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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL  
1341<sup>st</sup> MEETING

27 APRIL 2026  
ADDIS-ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.1341 (2026)

**COMMUNIQUÉ**



## COMMUNIQUÉ

**Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 1341<sup>st</sup> meeting (Open Session) held on 27 April 2026 on Peace Support Operations in Africa.**

### The Peace and Security Council,

**Recalling** all relevant AU Assembly decisions, including paragraph 43 of Decision [Assembly/AU/Dec.868 (XXXVII)], adopted by the 37<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held in Addis Ababa from 17 to 18 February 2024; Decision [Assembly/AU/Dec.842 (XXXVI)] adopted by the 36<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union held in Addis Ababa, from 18 to 19 February 2023;

**Also recalling** all its previous decisions and pronouncements on Peace Support Operations in Africa, particularly, Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1225 (2024)] adopted at its 1225<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 1 August 2024; Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1236 (2024)], adopted at its 1236<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 22 October 2024;

**Taking note** of the Opening Remarks by H.E. Ambassador Hirut Zemene Kassa, the Permanent Representative of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia to the AU and Chairperson of the PSC of the AU for April 2026; the Introductory Statement by H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security; **also taking note** of the presentation by Mr. El-Ghassim Wane, Former Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General in Mali and Head of the United Nations (UN) Multidimensional Integrated Stabilization Mission in Mali (MINUSMA) and UN Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations, and Former AU Director for Peace and Security; H.E. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga, Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General to the AU and Head of the UN Office to the African Union (UNOAU); and

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

1. **Stresses** that peace support operations constitute, alongside prevention, peacemaking and peacebuilding, an important tool towards achieving the noble goal of silencing the guns in the Continent and for creating conducive conditions for the realization of the AU Agenda 2063;
2. **Welcomes** the significant gains made by the AU-led and authorized Peace Support Operations, notwithstanding the complex contexts in which they are deployed, aggravated by the persistent lack of predictable, adequate and sustainable funding, as well as by capacity and other related challenges facing them, including force enablers and force multipliers;
3. **Commends** Member States, in particular the Troop and Police Contributing Countries to the various PSOs deployed by the AU, as well as all regional economic communities and regional mechanisms (RECs/RMs) and partners, for the continued efforts and huge sacrifices being made in promoting peace, security and stability in the Continent;
4. **Expresses appreciation** to the United Nations for its efforts and **acknowledges** the central role that its peacekeeping operations have played and continue to play in the promotion of peace, security, and stability in Africa; **further thanks** all others who have provided support to AU PSOs and other African-led initiatives to promote peace and security on the continent;
5. **Stresses** that the AU already has the necessary tools to ensure the effective deployment of PSOs and calls for the full use of these tools in close coordination and collaboration with all strategic actors in the Continent, notably AU Member States, the AU Commission, RECs/RMs and other

institutions mindful of the indivisibility of peace and security on the Continent and the importance of renewed commitment to promoting pan-African solidarity;

6. **Underlines** the primary responsibility of the United Nations Security Council for the maintenance of international peace and security, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the UN Charter and the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union;

7. **Reiterates** the imperative for the UN Security Council to fully assume its responsibilities towards the promotion of peace and security in Africa, including the deployment of peacekeeping operations where required and their resourcing to enable them to fulfil their mandates effectively, as well as to provide the requisite support for the deployment and sustenance of AU PSOs in situations where UN missions are not feasible;

8. **Calls** for renewed efforts to implement resolution 2719 (2023), recalling that when the AU deploys PSOs, it does so on behalf of the Security Council and within the framework of Chapter VIII of the UN Charter, and **requests** the Commission, in close coordination with the UN Secretariat, to come up with recommendations on how to expedite this process, including options for the possible deployment of PSOs under that framework in situations where these are deemed relevant;

9. **Calls upon**, once more, Member States, without prejudice to the primary responsibility of the UN Security Council, to provide increased resources for the deployment and sustenance of AU PSOs, to ensure their effectiveness. In this respect, **recalls** the commitments made by Member States in several pronouncements to foster African leadership and ownership in the promotion of peace and security in Africa;

