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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

73RD MEETING

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**REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMISSION
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PANEL OF THE WISE**

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1. Article 11 of the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) stipulates that:

Paragraph 1: “in order to support the efforts of the Peace and Security Council and those of the Chairperson of the Commission, particularly in the area of conflict prevention, a Panel of the Wise shall be established.”

Paragraph 2: “the Panel of the Wise shall be composed of five highly respected African personalities from various segments of society who have made outstanding contribution to the cause of peace, security and development on the Continent. They shall be selected by the Chairperson of the Commission after consultation with the Member States concerned, on the basis of regional representation and appointed by the Assembly to serve for a period of three years.”

Paragraph 3: “The Panel of the Wise shall advise the Peace and Security Council and the Chairperson of the Commission on all issues pertaining to the promotion and maintenance of peace, security and stability in Africa.”

Paragraph 4: “At the request of the Peace and Security Council or the Chairperson of the Commission, or at its own initiative, the Panel of the Wise shall undertake such action deemed appropriate to support the efforts of the Peace and Security Council and those of the Chairperson of the Commission, for the prevention of conflicts, and to pronounce itself on issues relating to the promotion and maintenance of peace, security and stability in Africa.”

Paragraph 5: “The Panel of the Wise shall report to the Peace and Security Council and, through the Peace and Security Council, to the Assembly.”

2. In accordance with the relevant provisions of the Protocol, the Assembly, by its decision ASS/AU/Dec.152(VIII) adopted at its 8th Ordinary Session, decided, as proposed by the Chairperson of the Commission, to appoint, for a period of three (3) years, the following personalities as members of the Panel of the Wise:

- Salim Ahmed Salim, former Secretary General of the Organization of African Unity (East Africa);
- Brigalia Bam, President of the independent Electoral Commission of South Africa (Southern Africa);
- Ahmed Ben Bella, former President of Algeria (North Africa);

- Elisabeth K. Pognon, President of the Constitutional Court of Benin (West Africa);
- Miguel Trovoada, former President of Sao Tome and Principe (Central Africa).

3. Now that the Assembly has appointed the members of the Panel of the Wise, the Commission, would like to submit for the consideration of the PSC, the Draft modalities for the functioning of the Panel, in line with article 11 paragraph 7 which provides that: "The modalities for the functioning of the Panel of the Wise shall be worked out by the Chairperson of the Commission and approved by the Peace and Security Council."

4. Once these modalities are adopted, the Commission shall take the necessary steps to convene the inaugural meeting of the Panel, which will be dedicated to the elaboration of a work programme.