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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
1083RD MEETING

9 MAY 2022
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.1083 (2022)

COMMUNIQUÉ



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Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 1083rd meeting held on 09 May 2022 on Food Security and Conflict in Africa in line with the AU Theme of the Year 2022: *Building resilience in nutrition on the African Continent: accelerate the human capital and social economic development*:

The Peace and Security Council,

Recalling the Assembly decision [[Assembly/AU/Dec.813\(XXXV\)](#)] adopted at the 35th Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government on 5-6 February 2022, in Addis Ababa, which declared 2022 “the Year of Nutrition and Food Security” with the stated goals of “strengthening resilience in nutrition and food security on the African continent and strengthening agro-food systems, health and social protection systems for the acceleration of human, social and economic capital development”;

Mindful of the Maputo Declaration on Agriculture and Food Security [[Assembly/AU/Decl.7\(II\)](#)] and the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) adopted in Maputo in July 2003; the Abuja Declaration on Fertilizers for the African Green Revolution adopted during the AU Special Summit in June 2006; and the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods adopted in Malabo in June 2014;

Committed to the realisation of Agenda 2063 and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which calls for a transformative approach pointing to improved collaboration on conflict prevention and resolution, including the prioritization of peace and security to reposition Africa on a sustainable route of transformation and development;

Also committed to silencing the guns in Africa by the year 2030, pursuant Assembly Decision [[Ext/Assembly/AU/Dec.1\(XIV\)](#)], adopted by the 14th Extraordinary Session of the Assembly of the African Union Heads of State and Government on Silencing the Guns in Africa, in December 2020, with the goal of ending wars and civil conflicts, thereby achieving concrete development goals, including the eradication of hunger and the creation of the conditions conducive for socio-economic development;

Noting the opening remarks made by H.E. Ambassador Churchill Ewumbue-Monono, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cameroon and Chairperson of the Peace and Security Council for the month of May 2022; and the presentation by H.E. Ambassador Minata Samate Cessouma, AU Commissioner for Health, Humanitarian Affairs and Social Development;

Also noting the presentations by Prof. Afeikhena Jerome, Special advisor to the Commissioner for Agriculture, Rural Development, Blue Economy and Sustainable Development; the Representative of the World Food Programme (WFP); and the Representative of the European Union (EU); **further noting** the statements by the Member States and representatives of Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs).

Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:

1. **Expresses concern** over the adverse effects of conflicts on food security and nutrition on the continent, which leads to violence mainly affecting rural areas and their populations as well as impacting the cost of living, including the increase of food prices which exacerbate the already fragile peace and security situation; in this regard, **emphasizes** the need for Member States to address the root causes in relation to food, peace and security;
2. **Also express concern** over the impact of conflicts on food security and nutrition, particular the effects on agriculture and the disruptions of the value chains and food systems on the Continent; in this context, **stresses** the need for Member States to strengthen agriculture sectors at national level in order to boost agricultural production and prevent food shortage;
3. **Further express concerns** over the adverse impact of COVID-19 pandemic on agriculture and food systems; through, among others, hindered access to farming inputs and disrupt of the value chains; and **underlines** that conflicts and the COVID-19 pandemic grossly undermines the gains made towards achieving food and security on the continent, as well as efforts towards ending hunger in Africa by 2025 and consolidating durable peace and socio-economic development in Africa;
4. **Strongly condemns** any kind of conditionality for food access and the use of starvation as instruments of war and/or access to humanitarian assistance;
5. **Reiterates** the responsibility of host countries of refugee camps, to collaborate with pertinent international organs and agencies in the documentation of refugees in order to protect their basic rights, avoid diversion of humanitarian assistance, ensure proper access to food avoid their exploitation for political purposes, militarization and transformation into agents of terrorism and organized crimes;
6. **Takes note** of the ongoing efforts by the Member States and RECs/RMs in addressing food insecurity towards the restoration of effective and inclusive governance and constitutional order; and **urges** Member States to intensify action to implement Africa's blueprints for reducing hunger as defined in the Malabo Declaration on Accelerated Agricultural Growth and Transformation for Shared Prosperity and Improved Livelihoods and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular Sustainable Development Goal 2 (SDG2) on Zero Hunger, as well as the advances of humanitarian diplomacy as a tool to raise awareness about humanitarian issues;
7. **Commends** the development of African Common Position to accelerate the implementation of the Decade of Action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030, in which Africa collectively agreed to strengthen the resilience of its food systems towards meeting the Agenda 2063 and SDGs goals; in this regard, **requests** the Commission to provide support to Member States to implement and familiarize with the Common African Position;

8. **Requests** the Commission to undertake a study and propose to Member States recommendation on the strategies to boost food production in Africa and **submits** to the PSC for consideration;

9. **Also requests** the AU Commission to strengthen the linkage between humanitarian assistance, development and peacebuilding, with a view to enhance greater cooperation and coordination between actors in humanitarian assistance, development cooperation and peacebuilding;

10. **Urges** the acceleration of the implementing relevant initiatives, frameworks and commitments by Member States, as appropriate, to strengthen support to countries' efforts towards climate change adaptation and mitigation and **recalls** the need for RECs/RMs to share experiences, lessons and best practices in addressing the adverse effects of climate change, as well as to develop more effective synergies between the relevant local, national, regional and Continental entities in order to ensure more coordinated efforts aimed at mitigating the adverse effects of climate change;

11. **Underscores** the need Invest in Early warning System, improve the data collection and links to early action in conflict settings, inclusive the development of an integrated platform combining early warning systems for famine and violent conflict that could add important data and the missing link to assess famine, drought and conflict risk more comprehensively while advancing anticipatory humanitarian action in fragile and conflict-affected settings; in this context, **urges** Member States to invest on preventative and emergency measures to secure access to safe, continued and sufficient food, including through establishing and operationalizing national and regional food reserves constituted of both earmarked and physical stocks;

12. **Emphasizes** the need to increase intra-African trade through the AfCFTA and unlocking its full potential to contribute to affordable food supplies and job creation and growth of integrated agri-food markets, including from surplus to deficit areas, thereby stabilizing food prices and improving food security;

13. **Underscores** the importance of partnerships and collective action in addressing the challenges of food security; in this regard, **encourages** public-private partnership to improve agri-food systems, thereby reducing food insecurity and advancing rural development;

14. **Underlines** the need to invest and empowerment of women and youth on food and security access and their right to use resources and their participation in decision-making on natural resource management; **underscores** the critical need to Invest in sustainable food systems by targeting those most in need, such as female small-scale farmers and youth, as well as strengthening the agricultural sector that will create jobs and enhance the self-sufficiency;

15. **Express** gratitude to all those partners and members of the international community, which are providing multifaceted support to local, national, regional and continental efforts in addressing the challenge of food insecurity in the continent and the appeals for their

continued humanitarian assistance to the populations in Member States affected by the negative effects of climate change;

16. **Underlines** the need to build agriculture resilience livelihoods as to ensure that agriculture and food systems are productive and risk sensitive in order to feed present and future generations as well as building resilience through peacebuilding efforts, critical for food security and nutrition; **and urges** Member States to invest in agriculture, including to dedicate at least 10% of national budget to agriculture as stipulated in the Malabo Declaration;

17. **Requests** the AU Commission, in close collaboration with the relevant regional centres on climate change, agriculture, food security to regular brief the Council on the matter;

18. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.

African Union Commission (AUC)

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PSC Outcomes

Communiqués

2022-05-09

Communiqué of the 1083rd Meeting of the Peace and Security Council, Held on 9 May 2022, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

Peace and Security Council

African Union Commission

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