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**PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
35TH MEETING
25 JULY 2005
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

PSC/PR/Comm.(XXXV)

COMMUNIQUE

**COMMUNIQUE OF THE 35TH MEETING
OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL**

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 35th meeting held on 25 July 2005, adopted the following communiqué on the situation in Liberia:

Council,

1. **Takes note** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Liberia [PSC/PR/1(XXXV)];
2. **Reiterates** its conviction the Accra Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA) of 18 August 2003 remains the most viable framework for the consolidation of the peace process and the post-conflict reconstruction of Liberia. Council **encourages** all the parties and stakeholders to scrupulously implement and respect the provisions and timelines of the Agreement;
3. **Commends** the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the United Nations (UN) and the other bilateral and multilateral Partners for the support extended in the implementation of the CPA since the establishment of the National Transitional Government of Liberia (NTGL). Council **welcomes** the progress made in the implementation of the Disarmament, Demobilization, Rehabilitation and Reintegration (DDRR) programmes, the security sector reform, the improvement of the overall security situation, as well as the successful deployment of the United Nations Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), as important achievements towards the reconstruction and stabilization of Liberia;
4. **Appeals** to the AU Member States and Partners to provide additional financial resources to enable the NTGL successfully conclude the rehabilitation and reintegration of the remaining ex-combatants, the demobilization of the Armed Forces of Liberia, and the effective implementation of the programmes for the repatriation of refugees and the return of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). Council **requests** the Member States and the Commission to support community-based development projects being executed as part of the Rehabilitation and Reintegration components of the DDRR programmes, in particular those that involve African NGOs;
5. **Notes with concern** the difficulties confronting the Transitional Institutions, particularly with respect to corrupt practices, which could undermine the significant progress made so far. Council **urges** the NTGL to put in place a mechanism for checking and punishing such practices. Council **further takes note** of the current efforts toward the design of an Economic Governance Action Plan, the implementation of which would create propitious governance conditions that would strengthen the efforts towards the lifting of sanctions on Liberia;
6. **Calls upon** all the leaders and senior officials of the NTGL to uphold the principle of accountability and transparency and to place the interests of Liberia before any other considerations;

7. **Expresses** its appreciation for the successful completion of voters' registration for the October elections and **urges** all the Liberian political parties and independent candidates to abide by the guidelines and procedures set by the National Electoral Commission (NEC) to ensure the smooth holding of the elections;

8. **Appeals** to the Member States and the wider international community to render the requisite financial, logistical and material assistance to the NEC;

9. **Requests** the Commission to take all necessary steps to contribute to the holding of free, fair and transparent elections, including through the mobilization of financial, logistical and technical support and the dispatch of an electoral observer mission.