10. **Requests** the Commission, in view of the lessons learned from over two decades of deployments of PSOs, the continued financial and logistical constraints that hamper their deployment and sustenance, the need to enhance efficiency and effectiveness on the ground, and to take into account evolving threats to peace and security in Africa, to prioritize lean, targeted, and time-bound missions when making recommendations to the Council on the deployment of PSOs;

11. **Stresses the need** for the adoption of hybrid, flexible PSO approaches integrating security, stabilization, governance and development, and strengthen integrated civilian-military frameworks within PSO mandates, as well as **the need** to deepen and further strengthen coordination and burden-sharing with RECs/RMs, the UN and partners while preserving African ownership, legitimacy and adherence to rules-based multilateral norms;

12. **Reiterates** the need for continued efforts at all levels to strengthen the capacity of the AU to deploy and sustain PSOs, including:

- a) ensuring multidimensional strategic management at the AU and within the Planning Elements (PLANELMs) of the RECs/RMs;
- b) establishing mission-level multidimensional capabilities across the five sub-regions;
- c) ensuring a robust Command, Control and Communication System (C3IS) linking the AU and RECs/RMs to enable effective command, control, communications and information sharing;
- d) ensuring the sustenance of the Continental Logistics Base (CLB) and Regional Logistics Depots (RLDs) to support PSO self-sustainability;

- e) improving rapid deployment capacity, force readiness (training and equipment for ASF battalions), and key enablers (aviation, Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance – ISR, engineering, medical, and mobility);
- f) strengthening compliance, accountability, and protection frameworks (IHL/IHRL training, CCTARC, investigative mechanisms), as well as civil-military relations in all AU PSOs, in line with the AU Accountability and Compliance Framework, and supporting institutional reforms in national security forces to enable gradual, conditions-based transitions in countries hosting PSOs; and
- g) mainstreaming gender across all PSOs and their activities;

13. **Underlines the need** for regular strategic reviews of AU PSOs, drawing on lessons learned to inform necessary adjustments to the PSO framework, in line with the outcomes of the Abuja Lessons Learned Forum on PSOs and the ASF and **calls** for systematic follow-up and integrated of the outcomes of the Abuja Forum into ongoing AGA-APSA and PSO reform processes; and **requests** the AU Commission to undertake a comprehensive study on the AU PSOs addressing all relevant aspects, including mandates and tasks in the context of Africa’s evolving peace and security landscape, capabilities, linkages with other conflict management tools as provided for in the PSC Protocol, modalities and partnerships, and financing, with a view to proposing concrete and specific recommendations for consideration by the Council, within six months of the adoption of this Communiqué;

14. **Directs** the AU Commission to establish, based on the most appropriate and cost-effective, an annual Ministerial forum on AU PSOs in collaboration with the UN and as a regional segment of the UN-led ministerial process on peacekeeping as a strategic forum for mobilizing financial, strategic, logistical and technical support for AU PSOs, ensuring that these, as part of the AU toolbox for conflict management and resolution, contribute more effectively to the objective of silencing the guns;

15. **Stresses the imperative** for further strengthening early warning mechanisms, conflict prevention, preventive diplomacy, mediation, conflict management, as well as peacebuilding efforts; and also emphasizes collective security approaches and concerted action in peacemaking and peacebuilding to obviate the need to resort to complex and resource-demanding PSOs, which the Continent cannot afford to support;

16. **Reaffirms** the centrality of the partnership between the AU and the UN in the area of peace and security, with specific reference to peacekeeping operations deployed by the UN in Africa;

17. **Looks forward** to the signing of the Assembly-endorsed Memorandum of Understanding between the African Union and the RECs/RMs on the Use of the African Standby Force, in June 2026, on the margins of the AU Mid-Year Coordination meeting to be held in Egypt; and

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