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**African Union Meeting of Government Experts
of Member States to Consider the AU Draft Policy
Framework on Security Sector Reform (SSR)**

**Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
16 – 17 May 2011**

CONCLUSIONS

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1. The African Union Commission held a meeting of Government Experts of Member States to consider the draft AU Policy Framework on Security Sector Reform (SSR). The meeting was held at the United Nations Conference Centre in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, from 16 – 17 May 2011. The meeting was part of a series of consultations for the development of an AU Policy Framework on SSR in fulfillment of a January 2008 Assembly decision (**Assembly/AU/Dec.177(X)**), which “encourages the Commission to develop a comprehensive AU Policy Framework on Security Sector Reform (SSR), within the context of the Policy Framework on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development adopted by the Executive Council in Banjul in June 2006”.
2. The meeting was attended by the following AU Member States: Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroun, Congo, Central African Republic, Cote d’Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gabon, Guinea, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Saharawi Republic, Swaziland, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, The Sudan, Tanzania, Tchad, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.
3. The following Regional Economic Communities (RECs) and Regional Mechanisms also participated at the meeting: Inter-governmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), East African Community (EAC), Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), East Africa Standby Force Coordination Mechanism (EASFCOM) and the Northern African Regional Capacity (NARC).
4. Representatives of the United Nations, the European Union, the African Security Sector Network, the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg, and the Committee of Intelligence and Security Services of Africa (CISSA) attended the meeting as observers.
5. In the opening session, the representative from the United Nations, Dr. Adedeji Ebo, Head of the UN SSR Unit under the UN Department of Peacekeeping Operations (DPKO), highlighted the strategic partnership between the AU and the UN in SSR, and the commitment of the United Nations to assisting the African Union in its SSR processes. He stressed that the significance of the AU SSR policy is not only in its adoption but also in its implementation.
6. In his opening remarks, the AU Director for Peace and Security, Mr. El Ghassim Wane, highlighted the importance of the meeting in the process of developing the AU Policy Framework on Security Sector Reform. He pointed out that the draft policy framework was a well researched document which has been enriched with input from diverse stakeholders including RECs, African and international SSR experts, African peacekeeping training institutions and centers of excellence, African civil society organizations. He urged participants to improve on the draft policy framework to make it fully relevant to Member States and other stakeholders’ priorities and concerns.

7. The Meeting elected the following Bureau to conduct its business:

- Chair – Mali;
- 1st Vice Chair – Tchad;
- 2nd Vice Chair – Rwanda;
- 3rd Vice Chair – Egypt; and
- Rapporteur – Malawi.

8. The Commission presented an overview of the draft AU Policy Framework on Security Sector Reform, highlighting the main issues in each section of the document. The meeting welcomed the elaboration of the draft and participants made various comments in appreciation of the AU's efforts in preparing the draft policy framework.

9. The Meeting undertook a review of the draft AU Policy Framework on SSR and made amendments to various sections of the document. Participants made both substantive and editorial observations, as well as suggestions on the appropriate language for the policy framework. A number of delegations made written submissions to the Rapporteur, to improve the final version of the policy framework.

10. The Rapporteur presented his report in English.

11. The Meeting endorsed the amended AU Policy Framework on Security Sector Reform in principle and Member States will have until the 30th of July, 2011 to confirm that their amendments have been incorporated into the document. Thereafter, the AU Commission will submit the document to the AU Executive Council Ordinary Session of January 2012, for consideration and adoption.