PRESS RELEASE ON THE AMISOM TROOP CONTRIBUTING COUNTRIES (TCCS) CONSULTATIVE MEETING.

Addis Ababa, 9 Nov 2019: The African Union Commission and Troop Contributing Countries to the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) held an internal consultative meeting in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia on 8 November, 2019, hosted by the African Union (AU) Commission. The Meeting was chaired by the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security, Ambassador Smail Chergui and attended by Special Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission to Somalia and Head of AMISOM, Ambassador Francesco Madeira, Chiefs of Defense Forces/Staff (CDF/S) of AMISOM Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) - Burundi, Djibouti, Ethiopia, Kenya and Uganda.

The meeting was convened to consult within AMISOM TCCs in light of the developing progress in the implementation of the Somali Transition Plan (STP) and the requirement on AUC and AMISOM TCCs, arising out of the UNSCR 2472 and AU PSC Communiqué of its 865th meeting of 9 August 2019 and strategic issues influencing the effectiveness of the Operations in AMISOM.

The meeting received briefings from the AMISOM Head of Mission, on the current progress on the implementation of the STP and from the AMISOM Force Commander (FC), highlighting the success on Joint Operations with SNA, and FCs future operational plans and noted operational challenges.

The meeting appreciated sacrifices of the TCCs including the TCCs who have committed non AMISOM troops and capabilities to support efforts to degrade Al Shabaab and support stabilisation efforts in Somalia. It was agreed that all efforts be undertaken to support the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) to raise the Somalia Security Forces, a critical factor in the handing over of security to Somalia Security Forces; intelligence acquisition capability be enhanced at all levels and forces be re-organised to swiftly deal with Al Shabaab.

It was agreed that such internal consultations be held regularly, every three months and that in the subsequent meetings, next in January 2020, CDF Somalia National Army, the Heads of Police of the AMISOM Police Contributing Countries and Head of Somali Police Force be invited to attend.