

2022 ANNUAL ACTIVITY REPORT

AMANI AFRICA

Media and Research Services

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MESSAGE FROM THE FOUNDING DIRECTOR



Solomon A. Dersso, Founding Director

2022 was a year during which we at Amani Africa deepened our investment of time and effort to deliver better and make our work more impactful. We have delivered more in 2022 than previous years, consolidating our standing as leading source of information, analysis and technical support on matters African Union (AU) in general and its Peace and Security Council (PSC) in particular.

Thanks to the support from and collaboration of all our partners as well as the dedicated hard work of Amani Africa team, associates and consultants, the research work we produced including special research reports are not only larger in number than previous years but also more targeted & consequential in their impact.

Amani Africa continued to consolidate and expand its engagement and partnership with a wide range of stakeholders. As the details in this report illustrate, we collaborated with AU Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS) in organizing an event and in implementing activities in support of the PSC. I wish to express Amani Africa's special thanks to H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye and his team for his unique leadership in harnessing the expertise and work of organizations like Amani Africa to enrich, supplement and accompany AU's leadership in

promoting democratic governance & constitutional rule and conflict prevention, management and resolution in Africa.

Amani Africa worked with and accompanied the members of the PSC in the implementation of the activities of the PSC particularly through collaboration with the monthly chairpersons of the PSC supporting the implementation of the monthly program of work of the PSC. We did so regularly and systematically, as illustrated by the diversity and regularity of our technical support work, demonstrating that implementation of the PSC Protocol is a collective responsibility of which organizations like Amani Africa play a part within the framework of Article 20 of the Protocol.

We cannot thank enough the monthly chairpersons of the PSC in 2022 for working with us in planning and implementing of their chairship of the PSC, for calling on us to contribute our part in their crucially important conflict prevention, management & resolution work and for making good use of our work.

We continue to sustain and expand close working relationships with our diverse stakeholders. During 2022, we signed an MoU with the UN Office to the AU (UNOAU). We worked with UNOAU in organizing a joint event and having UNOAU in many of Amani Africa forums we organized during the year. I extend Amani Africa's appreciation to H.E. Hanna Tetteh, former Special Representative of the Secretary General and Head of UNOAU on the signing of the MoU and for her counsel and support to our work including in generously sharing her rich insights in the policy forums we organized. I am equally grateful to her successor H.E. Parfait Onanga-Anyanga for building on the MoU we signed and for gracing a number of our policy forums with captivating interventions as well as close periodic exchanges.

Our thanks also to the ICRC Delegation to the AU and its Head Mr Bruce Orina for the collaboration during 2022. Apart from regular exchange of information and analysis, our collaboration involved working together on a joint project for production of a special research report and convening of a joint policy forum.

We have improved the format of the dissemination of our works with a personalised and standardised format of communication as well as more robust

engagement and use of various media formats and social media platforms. The traffic flow to Amani Africa website has increased exponentially with tens of thousands of visits to Insights on the PSC and over 200,000 total page views.

Heartfelt thanks to all Amani Africa staff and associates and most importantly our partners and friends whose contributions to our work in 2022 are recognized in this report with deep appreciation.

We look forward to do more and better in 2023 and count on your usual collaboration!

INTRODUCTION

Amani Africa is an independent pan-African policy research, training, consulting think tank dedicated to analyzing and reporting on the work, products and working dynamics of multilateral processes relating to Africa using the African Union (AU) as framework and with particular focus on the AU Peace and Security Council (PSC).

Amani Africa is organized to engage in the production of evidence-based policy research and analysis as well as communications and media products, the provision of technical support to policy makers, the convening of training workshops and public policy forums on multilateral processes on Africa in general and on the PSC and its work in particular. Amani Africa carries these works out in support of the pan-African vision of a peaceful, prosperous, and integrated Africa, through promoting and advocating for the implementation of the PSC Protocol and the relevant other AU instruments pursuant to Article 20 of the PSC Protocol.

The core areas of work of Amani Africa cover research, technical support and advice, and convening and outreach activities as well as strategic communications and media.

Research and publication

Undertaking policy research and producing and disseminating regular, evidence-based, high-quality, accurate information, and impartial analysis about peace and security, democratic governance in AU

policy processes including the PSC and Africa's engagement in multilateral processes. These take various forms including the regular *Insights on the PSC*, offering analysis on matters on the agenda of the PSC, policy briefs, special research reports and monthly digest on the PSC.

Technical support and advice

The provision of technical support and advice to AU actors and stakeholders in their work on and engagement in policy making processes on peace and security, democratic governance and Africa's engagement in multilateral processes including through the preparation of technical documents, provision of briefings and analysis and background information, data and analysis.

Convening and outreach activities

Organizing expert consultations and public forums, including in collaboration with various actors to enrich analysis of issues on the agenda of the PSC, its working methods and implementation of its mandate and promoting engagement of the wider membership of the AU and other stakeholders including civil society organizations and awareness on the PSC and its work as well as convening and providing high-level and interactive training workshops.

As part of our outreach activities, we conduct regular meetings and exchange of information with AU actors including the Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS) Department and members of the PSC and with wider AU stakeholders including international organizations, AU partners and CSOs.

Media and communication

Amani Africa utilizes various media platforms and communications tools to disseminate its analysis and research widely. It also through its media engagements that seeks to shape and inform public discourse on its areas of work.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE YEAR

2022 was yet another year of major milestones in Amani Africa's emergence as the leading source of information and analysis on matters African Union (AU) in general and its peace and security, democratic governance and international relations works in particular. Apart from producing most current information and analysis on some of the major developments in these various areas of work of the AU, we have become a trusted technical institution for contributing to the policy activities of AU actors, international organizations, diplomatic missions and CSOs.

In terms of the production of research and publication, our flagship project *Insights on the PSC* has become the go-to source of reference on the activities of the PSC and continues to present timely analysis as a standing independent research-based analysis that informs the preparations of members of the PSC for and their deliberations on the item/s on the agenda of each PSC session. In 2022 Amani Africa has produced about 90 editions of *Insights on the PSC*, which provided much needed current data and analysis on the policy issues to feature on each agenda item of almost every session of the PSC. Institutionalizing the production of its special research reports and policy briefs, in 2022 Amani Africa produced four special research reports and five policy briefs. These research outputs, covering a range of major topical policy issues including unconstitutional changes of government, terrorism and institutional developments in the AU including election of new members of the PSC and the mid-year coordination meeting of the AU and RECs/RMS, not only deepened knowledge and awareness on issues examined but also helped shape and inform the quality, content and effectiveness of policy decision-making.

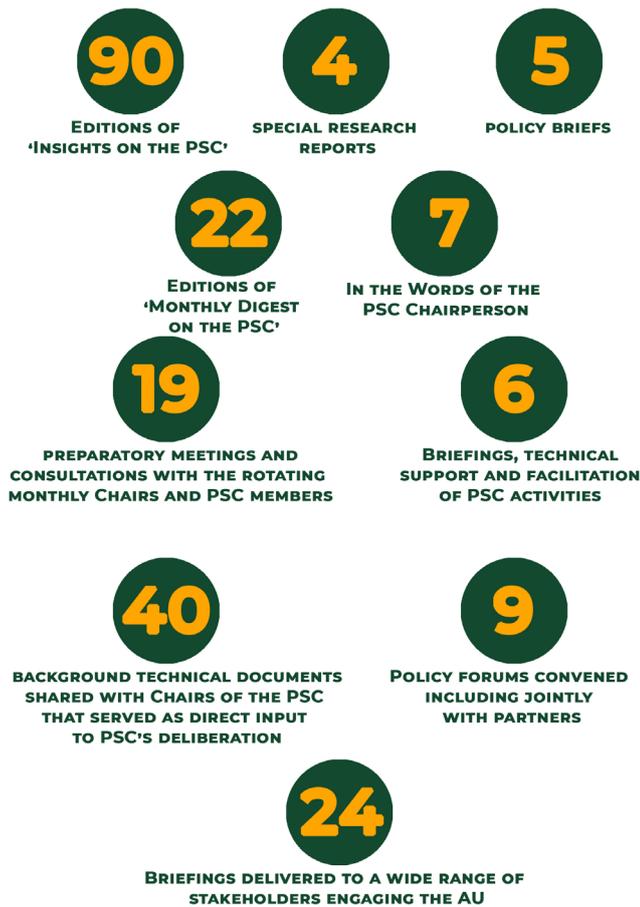
In collaboration with the PSC Chair for the month of November, Namibia, we launched the third edition of the *African Union Peace and Security Council Handbook* in an event held on 11 November 2022. To help track the decisions of the PSC and highlight those requiring follow up and issues that should be addressed, we have sustained the production of the *Monthly Digest on the PSC* during the year and plan to regularize it during 2023.

