10th High-Level Seminar on Peace and Security in Africa Reaffirms Solidarity and Cooperation in Advancing African Agency and Positions Globally

The African Union (AU) Peace and Security Council (PSC) held the 10th High-Level Seminar on the promotion of Peace and Security in Africa, from 17 to 18 December 2023, in Oran, Algeria (also known as the Oran Process).

The Seminar was held at ministerial level and brought together participants from the PSC Members, the current A3 Members (Ghana and Mozambique), incoming A3 Members (Algeria and Sierra Leone), former A3 Members as ‘Friends of the Seminar’, the AU Commission, the UN, think tanks and partners. Guyana, participated as A3 Plus 1 Member.

In his opening remarks, H.E. Dr. Mamadou Tangara, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Gambians Abroad of the Republic of The Gambia which is the Chair of the PSC for the month of December 2023, highlighted the need for amplified African Voice in the UN Security Council to strengthen global partnership and to effectively respond to the global challenges the Continent encounters.

H.E. Ahmed ATTAF, Minister of Foreign Affairs and the National Community Abroad of Algeria of the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria, as the host of the Seminar, welcomed all participants and assured them of the unwavering commitment and readiness of Algeria to effectively articulate, defend and promote African interests and positions as a new A3 Member, building on the existing momentum.

The AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security Department, Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, highlighted the objective of the Seminar as a platform for sharpening Africa’s tools, and indeed for continuously enhancing the institutional capacity of the A3 to more effectively promote peace, security and stability in the Continent. He appealed for enhanced efforts to address the resurgence of unconstitutional changes of government, the scourge of terrorism and violent extremism, radicalization, the impact of climate change on peace and security while stressing the importance of ensuring predictable, adequate and sustainable financing for AU Peace Support Operations. He congratulated Algeria and Sierra Leone on their election to the UNSC and commended Ghana and Gabon, as outgoing members of the A3 for their sterling work in favour of Africa within the UN Security Council.

H.E. Kwaku Ampra Twum-Sarpong, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration and A3 Coordinator of African Members of the Security Council (A3) underlined the importance of maintaining the existing momentum, cohesion, and common messaging. He commended the PSC for the continued support to the A3 and underscored the importance of reinvigorating the monthly coordination meetings between the PSC troika and the A3.
Participants shared their perspectives on more practical strategies for further strengthening cohesion, coherence, cooperation and coordination between the AU PSC and the A3 in discharging their mandate in the promotion of common African positions within the Security Council. They reflected on the milestones achieved since 2013 when it was institutionalized, the challenges faced, the lessons and best practices learnt, and on best means and ways of enhancing the effectiveness of the A3 in discharging their mandate. They also reviewed the resurgence of unconstitutional changes of government in Africa; the Draft UNSC Resolution on the Financing of AU Peace Support Operations; as well as the Updated Draft Manual on the Modalities for Enhanced Coordination and Cooperation between the PSC and the A3.

In his closing remarks, on behalf of the Chairperson of the AU Commission, Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, expressed deep appreciation to the Government of the People’s Democratic Republic of Algeria, and in particular, to the Oran authorities for continuously hosting the Oran Process. He also expressed gratitude to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR), and to the partners and the friends of the Seminar for their contributions to the successful organization of the Seminar.

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