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PRESS RELEASE

The African Union High Representative for the Horn of Africa Briefs the Peace and Security Council on his activities in the Horn of Africa

Addis Ababa – 10 February 2022: The African Union (AU) High Representative for the Horn of Africa, H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo, former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, briefed the 1064th meeting of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the AU, on his efforts in Ethiopia, since his last briefing on 8 November 2021 during the Council's 1045th meeting. He highlighted the recent developments in Ethiopia, including the establishment of the National Dialogue Commission coupled with the promulgation of the necessary legislation; the release of prisoners; the issue of humanitarian access; the general improvement in goodwill and commitment to dialogue as the only viable approach to address the challenges facing the country, with the facilitation of the AU.

The PSC and the AU High Representative also reviewed the overall situation in the Horn of Africa and mutually recommitted to sharpening the strategy for promoting sustainable peace and stability in the region.

The meeting was chaired by H.E. Ambassador Jean Kamau, the Permanent Representative of the Republic of Kenya and PSC Chairperson for the month of February 2022. The Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye in his statement reiterated the AU's commitment to finding a durable solution to the situation in Ethiopia, and more critically, to backstop the High Representative in the implementation of his mandate.

The PSC commended the High Representative for his tireless efforts and reaffirmed its unwavering support to his efforts and encouraged him to continue consultations with concerned stakeholders in the region, with a view to finding lasting solution to the security challenges facing the Horn of Africa. Appeal was also made to the countries in the Horn of Africa to demonstrate commitment towards inclusive dialogue, security, stability and sustainable peace in the region and to continue to extend their support to the efforts of the High Representative.