In terms of technical support and advice, Amani Africa not only consolidated its close consultations and advisory support to monthly chairpersons of the PSC and PSC members based on its expanding and rich research and analytical work and expertise. But it has also extended its technical and advisory collaboration to the AU PAPS Department and wider AU stakeholders including UNOAU, ICRC and USIP. Amani Africa also served as briefer to the PSC in a number of sessions.

Amani Africa's convening provided much needed platform for policy deliberation and capacity building on topical issues and policy processes of interest for a wider audience. In total, we convened more than a dozen Amani Africa policy forums, the 2nd edition of Amani Africa training institute on the AU, and targeted working and training sessions. Its outreach engagements brought the work of Amani Africa to various forums on the continent and beyond. Amani Africa was invited to and took active role in speaking and facilitating in various seminal global and regional forums.

In 2022, Amani Africa has reached key milestones in enhancing its media and communication's work as well as footprint. It has expanded its social media engagement and diversified its communications tools with presence in various platforms including YouTube, LinkedIn, and Telegram. Enhancing its media work, it has launched a new product, 'In the Words of the PSC Chairperson', a short video of monthly chairs presenting PSC's program of work. This tool has been essential in further promoting the work of the PSC and in bringing more visibility to the individual chairs and their agenda. We also collaborated with Australia Embassy to package our work on the PSC monthly program of work as podcast, *Conversing on Africa's Peace*. Our work and analysts also featured in such known podcasts as Crisis Group's *On the Horn* and the *UN Dispatch*. Our media engagement also expanded with our analysis featuring during the year in various platforms including Al Jazeera, CGTN, The Economist, The Continent and SABC.

Amani Africa in 2022



I IMPACTFUL AND HIGH-QUALITY RESEARCH WORKS

During the year, the team at Amani Africa produced high-quality and impactful research outputs. Apart from expanding the number and depth the research work, the production and dissemination of these research outputs are carried out in a way that advances their impact in informing and shaping policy discourse and action.

Production of Insights on the Peace and Security Council

Amani Africa's flagship work *Insights on the PSC* continues to provide timely, accurate and independent analysis on agenda items of the PSC. It operates as the only independent and regular source of analysis on matters on the agenda of PSC sessions, providing direct impartial input to deliberations of the PSC.

INSIGHTS ON THE PSC

This is our flagship work that offers most current information and impartial analysis on the items on the agenda of the sessions of the PSC. It is produced and shared ahead of each session of the PSC to inform the preparation and deliberation of members of the PSC.

In 2022, Amani Africa produced about 90 editions of *Insights on the PSC*. To enhance their policy impact, each edition is published and circulated at least 24 hours ahead of the convening of PSC session for which it is produced. This year we elevated our effort so that each edition reached members of the PSC and others who subscribed to receive it via a personalized email. We also circulate each edition of *Insights on the PSC* on our various social media platforms.

Apart from supporting the preparations of member states of the PSC for and their deliberations during the sessions, *Insights on the PSC* has also the value of tracking the work of the PSC and informing those who work on and with the PSC as well as the wider public about PSC's engagement with contemporary peace and security issues in Africa. In this way, beyond creating awareness, it helps inform the engagement of various actors with the AU on peace and security and democratic governance issues.

Institutionalizing in-depth analysis on topical issues: the production of Special Research Reports and Policy Briefs

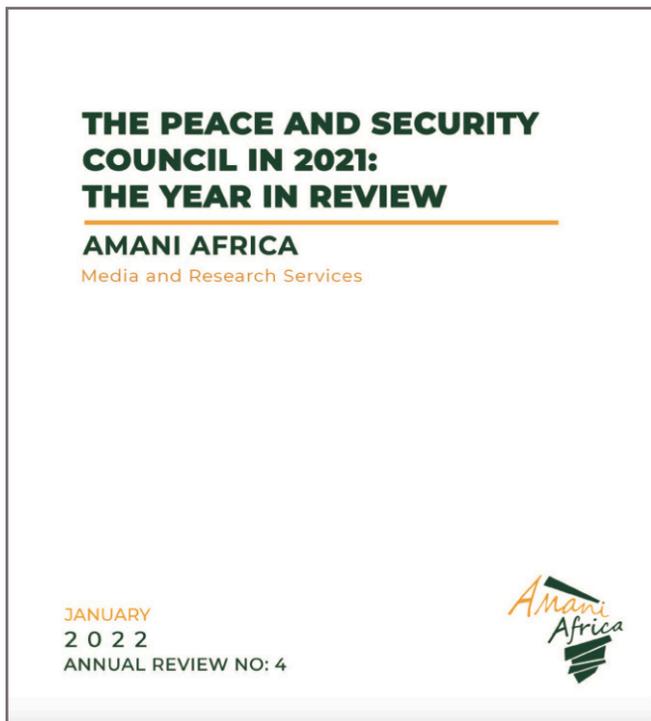
Amani Africa produces special research reports and policy briefs, offering nuanced and deeper analysis of timely topics relating to policy issues of concern for the AU and Africa's role in multilateralism. In 2022 Amani Africa has launched four special research reports and five policy briefs.

In January 2022, Amani Africa's first policy brief presented a comprehensive assessment of PSC's work and engagement in 2021 through the annual review [The Peace and Security Council in 2021: the Year in Review](#).

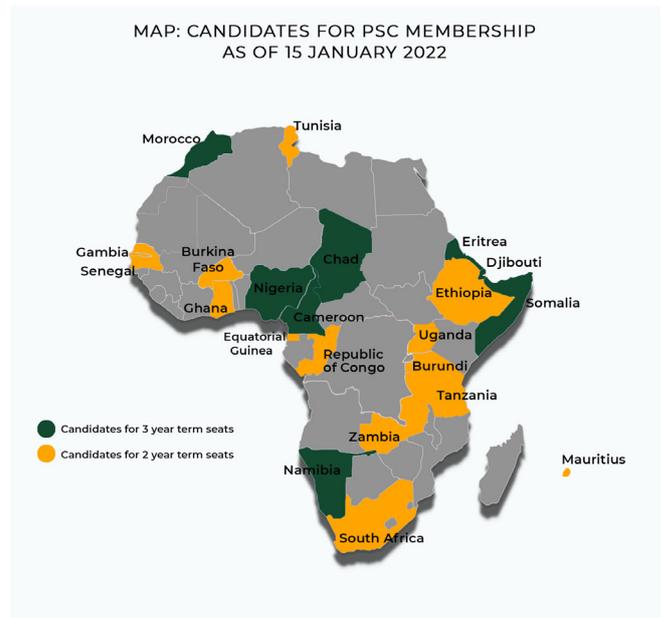




The report captures the major developments and key decisions of the PSC over the year. This served as a critical appraisal of PSC’s work in the past year, thereby providing useful data and analysis for identifying areas for change and informing reflections on PSC’s activities during the consideration of PSC’s activities by the AU Assembly.



