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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

1098<sup>TH</sup> MEETING

ADDIS ABABA

11 AUGUST 2022

PSC/PR/COMM.1098 (2022)

COMMUNIQUE



## COMMUNIQUE

**Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 1098<sup>th</sup> meeting held on 11 August 2022 on Experience Sharing Session between the PSC and the African Governance Architecture (AGA) Platform Members:**

### The Peace and Security Council,

**Recalling** Declaration [[Assembly/AU/Decl.1 \(XVI\)](#)] adopted by the 16<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in Addis Ababa, in January 2011 on the Theme: “Towards Greater Unity and Integration through Shared Values”; Decision [[Assembly/AU/Dec.304 \(XV\)](#)] adopted by the 15<sup>th</sup> Ordinary Session of the AU Assembly of Heads of State and Government held in July 2010;

**Also recalling** the Malabo Declaration on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government adopted by the 16<sup>th</sup> Extraordinary Session of the AU Assembly held on 28 May 2022, in Malabo Equatorial Guinea;

**Faithful** to the letter and spirit of the Preamble of the AU Constitutive Act, in particular, the determination of the AU to promote and protect human and people’s rights, consolidate democratic institutions and culture, and ensure good governance and the rule of law; and **dedicated** to the objectives of the AU as outlined in Article 3 of the Constitutive Act; as well as the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council the African Union, especially, Article 3 (f);

**Committed** to creating the necessary conditions for the realization of AU Agenda 2063, United Nations Agenda 2030, and the noble goal of Silencing the Guns in Africa by 2030;

**Noting** the opening remarks by H.E. Ambassador Jainaba Jagne, Permanent Representative of the Republic of The Gambia to the African Union (AU) and Chairperson of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the AU for the month of August 2022; and the statements by H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security; Hon. Remy Ngoy Lumbu, Chairperson of the African Commission on Human and Peoples’ Rights (ACHPR) in his capacity as the Chairperson of the AGA Platform;

**Further acknowledging** the statements by H.E. Ambassador Prof. Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Permanent Representative of the Republic of The Gambia to the United Nations Office in Geneva and Vice President of UNHRC (Africa) and H.E Ambassador Salvator Matata, Liaison Officer of the Common Market for East and Southern Africa to the AU (COMESA) on behalf of the Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs); and

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

1. **Welcomes** the maiden joint engagement between the Council and the AGA Platform Members;
2. **Commends** the AGA Platform and its individual Members for the important initiatives geared towards the enhancement of democratic governance, respect for human rights and rule of law in the Continent;

3. **Also commends** H.E Ambassador Professor Muhammadou M.O. Kah, Permanent Representative of the Republic of The Gambia to the United Nations Office in Geneva and the Vice-Chairperson of the UNHRC for his commitment to ensure the development of synergies between the UNHRC, AGA Platform and the PSC in the promotion of good governance;
4. **Reiterates its concern** over the trend of democracy reversals, threats facing constitutionalism and the protection of human rights in the Continent; and in this respect, encourages the Member States, which have not yet done so, to consider to sign, ratify and domesticate the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG), as well as to abide by related regional and international instruments;
5. **Underscores** the significant contribution of the AGA Platform to the promotion of democratic governance, peace and security, particularly in the context of consolidating the nexus between African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) and the African Governance Architecture (AGA);
6. **Calls upon** the AGA Platform members to continue to further enhance their consultative engagements aimed at transforming the diverse policy orientations on the promotion of democratic and good governance, respect for human rights and rule of law, into actionable interventions;
7. **Calls** on the AGA Platform to optimally utilize the recently launched Inter-Regional Knowledge Exchange Platform (*I-RECKE*) and other similar platforms between and among the AU Commission, RECs/RMs and Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), to further enhance coordination of efforts in the promotion of Africa's peace, security and development enshrined in the AU Agenda 2063;
8. **Emphasizes the imperative** for the AGA Platform Members and the PRC Sub-committee on Human Rights, Democracy and Governance (HRDG) to continue their joint engagements to ensure effective coordination and complementarity of efforts in-line with the relevant provisions of their guiding documents and, as well as the rational utilization of resources;
9. **Urges** the African Group to the UNHRC, the PSC and the AGA Platform Members to ensure complementarity of their respective mandates, as well as to promote common messaging in the global discourses on issues that affect the AU human rights agenda;
10. **Welcomes** the progress achieved thus far, in the implementation of joint flagship projects and programs within the AGA, including the annual High-Level Dialogue on Democracy, Human Rights and Governance convened under the auspices of the AGP, the Youth Engagement Strategy (YES), and the Women Engagement Strategy (WES);
11. **Reiterates the directive** for the AU Commission, working in close consultation with the AGA Platform Members to undertake an in-depth analysis of the 2000 Lomé Declaration on Unconstitutional Change of Government and the AGA to ensure that these normative instruments are sufficient for effectively deterring unconstitutional changes of government in Africa;
12. **Stresses the need** for further enhanced partnership on election observation missions, the promotion of democracy on the continent and the provision of technical support to countries emerging from conflicts, through conflict prevention, the promotion and sustenance of democracy, governance, and human rights in the continent;
13. **Looks forward** to the implementation of joint flagship activities of the AGP, with a view to further enhancing good governance and democracy;

14. ***Underscores the call*** for the AU Commission, working in close collaboration with the RECs/RMs, to mainstream human rights in early warning analyses; and

15. ***Decides*** to institutionalize and regularize the holding of the Joint Engagement between the PSC and AGA Platform as an annual event;

2022-08-11

# Communiqué of the 1098th Meeting of the Peace and Security Council, Held on 11 August 2022 on Experience Sharing Between the PSC and African Governance Architecture (AGA) Platform Members.

Peace and Security Council

African Union Commission

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