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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
1335TH MEETING

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ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

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BRIEFING NOTE

THE SITUATION IN MADAGASCAR

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. This Briefing Note provides an update on the evolution of the situation in the Republic of Madagascar since the 1305th meeting (Emergency Session) of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) held on 13 October 2025. It concludes with some recommendations on the way forward.
2. Since October 2025, Madagascar has found itself at a critical juncture, simultaneously facing a fragile political transition, socio-economic challenges, and a major humanitarian catastrophe following Cyclones Fytia and Gezani, which had devastating effects on the infrastructure and severely affected the population. Despite these challenges, the Malagasy Re-foundation authorities are pursuing a process of structural transformation aimed at restoring the legitimacy and integrity of State institutions.
3. Some progress has been made in stabilising the country and returning it to the path of democracy and constitutional order. Notable progress includes: the launching of the National Consultation, which will be led by the Ecumenical Council of Christian Churches of Madagascar (FFKM) with a view to developing a new Constitution and the establishment of a Steering Committee for the National Consultation for the Re-foundation, tasked with developing the strategic plan intended to ensure the coordination and smooth running of the national consultation process.

II. THE POLITICAL SITUATION

4. As part of the gradual normalisation of the political process with a view to a consolidated return to constitutional order, at the beginning of March 2026, the President of the Re-foundation of the Republic of Madagascar officially submitted to the Southern African Development Community (SADC), a Programme for the Re-foundation of the Republic of Madagascar. The Programme outlines four phases of activities following a well-defined 24-month calendar as follows:
 - a) **Phase 1:** Sovereign National Consultation. This first phase relies on the participation of a national youth group, composed of key actors for change, and the Malagasy diaspora. It is dedicated to the sovereign national consultation. Its main purpose is also to gather, throughout the national territory and at all levels of social and territorial life, the aspirations, proposals, and resolutions of Malagasy citizens on the foundational themes of the Re-foundation of the Republic's Institutions;
 - b) **Phase 2:** Re-foundation of Governance to Ensure the Credibility of the Next Elections. This second phase is dedicated to reforming the legal and structural framework of electoral governance, with the aim of ensuring the conditions for organising a constitutional or referendum election and a presidential election that meet the standards recognised by international law. It includes reforming the electoral management body, revising the relevant existing legislation, reorganising the territorial administration, and completely revising the electoral register;
 - c) **Phase 3:** Drafting of the draft Constitution(s) of the Fifth Republic. Based on the resolutions from the Sovereign National Consultation, this third phase consists of developing the draft Constitution(s) for the Fifth Republic of Madagascar; and
 - d) **Phase 4:** Organisation of elections. This fourth phase concerns the organisation of the Constitutional and presidential elections of the Fifth Republic of Madagascar, carried out in

strict compliance with universally recognised standards for democratic elections, as well as the commitments made within the framework of this programme.

III. HUMANITARIAN SITUATION

5. Madagascar is facing a serious humanitarian emergency largely caused by Cyclone Fytia and Gezani, in January and February 2026. These natural disasters caused considerable damage, including significant loss of life and substantial destruction of infrastructure and homes, affecting many households. The provisional toll stands at 59 deaths, 15 missing, 804 injured, and more than 104,000 households affected, with thousands of homes destroyed or flooded. Following these humanitarian challenges, the Malagasy authorities declared a state of national disaster and launched an appeal for international solidarity to assist the affected populations and reconstruction efforts.

IV. AU EFFORTS IN SUPPORTING THE POLITICAL TRANSITION PROCESS

6. As part of AU efforts aimed at accompanying Madagascar's political transition, the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the AU Commission to Madagascar, H.E. Mohamed Idriss Farah, undertook a mission to Antananarivo, from 27 January to 2 February 2026, to convey the AU's readiness to support Madagascar and to engage in an inclusive dialogue with all Malagasy stakeholders, without exclusion, in order to seek a consensual solution to the current political crisis.

V. OBSERVATIONS

7. The evolving situation in Madagascar highlights a transitional phase marked both by political initiatives aimed at restructuring institutions and by significant challenges related to the inclusiveness of the political process.

8. Although institutions continue to function and efforts are underway to initiate a national dialogue, several factors of fragility remain, including the lack of consensus on the inclusiveness and transparency of the national dialogue process, the independence of judicial institutions, and socio-economic and humanitarian challenges.

9. Recent changes made within the High Constitutional Court (HCC) of Madagascar by the current government and legal proceedings initiated against figures from the former regime raise questions about judicial independence.

10. Sustained AU and SADC engagement and support, as well as the support of other international partners, remain critical to complement national efforts to consolidate political and institutional stability towards ensuring the completion of the political transition and restoration of constitutional order in Madagascar.

VI. RECOMMENDATIONS

11. In view of the forgoing the PSC may wish to consider the following recommendations:

- a) Take note of the evolution of the socio-political situation in Madagascar and the efforts being deployed by the Malagasy national authorities to stabilise the country with a view to promoting an orderly, inclusive and structured return to constitutional order;
- b) Welcome the Programme for the Re-foundation of the Republic of Madagascar announced on 28 February 2026 and commend the Malagasy authorities for their efforts and to encourage

them to seek the broadest possible consensus in the organisation of the national dialogue which must be as inclusive as possible and involve all stakeholders;

- c) Request the AU Commission to continue supporting the Malagasy political transition by despatching a multidisciplinary technical team of experts to support the Steering Committee of the National Dialogue and the country's electoral process;
- d) Reiterate the need for coordinated efforts in supporting the political transition in Madagascar and the AU readiness to collaborate with SADC and other international partners in accompanying Madagascar towards the restoration of constitutional order;
- e) Request the AU Commission to take all necessary steps to mobilise funds to support the political transition in Madagascar, particularly, the national dialogue process, including the use of the African Facility to support Inclusive Transitions (AFSIT);
- f) Provide humanitarian support to the Government and People of Madagascar following the damage caused by the recent natural disasters; convey its condolences to the Government and people of Madagascar;
- g) Express the AU solidarity with the Government and People of Madagascar and also express the AU readiness to support Madagascar in disaster risk management and in the same context, request the Department of Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development to mobilise the necessary resources to assist the Government of Madagascar and the affected populations, including strengthening national capacities for disaster risk reduction and management; providing humanitarian assistance and a team of humanitarian specialists; and call upon international partners and international humanitarian agencies to also contribute towards the mobilization of humanitarian assistance to Madagascar; and
- h) Encourage the AU Commission to strengthen the institutional capacity of the African Union Liaison Office (AULO) in Madagascar, including through deployment of adequate human resources to ensure the fulfilment of its mandate.