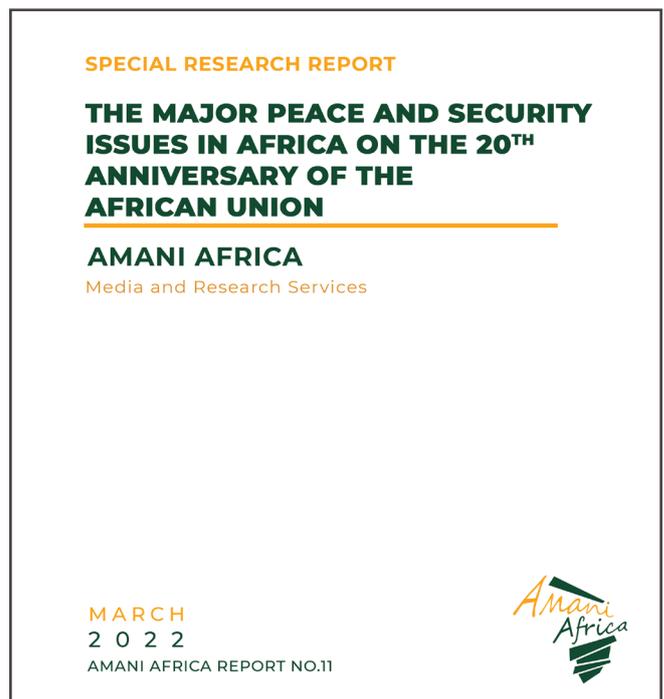
The election of new PSC members was a development which Amani Africa covered in-depth through the production of timely analysis on the candidates for the election ahead of the election and on the election of PSC members itself. The policy brief on the candidates of [2022 Elections of the PSC](#), published in January, presented analysis on the list of candidates and the various steps leading up to the election.



This was followed by another policy brief providing post-election analysis [2022 Election of the 15 Members of the PSC](#) examining the conduct and outcome of the election, contributing to deeper understanding to the dynamics informing the make-up of the new PSC.

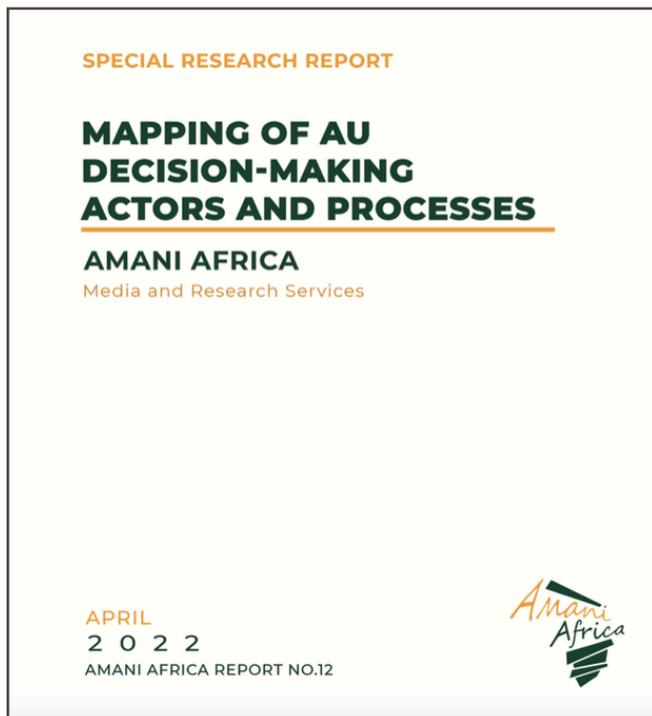


Amani Africa released special research reports on a number of thematic issues that have policy implication. To this end in March 2022 Amani Africa released its first special report of the year highlighting the peace and security situation as the AU marks its 20 years anniversary.



The report was critical in providing a comprehensive overview on the state of peace and security in the continent and highlighting the major trends that require the particular attention of policy makers. Apart from informing the policy discourse on the state of peace and security, this special research report served as useful input during the induction of members of the PSC held in Maseru, Lesotho in March.

Another important publication by Amani Africa as part of its overall work on the AU, is a special research report on [Mapping of AU Decision Making Actors and Processes](#) which filled a major gap in documenting the role various actors play in AU policy/decision-making and the processes involved in various decision-making arenas of the AU. The report was launched jointly with the Embassy of Australia in one of Amani Africa's policy forums in the presence of member states and various policy experts.



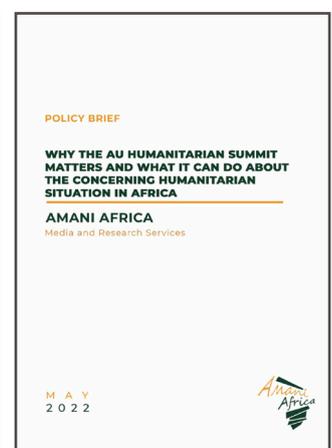
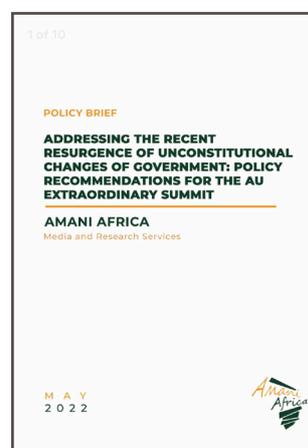
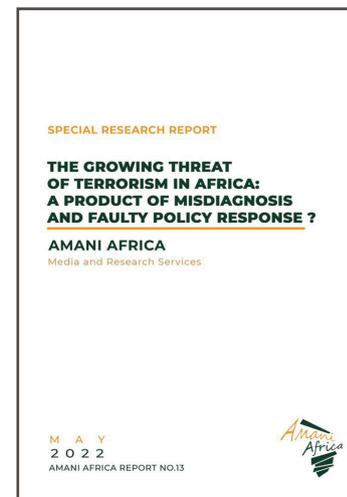
In advancing critical analysis on topical policy issues, Amani Africa targeted the Extraordinary Summit on Terrorism and Unconstitutional Changes of Government and the Extraordinary Humanitarian Summit held in Malabo, Equatorial Guinea on 27-28 May.



Ahead of the summit, Amani Africa released a series of publications that directly speak to the key themes of the summit.

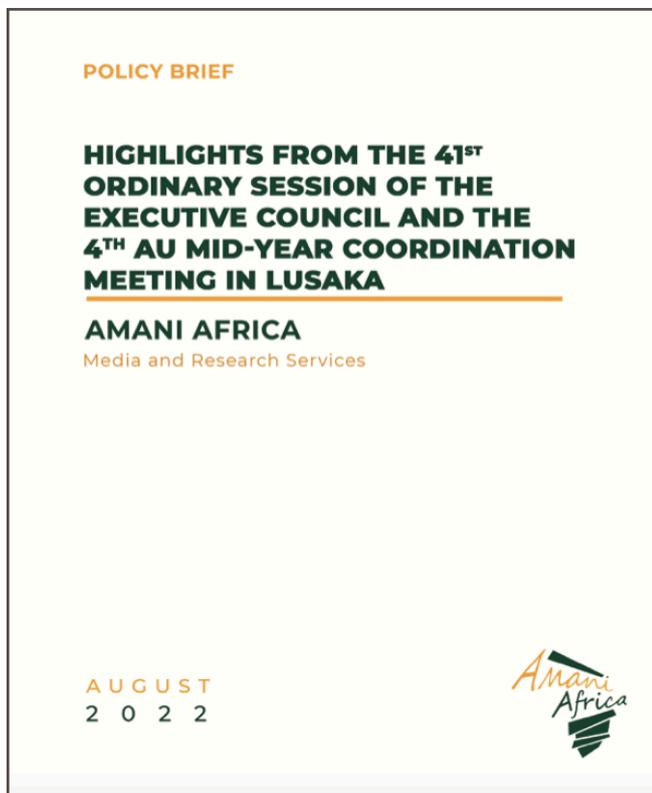


On terrorism, a hard-hitting special research report, titled [The Growing Threat of Terrorism in Africa: A Product of Misdiagnosis and Faulty Policy Response](#) was released. The report, which continues to attract huge attention and wide coverage, presented a critical and detailed assessment of the flaws in the diagnosis of the nature of the threat of terrorism in Africa and current policy response to the threat and called for a shift in policies and action towards countering terrorism

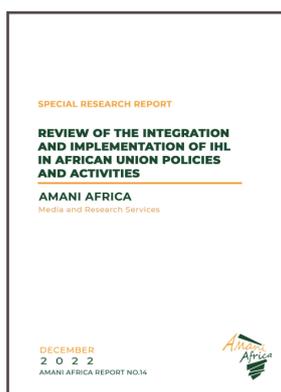


Addressing two of the other themes of the summit, we also published two policy briefs on [Why the Humanitarian Summit Matters and What it Can Do About the Concerning Humanitarian Situation in Africa?](#) and [Addressing the Resurgence of Unconstitutional Changes of Government: Policy Recommendations for the AU Extraordinary Summit.](#) These two policy briefs presented useful data and critical analysis with actionable policy recommendations on the current humanitarian situation in the continent and on the resurgence of UCG.

