



High-level Policy Dialogue Co-organised by Amani Africa Media and Research Services and the Embassy of Burundi in Ethiopia alongside Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) and Nonviolent Peaceforce

From the Luanda Summit to the Finalisation of the APSA Review: Revitalising the Africa Union's role in conflict prevention and resolution

Concept Note

The Extraordinary Summit of the African Union (AU) on Strengthening Conflict Prevention and Resolution in Africa was held on 30 August 2026 in Luanda, the Republic of Angola. This summit was certainly meant to respond to the growing gap between the emergence of a [new era of insecurity and instability](#) and the policy response of the AU, highlighted in [the 2025 Review of AU's Peace and Security work](#).

The summit concluded with the adoption of heads of state and government decision and the Luanda Action Plan and implementation matrix. Beyond the summit, it is anticipated that the ongoing process of the review of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), as part of the Institutional Reform of the AU, championed by Kenya's President William Ruto (who presented a report on the APSA Review during the 39th AU Assembly), will be finalised and presented to the AU Assembly during the January 2027 AU summit.

Against the foregoing background, the proposed seminar, which is part of Amani Africa's project work on the APSA review, seeks to reflect on the journey from Luanda to the finalisation of the APSA review in 2027. In addition to taking stock of the outcomes of the Luanda summit, including those based on the contributions from Amani Africa's work towards the summit, this policy dialogue forum will serve to look into practical ways of enhancing AU's agency in some of the major conflict situations such as Sudan, South Sudan, or the Sahel, building on some of the actions outlined in the Luanda summit outcomes. Additionally, drawing on Amani Africa's documentation and analysis of lessons learned and insights from previous AU peace processes (see for example [here](#), [here](#), [here](#) and [here](#)), the policy dialogue also seeks to explore how to enhance effective peace diplomacy through a) effective conflict early warning and prevention, drawing on insights from the role of back channels, quiet diplomacy, discreet preventive missions through the Panel of the Wise (PoW), good offices of the AU Commission Chairperson, the AU Chairperson or the PSC Chairperson and b) peacemaking and mediation, drawing on analysis of the role of political missions, ad hoc panels, ad hoc high-level committees and lessons on factors that shape effective peacemaking and mediation from past and recent AU experiences.

The policy dialogue will be held jointly with Burundi, which presided over the Luanda summit and under whose chairship of the African Union the summit was organised.

Date: 30 September 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM EAT

Venue: Hyatt Regency, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia