



Press Release

The Commissioner for Peace and Security Receives Canada's Minister of Foreign Affairs

Addis Ababa, 10 November 2016: The AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, Ambassador Smail Chergui, received today, 10 November 2016, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada, His Excellency Honorable Stephane Dion. The two exchanged views on conflict prevention and mediation, governance, human rights and the rule of law, peace support operations, including the issue of sustainable and predictable funding for peace and security activities in Africa. They also exchanged views on climate change and its impact on peace and security on the African continent and reaffirmed their commitment to step up efforts in the fight against the scourge of terrorism.

The Commissioner for Peace and Security and the Minister of Foreign Affairs expressed their mutual appreciation for the growth and strengthening of the partnership between the AU and Canada. They reiterated the importance for the AU and Canada to maintain close cooperation and coordination in addressing the peace and security challenges on the continent.

The Commissioner thanked the Minister of Foreign Affairs for the visit and conveyed to him the greetings of the Chairperson of the AU Commission, Dr. Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma. He also expressed appreciation to Canada for the donation of 5 million Canadian dollars in support of projects that will focus on the following thematic areas: women and girls empowerment, good governance, human rights, renewable energy, intra-African trade, and the fight against terrorism and violent extremism.

The Commissioner reiterated his gratitude to Canada for its continued support to the AU's efforts in the areas of conflict prevention, crisis management and peace building and close partnership with the UN.