

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

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The 2024 Statutory meeting at the Technical and Political level on AGA – APSA Platform concludes ahead of the AU summit in Addis Ababa



On the margins of the 37th AU Summit, the African Union Commission (AUC) hosted the biannual Statutory African Governance Architecture – African Peace and Security Architecture (AGA-APSA) meeting at the Technical and Political level from **12-13 February 2024**, at the AUC Head Quarters, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia.

The meeting provided an opportunity for the AGA-APSA platform to plan for the year 2024 flagship activities, received updates about the AU and its organs implementation plans for the year 2023 and discussed ways to better enhance synergy and coordination among Platform members and the development partners. The platform also elected its new Chairperson and Vice Chairperson for a two-year term.

The meeting brought together technical as well political heads of the Platform from AU Political Affairs, Peace and Security (AU PAPS), AU Organs Regional Economic Communities (RECs)/ Regional Mechanisms (RMs), the relevant AUC Departments and Directorates along with the development partners from the European Union (EU) and GIZ.

In her welcoming remarks, Ms. Patience Chiradza, Director of the Governance and Conflict Prevention Directorate (AU GCPD) and Rapporteur of the AGA-APSA platform at the technical level, emphasized the importance of strengthening the AGA-APSA synergy. Ms. Abiola Idowu Ojo, Acting Executive Secretary of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR) and the Chairperson of the platform at the technical level highlighted achievements made during the ACHPR's tenure as Chairperson before officially opening the Technical meeting.

The first day included presentations and plenary discussions focusing on AGA-APSA Secretariat's 2023 activities report and 2024 brief plan presented by Ms. Makda M. Tessema, Senior Democracy and Government Expert followed by detailed discussions on the proposals for 2024 flagship projects by platform members. Moreover, existing initiatives within the commission are proposed for consideration in the platform and the level of engagement with developmental partners was discussed in collaboration with EU-EDU and GIZ regarding the future AGA-APSA projects.

H.E. Commissioner Bankole Adeoye, Rapporteur of the platform at the Political level and Commissioner for Political Affairs Peace and Security (AU PAPS), in his opening remark for the second day, stressed promoting the AGA-APSA synergy, developing a joint roadmap, reducing institutional challenges, value-driven partnership and resourcing and emphasized on coordination at all levels.

H.E. Remy Ngoy Lumbu, Chairperson of ACHPR and the outgoing Chairperson of the platform focused on the achievements of the Platform for the last two years and recommended further support the AGA-APSA Secretariat, strengthening information sharing, enhancing the efficiency of the Secretariat, paradigm shift in governance, improve coordination and work in citizens' participation.

The meeting concluded with the adoption of the outcome statement at the political level followed by the election of the new Chairperson and the Vice Chairperson of the platform for the next two years. In this vein, with the guidance of the Office of the Legal Counsel, H.E. Wilson Almeida Adão, Chairperson of the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) was elected as the Chairperson of the platform, and H.E. Taieb Baccouche, Secretary General of Union du Maghreb Arabe (UMA) as the Vice Chairperson at the Political level for a term of two years.

For further information, please contact:

Amb. Salah Hammad, Ag. Head AGA-APSA Secretariat | Governance and Conflict Prevention Directorate | Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security | African Union Commission |
Email: HammadS@africa-union.org

Ms. Makda Mikre Tessema, Senior Democracy and Governance Expert, AGA-APSA Secretariat | Governance and Conflict Prevention Directorate | Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security | African Union Commission | **Email:** makdam@africa-union.org

For media inquiries, please contact:

Mr. Abraham Kebede Gizaw, PAPS Digital Support Officer | Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security | African Union Commission | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia | E-mail: abrahamk@africa-union.org

Information and Communication Directorate, African Union Commission | **E-mail:** DIC@africa-union.org

Web: au.int & peaceau.org | Addis Ababa, Ethiopia |

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