Amani Africa provided post session analysis following the conclusion of the 4th mid-year coordination between AU and RECs and 41st ordinary session of the Executive Council held in July in Lusaka.

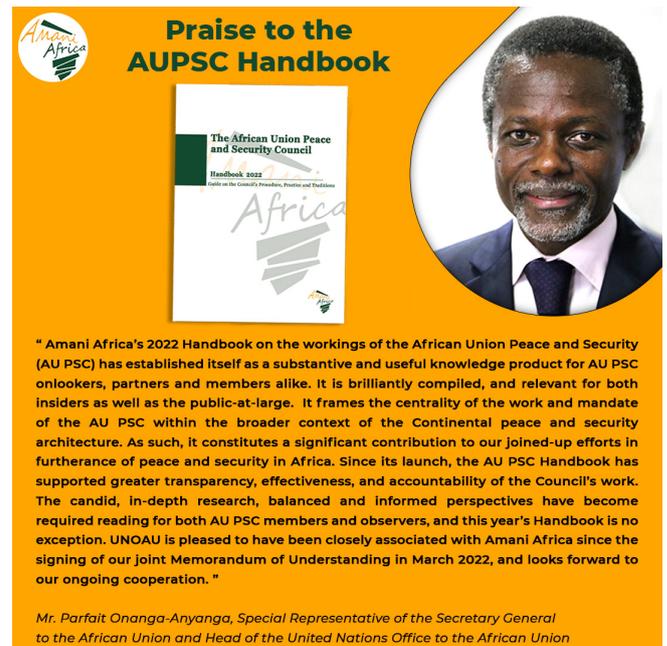


In December Amani Africa partnered with the ICRC in the production of special research report on the integration of international humanitarian law in AU policies and activities.

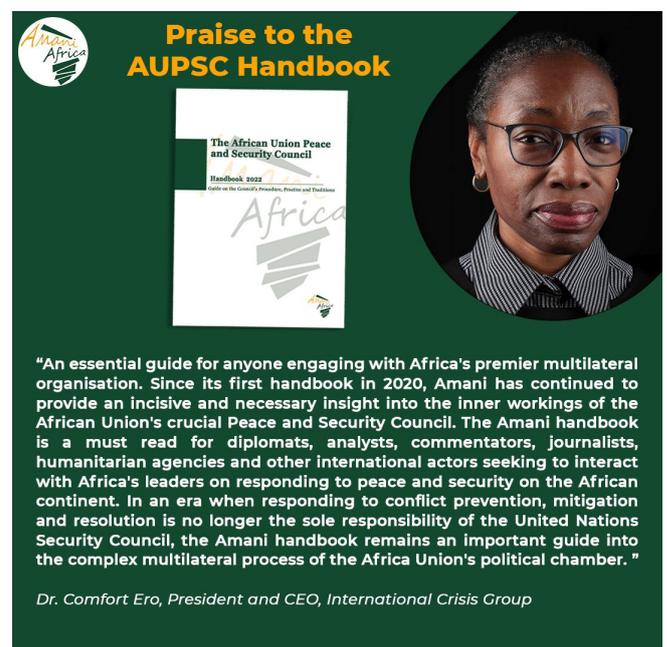


Publication of Third Edition of Amani Africa's African Union Peace and Security Council Handbook

Sustaining its landmark work on the AU PSC, Amani Africa published the third edition of *African Union Peace and Security Council Handbook: Guide on the Council's Procedure, Practice and Traditions (Handbook 2022)*.



The Handbook presented most up-to-date data and analysis not only on the major developments in 2021 but also expanded and enriched the existing data and analysis on the PSC including PSC's working methods and the organization of its work and its decision-making processes and dynamics.



Monthly Digest on the AU Peace and Security Council

The Monthly Digest on the AU Peace and Security Council which was first launched in December 2021 and it was further consolidated in 2022. During the year Amani Africa released about 22 editions documenting the work of the PSC in 2021 and 2022. The latest edition provided analysis on PSC's work for the month of November 2022.

MONTHLY DIGEST ON THE AFRICAN UNION PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

AMANI AFRICA

Media and Research Services



With our work becoming a well-established fixture of the policy discourse and practice on AU's peace and security work through Insights on the PSC, the PSC Handbook and our other major works, Amani Africa has established its brand as the leading source of information and analysis on AU's peace and security work and its PSC.

'...Leading African voice...benchmark of the epistemic world on research on the African Union.'
Ambassador Mohamed Gad, PR of Egypt to the African Union

II TECHNICAL SUPPORT AND ACCOMPANIMENT

As a think tank that is engaged in not only in policy relevant knowledge production but also actively engage in the praxis of informing and shaping policy making, Amani Africa organizes and uses its knowledge production work to organize the provision of our technical support and advice activities.

Monthly consultations with and briefing to PSC Chairs

One of the avenues through which Amani Africa carries out its technical support and policy advisory work is through the close working engagement with members of the PSC. For this, among others, it uses the meetings with the monthly rotating chairpersons of the PSC that has been regularized and institutionalized. These meetings serve not only for identifying areas of collaboration with and support by Amani Africa on the monthly program of work of the PSC but also for engaging in exchange with the monthly chairperson of the PSC on current peace and security issues and insights on issues of interest on PSC working methods and dynamics. It also helps to gain understanding on expectations around agenda items featuring on the monthly program of work of the PSC.

In 2022 the monthly engagements were particularly important on account also of the changes in the membership of the PSC with the election of new members whose mandate commenced on 1 April.

In the course of the year, apart from the dozen consultation and briefing meetings held with each Chairperson of the PSC in 2022, we held extensive follow up engagements of various intensity as Amani Africa accompanies the Embassy chairing the PSC through the month including through specified deliverables in support of the PSC.



Consultation with Amb. Amma Twum-Amoah, PR of Ghana and her team



We started the year with an engagement with the PSC Chairperson for month of January, exchanging data and analysis on the program of work and on expectations in terms of the outcome on the agenda items on the program of work of the month.



Amb. Jean Kamau PR of Kenya and Chairperson of the PSC for February 2022 and Dr. Solomon Dersso at the Embassy of Kenya

We were received at the Embassy of Kenya, the incoming Chairperson of the PSC for February 2022, for our consultation meeting. In the course of our follow up engagements, we agreed to convene a joint event, which Amani Africa organized together with Kenya as outgoing Chairperson in March 2022.



Consultation with Amb. Mafa Sejanamane, PSC Chairperson for March 2022 at Lesotho Embassy

Following the consultation and briefing meeting with Ambassador Sejanamane and the team working on Lesotho's chairship of the PSC, we worked closely with the team. As host of the induction of the newly elected members of the PSC, we also accompanied Lesotho including by serving as technical partner for the induction held in Maseru.



We had the pleasure of welcoming to our office the PR of Burundi Ambassador Willy Nyamitwe as he took over the chairship for the month of April. Our briefing and rich exchanges contributed to the preparation of Burundi in guiding the activities of the PSC during the month and for Amani Africa accompanying the Chairperson through continues consultations and provision of targeted technical support.

