

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي



UNION AFRICAINE

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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

NINETEENTH SESSION

8 November 2004

Addis-Ababa (ETHIOPIE)

PSC/PR/Comm. (2004) (XIX)

COMMUNIQUE OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

COMMUNIQUE OF THE NINETEENTH SESSION
OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), meeting in its nineteenth session, on 8 November 2004, to discuss the situation in Côte d'Ivoire :

1. **Expresses** its deep concern at the recent deterioration in the situation in Côte d'Ivoire, as a result of the lack of progress in the implementation of the commitments entered into by the parties in the Accra III Agreement, particularly the recent attacks launched by the Government forces on localities in the northern part of the country;
2. **Endorses** the Statement of 6 November 2004, issued at Ota, Nigeria, following AU/ECOWAS high level consultations under the auspices of the AU Chairperson, President Olusegun Obasanjo, and the Statement of November 7, 2004, issued by the Chairperson of the AU Commission, Mr. Alpha Oumar Konaré;
3. **Urges** the Government of Côte d'Ivoire and all the Parties involved in the crisis to exercise maximum restraint, and to maintain calm and ensure the safety and protection of all life and property. Council **further urges** all the parties to desist from any pronouncements that incite hatred and violence and, rather, take measures that will reduce tension and foster national reconciliation and unity;
4. **Expresses** deep concern at the serious deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Côte d'Ivoire and **appeals** to the international community and humanitarian agencies to provide the necessary assistance to the affected population. In this regard, Council **urges** all the parties to create an environment conducive to the safe delivery of humanitarian assistance;
5. **Reiterates** the imperative need for a political solution to the conflict in Côte d'Ivoire; and **urges** all the parties to put an immediate end to military actions and other hostile acts. Council **further urges** them to recommit themselves to the path of dialogue and negotiations, based on the Linas-Marcoussis and Accra III Agreements;
6. **Calls upon** all the parties to fully cooperate with UNOCI and the Licorne Forces in maintaining peace and security in the country. In this regard, Council **welcomes** the decision by the UN Security Council on the strengthening of the mandate of UNOCI. Council **further calls** upon Member States to stand ready to contribute to the expansion of the UNOCI Forces, should the need arise;
7. **Expresses support** for the decision taken by the AU Chairperson following the Ota high level AU/ECOWAS consultations, to mandate President Thabo Mbeki of South Africa to undertake an urgent mission in consultation with the Chairperson of the AU Commission, with a view to promoting a political solution. In this regard, Council **calls upon** its members to extend full support to President Mbeki in his mission;
8. **Decides** to remain actively seized with the matter.