



PRESS STATEMENT ON THE VISIT OF A UNITED NATIONS SECURITY COUNCIL DELEGATION TO ADDIS ABABA

The Peace and Security Council, at its 78th meeting, held on 9 June 2007, was briefed on the upcoming visit of a Security Council delegation co-led by South Africa and the United Kingdom to Addis Ababa, on 16 June 2007, as part of a mission to Africa.

Council welcomed the visit, which provides an opportunity to exchange views on how best to strengthen the cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations, particularly the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and the United Nations Security Council, in the maintenance of international peace and security, within the context of Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter and the relevant provisions of the Protocol relating to the establishment of the Peace and Security Council, and as a follow up to the communiqué adopted by the 68th meeting of the Peace and Security Council held on 14 December 2006, decision Assembly/AU/Dec.145 (VIII), adopted by the 8th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in January 2007, and the Security Council Presidential Statement of 28 March 2007.

Council recalled that the United Nations Security Council has the primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. In view of this, Council emphasized that, in taking initiatives for the promotion of peace and security on the continent, the African Union is acting on behalf of the United Nations and the larger international community. The United Nations, therefore, is expected to provide continued and increased support to enhance the capacity of the African Union and to take the necessary steps to significantly and rapidly improve its resource base to enable it to effectively play its role in the context of the provisions of Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter

Council welcomed the opportunity that will be given to it to have a fruitful exchange of views with the visiting Security Council delegation, which will lead to practical and tangible outcomes aimed at further strengthening the cooperation between the two organs, in line with Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, including enhanced and structured cooperation in resolving conflict situations in Africa.

Addis Ababa, 9 June 2007

