INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

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Venue: Maseru, The Kingdom of Lesotho

Induction of Newly Elected Members of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union

The newly elected members, re-elected members and outgoing members of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union, held an induction session in Maseru, the Kingdom of Lesotho, from 23 to 25 March 2022. The induction session, which is a standard practice of the PSC, following election of its new members, provided a platform for incoming PSC members to appraise themselves with PSC legal instruments, and working methods as well as with peace, security and governance trends on the continent. PSC Members also exchanged views on best practices on conflict prevention, mediation, early warning and early response in the context of the implementation of their mandate.

Speaking at the opening ceremony, H.E. Bankole Adeoye, African Union Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, urged incoming members of the PSC to be tenacious, principled and decisive in addressing the complex multi-layered challenges facing Africa, including terrorism, violent extremism and unconstitutional changes of government. He commended the outgoing PSC Members for the great work achieved during their term and reiterated the Commission’s readiness to continue to work closely with Member States towards the strengthening of good governance, peace and security in Africa.

On her part, Honorable Matšepo-Molise Ramakoa, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Relations, on behalf of the Government of the Kingdom of Lesotho, welcomed PSC Members to the “Mountain Kingdom” and reiterated the commitment of the Government of Lesotho to continue to support African Union efforts towards the implementation of Agenda 2063 especially its flagship project on “Silencing the guns”.

Over the past three days, PSC Members held in-depth deliberations on existing and emerging challenges on the continent such as complex political transitions, climate security, the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, power elongation and the growing presence of foreign fighters and mercenaries.

They also reflected on the principle of sovereignty vis-à-vis conflict prevention, the effective application of the principle of subsidiarity, as well as global developments with potential impact on the African continent.

It would be recalled that the 40th Ordinary Session of the Executive Council held in February 2022 elected fifteen PSC Member States, namely, Cameroon, Djibouti, Morocco, Namibia, Nigeria, to serve three-year mandates each until 2025, and Burundi, Congo, The Gambia, Ghana, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Tunisia, Uganda and Zimbabwe to serve two-year mandates each until 2024.

On the margins of the PSC induction session, the Rt. Hon. Moeketsi Majoro, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho, granted audience to the AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security during which he thanked the African Union for her continuous support to the ongoing critical political reforms in the kingdom.
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