

## Statement by international Partners of the Oran Process

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- It is an honour to address this esteemed gathering today on behalf of Norway, Denmark and my country, Switzerland.
- We sincerely thank the AU Commission and in particular the people and the Government of Algeria, our generous host and an engaged actor for peace and security in Africa, for enabling us to meet for the 11<sup>th</sup> time in the beautiful City of Oran. We also congratulate Djibouti who today assumes the presidency of the AU Peace and Security Council for the month.

### **[Continued support from partners and shared priorities]**

- We support this Seminar on a conviction that strengthening the relationship between the UN Security Council and the AU Peace and Security benefits both institutions for upholding peace and security on the continent and beyond.
- An effective multilateral system, fit to deliver on the challenges of today and the future, is in the core interest of Norway, Denmark and Switzerland. Denmark enters the UN Security Council on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2025 when our term will come to an end - but our common commitment to support a strong AU-UN Partnership bridges our approach. Just as it did when Norway was last a member of the council in 2021-2022.
- The three partner-countries of the Oran Process share many priorities and convictions, notably the defence of the core principles of our common multilateral system enshrined in the UN Charter. We are strong supporters of reforms for a modern, representative and effective UN system with adequate, predictable and sustainable funding.
- A reform of the UN Security Council is long overdue. We support a balanced expansion of the Security Council to better reflect current geopolitical realities, and ensure increased and equitable representation. Additional seats for African countries are key to address the historical injustice. A more just representation, in particular for Africa, will strengthen the legitimacy of the Council and help curb the dwindling trust in international institutions.

This is in the interest of all, seeking an effective multilateral system and a rule-based order.

- Unfortunately, this year has again illustrated how growing polarization can hinder effective international response to crises, including in the UN Security Council. Whether we are talking about Sudan, Ukraine or Gaza, climate change or countering terrorism it is disheartening to see that the Council action has been blocked by only a few at crucial moments.

### **[We support closer cooperation between AU PSC and UN Security Council]**

- During this year's annual consultations between the UN Security Council and the AU Peace and Security Council in New York, it was again confirmed that both Councils are committed to collaborating closer in the promotion of comprehensive solutions.
- From our own experience we can say that the work of the UN Security Council can profit from receiving timely submission of PSC Communiqués on files discussed in both councils. Furthermore, more joint meetings, including with Informal Expert Groups of the UNSC, the organization of joint field visits and preparatory calls between the incoming chairs of the two councils can facilitate bridging the gap between Addis and New York.
- The A3 has a special role to play. We welcome the enhanced coordination amongst the African members and their strengthened voice – further bolstered when joined by an active member such as Guyana as A3-Plus.
- An important role also falls on the AU Delegation to the UN as well as the UN Office to the AU. They contribute to forging the partnership between AU and UN, as can strong AU-UN Groups of Friends in both diplomatic capitals.
- Promoting inclusive approaches to all peace and security processes is also a joint priority. We should work more together on core thematic priorities such as the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in peace and security or the enhanced representation and inclusion of Youth. AU PSC's leadership on climate, peace and security is inspiring and we are grateful for the A3+ leading role on Climate Peace and Security in the SC.

### **[Developments in African-led peace support operations and implementation of 2719 (2023)]**

- Last year, just days after this Seminar, the SCR 2719 (2023) was adopted in New York. It is a welcome step in the direction towards adequate, predictable and sustainable financing from UN assessed contributions for AU-led peace support operations authorised by UN Security Council.
- We welcome the joint collaboration between the AU Commission and the UN Secretariat and the progress made on the joint roadmap for the implementation of SCR 2719. We should spare no efforts in ensuring tangible progress in its implementation.
- As we are exploring new ground here, we need to exercise flexibility and political will. All peace missions are inherently complex. We believe an application of 2719 now or in the near future lies in our common interest. Both traditional and new donors should step up, and partner with the AU and UN for mobilising the necessary funding allowing for an effective implementation.

### **[Thanking]**

- Excellencies, colleagues; The Oran Process has become an essential platform for exchange, in-depth conversation and consensus-building on key issues of peace and security.
- The delegations of Norway, Denmark and Switzerland look forward to continuing our well-established dialogue on how we can strengthen our cooperation with your countries in the coming days here in Oran.
- I thank you.