We held in depth consultation with Ambassador Churchill of Cameroon in preparation for the month of May. This was also useful to engage in exchanges on how PSC activities for the month contribute to informing and feeding into the AU extraordinary summit on terrorism and unconstitutional change government and the extraordinary humanitarian summit held in May 2022 in Malabo. Apart from accompanying the Chairperson through the provision of technical support, Amani Africa served as expert for delivering a briefing during the 1084th sessions of the PSC.



During the consultation held at the Embassy of Cameroon

We also held the consultation and briefing meeting with Ambassador Owassa of Congo and the team at the Embassy working on PSC Chairship for June. This was hosted at the Embassy of Congo and subsequently involved follow up engagements including providing relevant background information and data.



Consultation with Amb. Daniel Owassa and his team at the Embassy of Congo

We also had the pleasure of welcoming for the consultation and briefing meeting to our office Ambassador Abdi Mahamoud Eybe of Djibouti, who served as Chairperson of the PSC in July 2022.



During a consultation held at Amani Africa with Amb. Abdi Mahamoud Eybe

It was also a pleasure for us to receive at our office Ambassador Jainaba Jagne and her team for discussing the PSC Program of Work for the month of August. This was a follow up to an earlier preparatory engagement in February 2022 and served as opportunity for identifying areas for working closely during the Chairship.



During a consultation held at Amani Africa with Amb. Jainaba Jagne and her team

Amani Africa worked closely with the Chair for the month of September, Amb. Amma Twum-Amoah. We held extensive meeting on the planned program of work of the PSC for September and held follow up exchanges supplemented by the provision of technical documents during the course of the month.

We also had the pleasure of being hosted by Ambassador Mohammed Arrouchi and the team of the Embassy of Morocco for the consultation and

briefing meeting. During Morocco's Chairship, Amani Africa participated in the high-level conference hosted in Morocco.



During a consultation held with Amb. Mohammed Arrouchi and his team at Hyatt Regency

Amani Africa similarly worked closely with Ambassador Emilia Mkusa, Permanent Representative of Namibia to the AU and PSC Chair for the month of November. Amani Africa and the Chair had regular engagements as well as the provision of technical support during the course of the month on various agenda items in the monthly program of work.



During a consultation held with Amb. Emilia Mkusa, and her team at the Embassy of Namibia



Amani Africa concluded 2022's monthly engagement with a meeting with Ambassador Victor Adeleke, PR of Nigeria and PSC Chair for the month of December.



Consultation held with Amb. Victor Adeleke at the Embassy of Nigeria

Amani Africa inspired us without even trying, and we can't imagine what Burundi's Chairship of the Peace and Security Council in April 2022 would be like if Ambassador Willy Nyamitwe hadn't met Mr Solomon Derso and his team end of March 2022.

Collaborating with AU PAPS

Amani Africa as an institution with specialization on the PSC served as a partner to the PSC Secretariat providing technical and partner support to the organization of the retreat of the PSC Committee of Experts (CoE) held in Bishoftu, Ethiopia in May 2022 under Cameroon’s Chairship. This was convened as a form of induction forum for members of the CoE and served as a platform for familiarizing members of the Committee of Experts with matters on the agenda of the PSC and the working methods and decision-making processes of the PSC. Apart from providing partner support and technical input for the organization of the retreat, Amani Africa’s work and publications served as useful source of reference. During the retreat, Amani Africa also delivered a presentation.



Bitania Tadesse presenting at the technical training session for Committee of Experts held in May in Bishoftu

Our collaboration with PAPS also involved the provision of technical support towards the drafting of relevant technical documents. As such, Amani Africa worked with PAPS through the PSC Secretariat in following up of the conclusions of the December 2021 Oran High Level Seminar involving the preparation of a draft document requested by the Seminar, thereby contributing to the implementation of decisions of the PSC.

Technical partner to the PSC

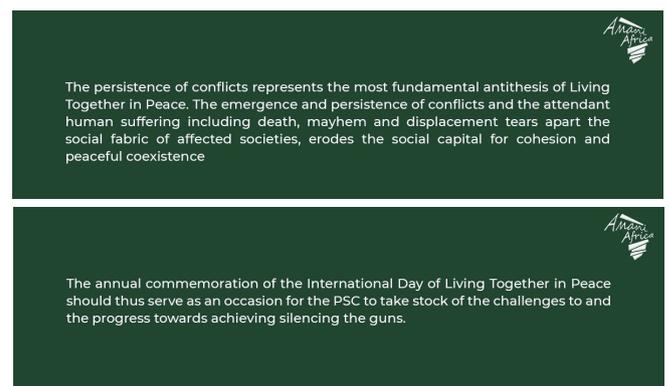
As an organization that principally works on supporting the implementation of the objectives and principles of the PSC Protocol, Amani Africa has established itself as key technical support provider of the PSC. As such, it also served during 2022 as technical partner institutionally to the PSC working through PAPS and monthly chairpersons. This engagement took the form of delivering briefing to the PSC, being a technical partner in the induction of newly elected and returning members of the PSC, and serve as resource person in some of the activities of the PSC.

Briefing the PSC

In 2022 Amani Africa was invited to deliver briefings to the PSC and did so on three occasions. As part of the engagement with PSC Chair for the month of May and based on Amani Africa’s previous work on the topic, on 17 May a presentation was delivered during PSC’s 1084th session held in commemoration of Living Together in Peace.



In the briefing we highlighted why persistent conflicts and violations of human rights and rules of constitutional governance constitute the antithesis to Living Together in Peace and emphasized the need to focus on addressing conditions that create tear apart the social fabric of society and sow animosity.



In August 2022, Amani Africa was invited to brief the PSC at its session held under the theme ‘Emerging Technologies and New Media: Impact on Democratic Governance, Peace and Security in Africa’. On the occasion, Amani Africa examined the intersection between democratic governance, peace and security and emerging technologies and new media.



In September 2022, Amani Africa briefed the PSC at the inaugural consultative meeting of the PSC with CSOs. This was held at the PSC’s 1033rd session on 14 September.



Facilitator in the induction of members of the PSC

When the PSC held the induction of its newly elected and returning members in Maseru, the Kingdom of Lesotho on 23-25 March, Amani Africa accompanied the PSC as a technical partner. During the induction, it served as one of three facilitators. Its *African Union Peace and Security Council Handbook* and special research report on the state of peace and security in Africa came handy to serve as useful reference to further buttress the presentations and exchanges during the induction.



The details of the induction are captured in [the report](#) on the induction which was endorsed by the [communiqué](#) of the 1077th session of the PSC.

Resource person in other activities of the PSC

As part of enhancing its effort to address the spate of unconstitutional changes of government Africa experienced during 2021/22, the PSC took a decision for the convening of a reflection forum. This reflection forum on unconstitutional changes of government was convened on 15-17 March in Accra, Ghana. During this forum, Amani Africa participated, among others, as resource person and delivered a presentation in the plenary of the forum. Once again, apart from presenting its analysis, Amani Africa’s [special research report](#) on unconstitutional changes of government and its subsequent work on the subject came handy to serve as useful source of reference. The outcome of the Accra Forum was captured in the [Accra Declaration on UCG](#) carrying the issues highlighted in Amani Africa’s interventions including addressing factors leading to UCG such as manipulation of constitutions for tampering with presidential term limits, respect for human rights, separation of powers and independence of the judiciary and insulating key national institutions such as security institutions from politicization.



Leading source of analysis and technical partnership to wider AU stakeholders

On 3 March Amani Africa signed an MoU with the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the UN and the Head of the UN Office to the AU H.E. Hanna Tetteh. This is in pursuit of formalizing the existing partnership between Amani Africa and UNOAU.



During the signing of the MoU at UNOAU

Amani Africa also collaborated with other CSOs for enhancing closer working relationship with the AU and the space around the AU for active engagement of CSOs. A key aspect of this collaboration was the convening of a retreat of AU PAPS and CSOs working on the AU in Nairobi, Kenya in February 2022.



Group picture during the CSO-PAPS retreat

Amani Africa as part of a CSO network that aims at enhancing partnership with AU PAPS has moderated a key session in CSOs planning retreat with AU PAPS held in Nairobi in February 2022.



