



**PRESS STATEMENT ON THE BRIEFING BY DR. SALIM AHMED SALIM, AU
SPECIAL ENVOY FOR DARFUR, ON THE STATUS OF THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AU-UN ROAD-MAP FOR PEACE IN DARFUR**

The Peace and Security Council, during its 88th meeting, held today, 14 August 2007, was briefed by Dr. Salim Ahmed Salim, on the status of the implementation of the AU-UN Road-map for peace in Darfur, including in particular, on the outcome of the Arusha consultations with the leading personalities of the non-signatories of the Darfur Peace Agreement (DPA).

Council expressed appreciation for the efforts deployed by the AU and UN Special Envoys and lauded their determination to achieve a lasting solution to the conflict in Darfur. Council welcomed the successful outcome of the Arusha Consultations and the expressed readiness of the non-signatories to fully participate in the forthcoming negotiations under the leadership of the AU/UN, in partnership with regional actors, and with the support of the international community.

Council recalled the adoption of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1769 on 31 July 2007, which authorized the deployment of the Hybrid Operation as well as the two Tripoli communiqués of 29 April 2007 and 16 July 2007, which were aimed at finalizing the convergence phase of the Road-map and the preparation for the pre-negotiation phase. It concluded that these positive developments augured well and provided momentum for the renewed political process.

Council endorsed the steps outlined by the Special Envoy to followup on the work accomplished in Arusha, in particular, on the need to engage in serious and constructive dialogue with the Government of the Sudan and with its DPA partners, to finalize the preparations for negotiations. It also commended and encouraged the partnership with the Regional Actors, as being pivotal to the search for lasting peace in Darfur

Council took note of and expressed support to the efforts of the Special Envoy and urged the Commission to extend maximum support to him within the framework of the AU/UN Joint Mediation Support Team.

Council paid tribute to AU Member States which pledged troops and other personnel to the AU/UN Hybrid Operation (UNAMID) and encouraged other countries to do the same.

Council also appealed for continued humanitarian support to the affected people in Darfur.

Addis Ababa 15 August 2007