



## Concept Note

### Roundtable on Women in peace and security decision-making

And

### Launch of Amani Africa's AU PSC Handbook

In 2022, Amani Africa in collaboration with Namibia with the participation of the PSC Secretariat convened a roundtable on women in peace and security decision-making. This serves as an occasion both to profile the women who play leading role in AU peace & security decision-making and to provide a platform for sharing lessons and experiences on how to facilitate space for women engagement and systematic integration of issues of particular concern for women and girls in peace and security decision-making.

As with last year, this year's roundtable is an occasion to celebrate the women in PSC decision-making and their leadership in advancing the peace and security agenda. This roundtable has the central objective of celebrating the contribution and the leadership of women members in promoting peace and security in the continent. It is envisaged that women in leadership and women members of the PSC will share their reflection and experience on their role in promoting an inclusive peace and security order that is responsive to the agency and needs of women and girls. This year's edition would also help to interrogate the tendency to make WPS as women only issue and facilitate understanding that WPS is a whole of society issue by virtue of its role to achieve equal and just societies. And all sectors of society have a role to play with some including men and decision-making structures bearing responsibility for facilitating enabling conditions.

Another segment of the occasion is the annual launch of Amani Africa's flagship publication, the African Union Peace and Security Handbook. Since the inaugural edition published in 2020, Amani Africa has on an annual basis published the authoritative **The African Union Peace and Security Council Handbook** as part of its research work and in an effort to document and enhance knowledge on the work and mandate of the Peace and Security Council (PSC). The Handbook is produced both to support the PSC's mandate and to bring better visibility to the AU PSC at the continental as well as international levels. Since the first edition, the Handbook continues to serve as the principal reference material and practical guide to members of the PSC, AU member states, AU institutions and the wider diplomatic community as well as researchers and organizations working on peace and security in Africa and AU's peace and security work.



The annual update to the Handbook serves to document the dynamic developments in the work of the PSC. It thus helps in documenting major changes and issues in the working methods, institutional arrangements and execution of mandate of the PSC during the past year. The Handbook thus operates as a living document offering up to date data and analysis on AU's premier peace and security decision-making body and its work. This fourth edition will accordingly be officially launched on 30th November as per the usual practice in partnership with the monthly PSC Chairperson, H.E. Ambassador Abdi Mahamoud Aybe, Permanent Representative of Djibouti to the African Union with the participation of Madame Neema Chusi, Head of the PSC Secretariat.

### Agenda

**Date and time:** 30 November 2023, 08:30-10:30 AM EAT

**Venue:** Radisson Blu, Addis Ababa

**Moderator:** *Ms Neema Chusi, Head of PSC Secretariat*

08:00 – 8:30: Registration

#### **Speakers**

08:30 – 08:45: H.E. Ambassador Abdi Mahamoud Eybe, Permanent Representative of Djibouti and Chair of the PSC for the month of November

08:45 – 09:00: H.E. Ambassador Pietro Mona, Permanent Representative of Switzerland

09:00 – 09:15: Ms Tsion Hagos, Senior Researcher, Amani Africa

#### **Reflections on WPS Agenda**

09:15 – 09:30: H.E. Ambassador Rebecca Amuge Otengo, Permanent Representative of Uganda



- 09:30 – 09:45: Ms Matheko Letsie, Deputy Permanent Representative of South Africa
- 09:45 – 10:00: Dr Solomon Dersso, Founding Director of Amani Africa
- 10:00 – 10:30: Discussions
- 10:30 Closing Remarks and Breakfast