During the CSO-PAPS retreat

Amani Africa, as the leading source of information and analysis on matters AU and its peace and security work, became the partner for ICRC in carrying out a research project coinciding with the 30 years anniversary of the partnership between ICRC and O/AU. On 29 June, as part of operationalizing the MoU signed in 2021 and in preparation of the joint research project between Amani Africa and ICRC, we welcomed experts and held consultations.



During consultation with ICRC team at Amani Africa

During 2022, we also collaborated with the US Institute of Peace in carrying out a research analysis for supporting enhanced US and USIP partnership with the AU. On 24 November we welcomed to Amani Africa Susan Stigant, USIP Director of the Africa Program as part of the ongoing partnership between the two institutions.



We also signed and implemented a specific contract with Switzerland for the provision of tailor-made technical support for the team of Switzerland from across different missions ahead of it assuming its seat as newly elected member of the UNSC.



As part of the partnership with Ireland, Amani Africa also prepared and delivered briefings on key trends relating to peace and security in Africa.



We also partnered with Australia Embassy to undertake a study on AU decision-making structures and processes. The study was finalized and published as a special research report in May 2022. Subsequently, we also initiated a podcast that repackages and offers further reflections on Amani Africa's regular insight on the monthly provisional program of work of the PSC.



III CONVENING OF POLICY FORUMS AND TRAININGS

On its own as key pillar of Amani Africa's area of work and as a further instrument for expanding the use of its research and analytical works, Amani Africa organizes policy forums for providing platform for policy debate and discourse on current African, AU and global issues of significance and holds training workshops. In the course of 2022, Amani Africa implemented these areas of its work in collaboration with others.

Joining hands to examine the upsurge of coups in Africa

We partnered with Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) in organizing the high-level forum dedicated to trends in unconstitutional change of government and how to make sense and respond to the upsurge in military coups on the continent.



During the event convened at Hyatt Regency



During the event convened at Hyatt Regency

A high-level forum on ‘Africa and the international order in a time of the current global crisis’

On 11 March 2022, Amani Africa convened an event under the theme ‘Africa and the international order in a time of the current global crisis’ co-hosted with the permanent mission of Kenya. Amani Africa was among the first stakeholders internationally to raise and address the global repercussions of the war on Ukraine within the African context. The event brought together high-level speakers including Amb. Jean Kamau Permanent Representative of Kenya to the AU, Amb. William Awinador Kanyirige- Advisor to AU’s Commissioner of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS), Hanna Tetteh Special Representative of the Secretary General to the AU and Head of United Nations Office to the AU (UNOAU), Amb. Mafa Sejanamane Permanent Representative of Lesotho to the AU and PSC chair for the month of March 2022.



During the event convened at Raddison Blu

The contours of the major emerging changes and impacts on international relations of the war including on Africa and its international relations was captured in [a report](#) produced on the seminar.

Report launch on AU decision-making actors and processes

In collaboration with Australia Embassy, Amani Africa launched its major study on AU decision-making actors and processes produced as a special research report mapping the actors and processes in AU decision/policy making.



During the event convened at Hyatt Regency

Joint webinar with UNOAU in commemoration of the International Day of UN Peacekeepers

Jointly with UN Office to the AU (UNOAU) Amani Africa convened a webinar in commemoration of the International Day of UN Peacekeepers on the annual theme: ‘People. Peace. Progress. The Power of Partnership in Peacekeeping’. The webinar, which was held in June, brought together a number of speakers including SRSG of UNOAU, Ag. Head of AU’s PSOD and a Representative from MONUSCO.



The event was part of the operationalization of the MoU signed between Amani Africa and UNOAU earlier in the year.

African voices at the UN and strengthening multilateral partnerships between Addis Abeba, Geneva and New York

Based on its expertise on PSC-UNSC relationship, on 9 June Amani Africa joined the Swiss Embassy in convening a high-level panel discussion on 'African Voices at the UN' as various member states including Switzerland were set to join the UNSC in 2023.



During the event convened at Sheraton

Based on its extensive research Amani Africa presented on key trends in multilateralism and Africa's position in global governance.

Amani Africa-Egypt Embassy-AUPAPS event

On 26 July jointly with the Permanent Mission of Egypt and AU PAPS, Amani Africa convened a high-level seminar on mandating and transition of peace support operations in Africa. The event was held at the Julius Nyerere Hall where the PSC convenes its sessions and brought together speakers from the AU, member states, UN and EU.



During the Egypt-AUC-Amani event convened at the AUC

Launch of Amani Africa's Third Edition of the African Union Peace and Security Council Handbook and a seminar on Women leaders of the PSC

In 2022, Amani Africa launched the third edition of its landmark work, the African Union Peace and Security Council Handbook: Guide on the Council's Procedure, Practice and Traditions (Handbook 2022).

The event was jointly organized with the PSC Chairperson for the month of November 2022, Permanent Representative of Namibia Ambassador Emilia Mkusa on 11 November 2022. The event, brought together high-level speakers including the Special Representative of the Secretary General (SRSG) and Head of the UN Office to the AU Parfait Onanga and Switzerland's Permanent Representative to the AU Pietro Mona.



During the Handbook launch

The third edition of the Handbook was particularly timely given that new members have joined the PSC in April 2022 and it was released right before the PSC was scheduled to hold its retreat on working methods. In the opening remark, the co-convenor of the Handbook launch, the PSC chair Amb. Mkusa noted 'as the first time in the PSC I find the Handbook very useful...therefore I wish to commend Amani Africa for this Handbook which is produced both to support PSC and its mandate and to bring better visibility of AUPSC'.



During the Handbook launch

The occasion also served as a policy forum taking the form of a roundtable to reflect and share experiences on Women Leadership in the PSC and its significance in the promotion of peace and security and the Women and Peace and Security agenda. Current and previous women Ambassadors shared their experiences and insights on their contribution in decision-making processes.



During the roundtable on Women, Peace and Security

The experience sharing roundtable on women, peace and security was chaired by Neema Chusi, acting director of PSC Secretariat and featured Amb. Emilia Mkusa, Amb. Jainaba Jagne PR of the Gambia, and Amb. Hope Tumukunde PR of Rwanda. In this context the collaboration with Namibia was particularly pertinent given its role in the adoption of the landmark UN resolution 1325.



During the roundtable on Women, Peace and Security

On 12 December Amani Africa in partnership with ICRC it convened a seminar to launch the joint report that looks at the integration of international humanitarian law in AU policies and activities. The event brought together high-level speakers including the director of the legal counsel, Ag. Director of PSOD as well as experts from AU PSOs.



Amani Africa trainings and briefing workshops

We convened the second edition of Amani Africa's training Institute on the AU with a particular focus on African CSOs. The training brought together participants from about a dozen countries across the continent. Amani Africa also convened a diverse group of facilitators and presenters composed of members states, policy experts and academics. The training was an important step in enhancing CSO space in AU policy processes and in building strong constituency for AU policies and norms among CSOs. The training was not only important in equipping participants with practical knowledge and understanding of the AU but also facilitating interface between CSOs and key AU actors including the leadership at the AU PAPS.



From Amani Africa's training session held July at Ramada Hotel

Participants also shared their testimonies at the end of the three days training on what kind of shift it brought on their understanding of the AU and their future engagement with the organization.

Tailor-made briefing and working sessions to PSC and UNSC members

Amani Africa delivered various briefings and training sessions, which are tailored to the needs and request made by specific stakeholders.

We held a working session of the joint teams of the Embassy of Ghana and Amani Africa at Sheraton Hotel accompanied by extensive engagements on areas for the provision of technical support.



During the working session held with Ambassador Amma Twum-Amoah and her team at Sheraton Hotel

We provided technical support to Switzerland ahead of commencing its membership in the UNSC in 2023. The special project commissioned by Switzerland included the delivery of tailor-made training/briefing session and a submission of two case studies identified by Switzerland. The briefing was delivered in two segments on 29-30 November and on 14 December to Swiss diplomats from capital NY, Addis Ababa and across various missions in Africa.



