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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
200TH MEETING
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ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM(CC)

COMMUNIQUE

**Communiqué of the 200th Meeting of the Peace and
Security Council**

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 200th meeting held on 21 August 2009, was briefed by Ms. Jacqueline Seck Diouf, the Director of the United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa (UNREC), on the disarmament agenda of the United Nations (UN), the activities of the Centre, and closer collaboration between the UNREC and the AU.

Council recalled Resolution AHG/Res.138 XXI, adopted in Addis Ababa in July 1985, in which the OAU Heads of State and Government requested the United Nations to establish a regional office in Africa to undertake in-depth studies for the purpose of promoting peace, disarmament and development on the continent. This resolution was subsequently endorsed by the UN General Assembly and led to the establishment of the UNREC in 1986.

Council also recalled Decision EX/CL/Dec.263 (VIII) adopted by the Executive Council in Khartoum in January 2006, calling for AU Member States to support UNREC by making voluntary contributions to maintain its operations.

Council expressed its satisfaction at the efforts by UNREC to revitalize itself, to extend its operations to cover all of Africa, and to forge a new direction for itself, in order better to respond to the evolving needs of the continent in the areas of peace, security and disarmament. In this respect, Council welcomes the increased collaboration between UNREC and the AU and the regional organizations.

Council welcomed the entry into force of the African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty (Pelindaba Treaty), commended those countries that have ratified the Treaty, and calls on those that have not yet done so, to ratify the Treaty.

Council called on UNREC and the Commission to further strengthen their collaboration, in particular through the work of the AU-Regions Small Arms and Light Weapons (SALW) Steering Committee, the development of an African SALW Strategy, as well as other areas of disarmament, including the promotion of the Pelindaba Treaty in Africa, now that it has entered into force.

Council further called on the UN to increase its support to UNREC, to enable UNREC to carry out its functions of providing technical support to efforts aimed at promoting peace, security and disarmament on the continent. Council also reiterates its call to AU Member States to make voluntary contributions to UNREC.