation of this important policy in identified contexts, identify common areas for joint planning and implementation and above all support the RECs/RMs, where applicable, in developing their regional PCRD Policies that Guidelines on Mental Health Psychosocial Support should be aligned to the continental one.
- vii. **Validation of the MHPSS Guidelines for affected persons in Pre-Conflict, Conflict & Post-Conflict Settings on 15 – 17 September 2025 in Kigali, Rwanda;** The validation workshop of the Guidelines on Mental Health Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) to affected persons in pre-conflict, conflict and post conflict contexts was successfully held, pending its final approval/endorsement by the AU Policy Organs (PSC+EXCO+ASSEMBLY). This validation workshop brought together representatives of AU Member States from the priority countries, experts in this area and other relevant entities such as ACDC, among others. The guideline will serve as a tool for the provision of mental health support to persons affected by the cycles of conflict in an identified context.
- viii. **Youth in Post Conflict Reconstruction Development (PCRD) and Peacebuilding on 29 September – 01 October 2025 in Cairo, Egypt.** An inaugural Youth Training on Post Conflict Reconstruction Development & Peacebuilding, the first of its kind, was successfully held on 29 September – 01 October 2025 in Cairo, Egypt. The aim of this training was to introduce and familiarize youth representatives selected from the five (5) regions of the continent, on the newly adopted AU revised PCRD Policy (2024) with an in-depth focus on its new nine (9) pillars as well as taking participants through the importance of peacebuilding within the African context. This will enable them to be better abreast of issues related to PCRD & Peacebuilding (as Youth Ambassadors on PCRD & Peacebuilding) in order for them to properly replicate it in their respective constituencies, so as to attain ‘Peace-Security-Development’.

- ix. **Launch of the 2nd Edition of the AU Journal on PCRD & Peacebuilding;** The Centre is currently in the process of launching the second (2nd) edition of the AU Journal on PCRD & Peacebuilding efforts on the continent. Out of more than 40 articles submitted, at least seven (7) of them are being edited for publication and launch which will be held in the margins of the 5th edition of the AU PCRD Awareness Week, in November 2025. Generation of the annual PCRD Journal is a platform which presents opportunity for African youth, scholars, experts and other think tanks to contribute on research and provide critical thinking in the PCRD debates facing our continent, in particular along the 9 pillars of the Policy. This initiative is a step in the right direction for African writers to share insights and solutions rooted in African experience and expertise.
- x. **The 5th Edition of the AU PCRD Awareness Week (flagship/statutory events) on 16 – 23 November 2025 in Addis Ababa & Cairo;** The fifth (5th) Edition of the AU PCRD Awareness Week was commemorated on 16 - 18 November 2025 in Addis Ababa and on 19 – 23 November 2025 in Cairo, with the theme *‘Rebuilding Lives After Conflict through Reparative Justice’*. The aim of this edition is to enhance the awareness of the general public and the main stakeholders on root causes, consequences and risks of resurgence of violence focusing on the lessons shared to maintain and consolidate peace as well as facilitate robust engagement with all stakeholders, towards building a network of African and non-African practitioners of PCRD & Peacebuilding activities in Africa. The PCRD Awareness Week will harness the full potential of post conflict recovery landscape as a force for positive change, driving sustainable and inclusive peacebuilding towards the achievement of the SDGs and Agenda 2063 – “The Africa We Want”. Congruently, post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding are interconnected, fitting together as development enablers.

C. Challenges and Opportunities:

- i. Building on lessons learnt from the first operationalization phase of the Centre creates opportunities for establishing partnerships both at continental and global spaces with the aim of overcoming current institutional capacity capacities.
- ii. The need to intensify efforts to providing the Centre with an office will enhance its visibility in the Host Country and ensure its efficient and effective operationalization to accommodate more staff on the ground as currently the Centre is still housed by the AU Permanent Delegation to League of Arab States.
- iii. There is urgent need to equip the Centre with necessary resources and tools to ensure a healthy working environment such as basic needs e.g. Office Vehicles, Office Furniture, and IT equipment which are currently non- existent despite the fact that the office is newly established.

D. Success Factors, Lessons Learnt and Recommendations:

- i. Adoption of the Common African Position (CAP) on the Global Peacebuilding Architecture (GPBA).
- ii. Validation of the Guidelines on Mental Health Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) for affected persons in pre-conflict, conflict and post-conflict settings is one of the key success factors for the Union during the period under consideration, pending its endorsement by the AU Policy Organs.

- iii. Continuous engagement of the High-Level Working Group (HWG) on PCRD & Peacebuilding should be kept alive and capitalized upon for the effective roll out of PCRD & Peacebuilding initiatives on the continent especially the triple nexus project on 'Peace-Security-Development'.
- iv. Effective Partnership, collaboration and coordination are indeed vital and important for the successful implementation of the revised AU PCRD Policy as well as any initiative/intervention on PCRD & Peacebuilding in relevant contexts.