IV STRATEGIC OUTREACH AND MEDIA AND COMMUNICATIONS

Amani Africa has expanded its partnership with various stakeholders and consolidated existing ones.



During consultation held with Comm. Bankole at the AUC January 2022

Towards deepening its strategic partnership with the PAPS department in support of the mandate of the PSC, Amani Africa held regular meetings over the year with Commissioner Bankole and his team.





During consultation held with Comm. Bankole at the AUC in October on status of delivery of agreed areas of work

As part of our regular outreach and consultation, we also held a meeting with Special Representative of the Secretary General of the UN and the Head of the UN Office to the AU H.E. Hanna Tetteh. This also served as an occasion for formalizing the partnership between UNOAU and Amani Africa.



2022 was also an important year for Amani Africa to bring visibility to its work and build strategic partnerships. Our Founding Director, held an exchange with President Thabo Mbeki on the work of Amani Africa during a visit for a meeting hosted by Thabo Mbeki Foundation.



Profiling AU and AU PSC and curate Data on its work Through Media and Strategic Communication works

In 2022 Amani Africa introduced various communication tools to diversify the dissemination of its research work and analysis. In May 2022, it released 'In the Words of the PSC Chairperson' which is a short video recording of the PSC chair presenting the program of work. This complements the monthly tracking Amani Africa does through its standing analysis on the program of work. In collaboration with the Amb. Churchill Monono Amani Africa released the first video profiling PSC's work in May under Cameron's chairship.

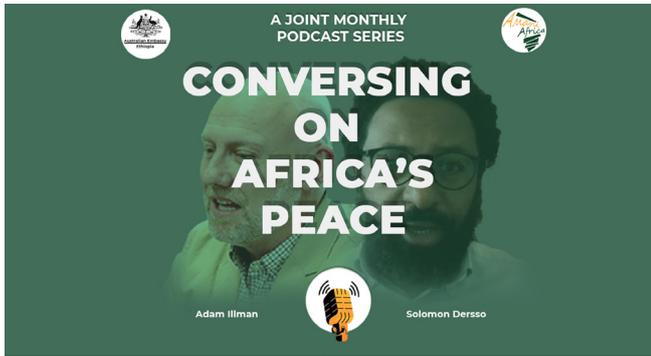


This engagement has continued for the various successive monthly chairs of the PSC to bring more visibility around the work of the PSC and the agenda of the various chairs.

Amani Africa has put in place various social media tools to provide further information on the work it undertakes. In addition to the regular updates it provides on the individual agenda items of the PSC it has also started releasing weekly recaps of its 'Insights on the PSC'.



Amani Africa has increasingly utilized diverse mechanisms in disseminating its research work. Jointly with the Embassy of Australia it has launched a monthly podcast to present the analysis on PSC's program of work.



Amani Africa also increased its media presence to further disseminate its research analysis.

Expanding our media engagement and footprint



Ahead of Africa Day observed on 25 May, our Founding Director spoke to Al Jazeera, on 23 May, on the AU, its impact and what it can do to realize its full potential.



The key findings of Amani Africa's special research report 'The Growing Threat of Terrorism in Africa: A Product of Misdiagnosis and Faulty Policy Response?' also featured in one of the commentaries of 'The Continent'.

The Continent
ISSUE 88, JUNE 11 2022

Comment

21

Misdiagnosis drives Africa's terrorism problem

As terrorism proliferates, the continent's leaders are focused on responding with force, rather than on the problems that cause insurgencies

Speaking there, the AU Commission's chair noted that from Somalia to the Sahel and Mozambique, regional bodies were responding with hard policy instruments: border controls, intelligence sharing, investment in their criminal justice systems, and soldiers. Bilateral agreements between countries reinforce this response, like with the involvement of Rwandan soldiers in northern Mozambique.

Responding with force to stop terrorist attacks is the default response across most of the continent.

In his recent visit to West Africa, the United Nations secretary general said: "Operating in these circumstances ... calls not for a peacekeeping force, but a strong force to enforce peace and fight terrorism."

He said a force "from the African Union" was needed, backed by a chapter seven mandate from the UN Security Council and "an obligatory financing".

But this does not solve the problems that drive terrorism.

A more nuanced approach

In late May, as the AU meeting happened, the Addis Ababa-based think tank Amani Africa released a comprehensive report into the failures of counter-terrorism across the continent. It warned that: "Africa faces the unfortunate challenge of having become the epicentre of terrorism and violent extremism."

At the core of its findings is the reality that the threat of terrorism is growing despite the investment in, and increased

Solomon A. Dersso

Terrorism is thriving in Africa, with too many leaders failing to address the real reasons that make the emergence and growth of terrorist groups possible.

Across the continent, attacks and deaths as a result of terrorism rose 400% and 237% respectively between 2012 and 2020. This is according to the African Union's Algiers-based Centre for the Study and Research on Terrorism.

Groups identified as terrorists are now present in every region of Africa. The Global Terrorism Index in March said 18 countries on the continent are affected by terrorism.

In light of this trend, the African Union hosted a summit on terrorism late last month.

Our program director spoke to CGTN in March during the transition period of AMISOM to ATMIS.



Amani Africa in key continental and global policy forums

Amani Africa has actively participated in a number of landmark regional and global policy forums by shaping policy discourse and action.

Amani Africa participated and presented in several other forums. On 10 October, our Founding Director presented at the high-level food security and nutrition conference held at Mandela Hall at the AU Commission and highlighted the pressing challenge of conflict as a

major driver of food insecurity in Africa with specific proposals on how to counter this challenge.



Our founding director presenting at the conference

Amani Africa took active part during the 10th edition of the Tana Forum both in the plenary and side events.



Side event during the 10th Tana High Level Forum

Apart from facilitating a side-event organized by the German Embassy, Amani Africa served as lead speaker in one of the plenary sessions of the 10th Tana High Level Forum on Security in Africa held between 14-16 October on the shores of Lake Tana in Bahir Dar, Ethiopia.



On 19 October Amani Africa's researcher Tsion Hagos participated at the dialogue forum 'Towards Sustainable Management of Democratic Transitions in Africa' jointly convened by the Hans Seidel Foundation and Strathmore Law School to also launch two publications.



During the forum in Nairobi

On 27 October our Founding Director joined the final session of the Africa Climate Talks: Road to COP27 which focused on stakeholders' engagement. Drawing from Amani Africa's analysis the presentation highlighted the climate-security nexus and called for increased attention on the link between climate change and security in COP negotiations.



Our founding director at the Africa climate talks

Amani Africa participated at the inaugural AU Policy conference on Peace, Security and Development nexus held between 25-27 October in Tangier.



During the conference held in Tangier

Amani Africa was also present at the inaugural lessons learned forum on AU led/authorized peace support operations and the African Standby Force held in Abuja from 1-3 November 2022. During the forum, Amani Africa delivered a presentation.



Beyond the continental engagements Amani Africa has expanded its outreach and was also part of a number of global forums.

Amani Africa also had the opportunity to engage with the COP27 presidency and other key policy actors in climate policy.



During the consultation with the COP27 team at the Egyptian mission in Addis Ababa

Amani Africa participated at the Berlin Africa Forum convened by the European Council on Foreign Relations.



During the Berlin Africa Forum



During the Berlin Africa Forum

On 11 November, Dr. Solomon Dersso delivered presentations in two panels at the Paris Peace Forum. The first panel, in which his intervention highlighted the challenges related to violence against civilians in conflict settings, was on protection of civilians.



During the Paris Forum at the panel on protection of civilians

The second panel in which Dr Dersso spoke was the one on restoring trust through protecting the civic space, which brought together panelists who share their reflections on the state of civic space in the world.

