The Chairperson of the African Union Commission Announces the Commemoration of the Third PCRD Awareness Week in November 2023

The Chairperson of the African Union Commission, H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, is pleased to announce the commemoration of the Third Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) Awareness Week, scheduled for the 22nd to the 30th of November 2023.

The PCRD Week is a continental initiative which underlines the nexus between peace, security and development and aims to sustain the impetus for Member States, the African Union, Regional Economic Communities, multilateral and development partners, the private sector and other critical stakeholders, including women and youth, to continue to scale up peacebuilding and reconstruction efforts across Africa. And to do so jointly in order to mitigate relapse of conflicts while securing peace dividends for Africans, particularly in communities affected by conflicts.

The theme of this year’s PCRD Week “Fostering Africa’s Future through Sustained Peacebuilding” reaffirms the AU's commitment to promote tangible initiatives to improve African lives and livelihoods and empower the continent's resilient citizens to actively contribute to rebuilding their societies. At this critical juncture where our collective efforts are needed to overcome the significant impact of armed conflicts and threats such as terrorism and transnational crime, the Chairperson calls on Africa’s friends to support African-led efforts to shape the future trajectory of peacebuilding across the continent.

The Chairperson notes with satisfaction the considerable normative and operational milestones so far achieved since the inception of the AU PCRD Policy in 2006. And wishes to reassure Member States of the Commission’s continued commitment to support the institutional capacities of Member States. This includes prioritizing the consolidation of peace and preventing the recurrence of conflict through inclusive and nationally owned processes. In this regard, the Commission is leading the ongoing revision of the AU PCRD Policy and its architecture, complemented by the successful inauguration of the AU PCRD Centre based in Cairo, Egypt.

Accordingly, the Chairperson commends the visionary leadership and unwavering dedication of H.E. Abdel Fattah El-Sisi, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt and AU Champion on PCRD, for spearheading the implementation of the AU PCRD Policy. The Chairperson calls on all stakeholders to redouble efforts individually and collectively, for intensified engagement and the incorporation of best practices to proactively prevent the resurgence of conflicts, in the march towards a peaceful, stable, and prosperous Africa.

The AU Commission remains resolutely committed to building peace in post-conflict settings by intensifying capacity-building initiatives in Member States among others. It is, therefore, crucial to support the youth and women, collaborate with civil society and engage academia. The Commission's inclusive approach fosters agency, collaboration and ownership, recognizing the imperative of harnessing Africa’s living forces to contribute to sustainable peace.