PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
168TH MEETING
5 FEBRUARY 2009
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

COMMUNIQUE
COMMUNIQUE OF THE 168TH MEETING
OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union (AU), at its 168th meeting, held on 5 February 2009, adopted the following decision on the situation in the Islamic Republic of Mauritania:

1. **Recalls** the communiqué of its 163rd meeting held on 22 December 2008;

2. **Decides** that the sanctions envisaged in paragraph nine (9) of the Communiqué of its 163rd Meeting held on 22 December 2008, enter into force;

3. **Requests** the Commission to take the necessary steps for the effective implementation of the sanctions and to report regularly to it;

4. **Further requests** all Member States to scrupulously implement this decision;

5. **Stresses** that the entry into force of the sanctions should be accompanied by efforts of the AU and its partners involving all the Mauritanian parties towards a rapid return to constitutional order in Mauritania. Council **urges** the authorities borne out of the coup to extend their full cooperation to the AU Commission with a view to an immediate return to constitutional order and the quick resolution of the political crisis in the country;

6. **Decides** to remain seized of the matter.