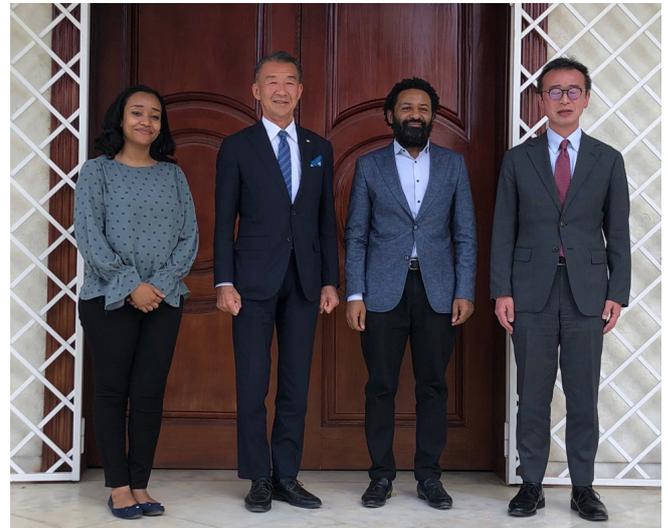


During the Paris Forum

V RESPONDING TO DEMANDS FOR BRIEFINGS AND ANALYSIS TO THE WIDER STAKEHOLDERS

We had the pleasure to receive representatives of several institutions in our office for briefings and exchanges and to also engage partners on various occasions.

On March 10 on the occasion of the visit to Addis Ababa by Amb. Otuka Umio of Japan to Djibouti, Amani Africa held an exchange on the situation in the Horn of Africa at the residence of the Permanent Representative of Japan to the AU.



Consultation with Amb. Otuka Umio at the residence of Japan's permanent representative to the AU

On 18 May we welcomed to our office Juliette Gundy and Tracey Corner from the Canadian mission in Addis Ababa to discuss common areas of interest including women, peace and security.



Consultation at Amani Africa

On 21 July we held a meeting with UNICEF representatives from AU liaison office based in Addis Ababa and from head quarter to exchange on developments related to the AU humanitarian agency and related policies.



Consultation at Amani Africa

We welcomed to our office several members of the diplomatic community from a number of capitals globally and missions based in Addis Ababa.

On 24 August we received David Schwake, Deputy Permanent Representative of Germany to the AU and Irina Hohn second secretary to discuss peace and security matters and policies in the AU as well as areas of partnership.



During consultation held at Amani Africa

We also briefed Dr Simone Knapp, Ambassador of Austria to the AU and Doris Gebru-Zeilermayr Head of office on topical peace and security issues.



During consultation held at Amani Africa

On 4 October Amani Africa welcomed Jasna Lazarevic from the Swiss mission to the UN and Oliver Hoehne from the mission in Addis Ababa to exchange in preparation of Switzerland's membership in the UNSC. The preparatory meeting was leading up to the project scheduled for later in the year.



During consultation held at Amani Africa

On 18 October, Amani Africa convened a consultation between Addis Ababa based institutions and representatives from the UN Commission on Human Rights on South Sudan.



We also exchanged on specific geographic situations in the continent with Michael Nordenberg the Desk Officer from the Africa department at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden and Stefan Roos Isaksson the deputy head of mission of the Swedish Embassy in Addis Ababa.



Amani Africa held a meeting with Amb. Michael J. Adler, US Ambassador to South Sudan as well as Melissa Schumi and Etika Tat from the US mission to the AU. The discussion focused on the situation in South Sudan including the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan (R-ARCSS)



During consultation held at Amani Africa

On 14 November, Amani Africa held consultations with Amb. Prikka Tapiola, Ambassador of Finland in Nairobi, Amb. Outi Holopainen, Ambassador of Finland in Addis Ababa as well as with the respective deputies. The exchange focused on the Horn of Africa.



During consultation held at Amani Africa

On 9 November Amani Africa received a delegation from the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs Dr Meike de Goede and Onno Koopmans along with Professor Roel an der Veen and Jeroen Sprangers of the Embassy of Netherlands in Addis Ababa. The exchange focused on the state of peace and security in Africa.



During consultation held at Amani Africa

On November 23 Amani Africa held a meeting with a delegation from the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office (FCDO). The delegation was composed of senior research analysts Paul Bentall, Babu Rahman and Ned Dalby and representatives from the UK embassy in Addis Ababa



During consultation held at Amani Africa

On 28 December Amani Africa team met with Itonde Kakoma, the Permanent Representative of the International Federation of the Red Cross (IFRC) to the AU to discuss areas of collaboration.



Consultation held at Amani Africa

As part of our close collaboration with the AU PAPS and the experts in the department, we welcomed Hafsa Malim ahead of her departure from AU PAPS.



Amani Africa's work with UNSC members and candidates to UNSC membership

On 8 December Amani Africa participated in a consultation convened by the mission of Denmark in Addis Ababa on the occasion of the visit of the Special Representative for Denmark's candidacy to the UN Security Council 2025-2026 and previous Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Holger K. Nielsen. Member states from central and southern African counties also participated in the consultation.



Consultation held at Sheraton

Building on its existing strategic partnership Amani Africa continues to enhance the impact of its work.



Consultation at Amani Africa with Oliver Hoehne Deputy Head of Mission of the Embassy of Switzerland

On 10 August, we received Mr. Okano Masataka, Deputy Minister for Foreign Policy, Tsurudome Kazutaka Assistant Director of UN Policy Division Foreign Policy Bureau and Ambassador of Japan to the AU, Amb. Horiuchi Toshihiko.



Consultation with the delegation led by Mr. Okano Masataka at Amani Africa

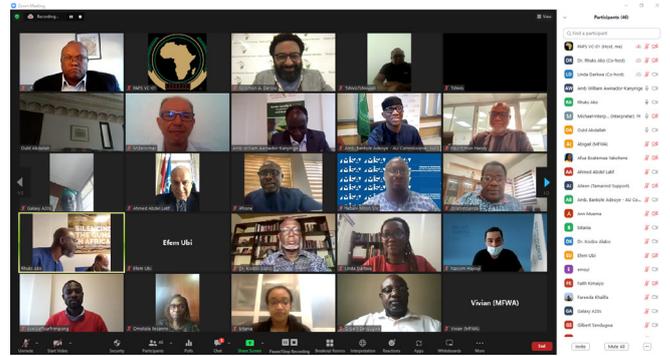
On 9 November, we received a delegation led by Mr. Mase Hiroyuki, Director, First Africa Division, African Affairs Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan and Deputy Secretary General for TICAD8 and held extensive discussion on various areas of mutual interest including matters of interest in Japan's membership in the UNSC.



During consultation held at Amani Africa

Working with peer organizations and sustaining exchanges

On 2 August Amani Africa was invited by the PAPS department for the inaugural meeting held to set up the Network of Think-Tanks for Peace (NeTT4Peace).



In addition to the financial support provided by its existing partners in 2022 Amani Africa implemented the first year of Open Society Foundation's support to its work. It welcomed a delegation of OSF at Amani Africa office for a briefing on the AU.



Consultation at Amani Africa with the Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa (OSIEA) team

On 4 August we welcomed to our office Faten Aggad from the African Climate Foundation to discuss topics related to climate security nexus and exchange on developments ahead of COP27.



During consultation held at Amani Africa

On 22 August our Director held a meeting with the Interim Director of Tana Forum at the Institute for Peace and Security Studies (IPSS).



On 14 October Amani Africa received a team from the South African Institute of International Relations including Steven Gruz, Gustavo De Carvalho and Luanda Mpungose. The two institutions exchanged on global policy issues and on areas of partnership.



During consultation held at Amani Africa



MEDIA AND RESEARCH SERVICES

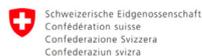
ABOUT AMANI AFRICA

Amani Africa is an independent African based policy research; training and consulting think tank with a specialization and primary focus on African multilateral policy processes, particularly those relating to the African Union.

We support the pan-African dream of peaceful, prosperous and integrated Africa through research, training, strategic communications, technical advisory services, and convening and facilitation.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Amani Africa wishes to express its gratitude to its partners - Switzerland, Ireland, Norway, Finland and the OSF for the support they provided to its work in 2022.



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