REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON ON THE
ELECTIONS OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
OF THE AFRICAN UNION
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I. INTRODUCTION

1. The process of elections of the members of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union are based on the provisions of the Constitutive Act of the African Union and the provisions of the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union.

2. The process for the first elections are also based on the decision [Assembly/AU/Dec.16 (II)] adopted by the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union in Maputo, Mozambique in July 2003, delegating its authority to elect the members of the PSC to the Executive Council.

II. COMPOSITION

3. The Peace and Security Council is, in conformity with Article 5 (1) of the Protocol, composed of fifteen (15) Members elected on the basis of equal rights, in the following manner: Ten (10) Members elected for a term of two (2) years; and Five (5) Members elected for a term of three (3) years in order to ensure continuity.

III. REQUIREMENTS FOR APPOINTMENT AS MEMBER OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

4. In electing Members of the Peace and Security Council, due consideration shall be given to the following criteria with regard to each Member State which shall submit its candidature:

   a. Equitable regional representation and rotation:

5. In conformity with Article 5 (2) of the Protocol, in electing the Members of the PSC, the Assembly shall apply the principle of equitable regional representation and rotation and only Member States fulfilling the following requirements are eligible for appointment as Council Members:
- Member States which have ratified the Protocol relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union and have deposited their instruments with the Commission, and are therefore, State parties to the Protocol;

- Member States which are not affected by sanctions in terms of Article 23 of the Constitutive Act.

b. Member State’s Qualifications

6. In conformity with Article 5 (2) of the Protocol, the following criteria should apply with Member States which have submitted their candidature:

a) Commitment to uphold the principles of the Union;

b) Contribution to the promotion and maintenance of peace and security in Africa – in this respect, experience of Member States in peace support operations would be an added advantage;

c) Capacity and commitment to shoulder the responsibilities entailed in membership;

d) Participation in conflict resolution, peace-making and peace building at regional and continental levels;

e) Willingness and ability to take up responsibilities for regional and continental conflict resolution initiatives;

f) Contribution to the Peace Fund and/or Special Fund created for a specific purpose;

g) Respect for constitutional governance, in accordance with the Lomé Declaration, as well as the rule of law and human rights;

h) Sufficiently staffed and equipped Permanent Missions at the Headquarters of the Union and the United Nations, to be able to shoulder the responsibilities which go with the membership;

i) Commitment to honour financial obligations of the Union; and
j) Provide all the information required in the attached form.

IV. TERM OF OFFICE

7. Ten (10) Members of the PSC shall be elected for a term of two (2) years and Five (5) Members for a term of three (3) years in order to ensure continuity. A retiring Member of the PSC shall be eligible for immediate re-election.

V. VOTING PROCEDURE

8. For the initial elections, the Executive Council, in conformity with Article 31 of its Rules of Procedure, shall elect the Members of the PSC by secret ballot and two-thirds majority of Member States eligible to vote, as follows:

**ELECTIONS FOR REGIONS WHICH HAVE SPECIFIED THE TERM OF THEIR CANDIDATURES:**

9. Where the region(s) has specified the candidatures for the three-year and the two-year terms, the elections shall commence for the Member(s) for a three-year term and thereafter for the two-year term. The elections shall proceed as follows:

   a) **Election of members for a three (3) year term**

10. Where the region(s) has submitted one (1) candidate, the balloting shall continue until that candidate obtains the two-thirds majority required provided that, if the third balloting remains inconclusive, the elections shall be suspended to enable Member States of the region concerned to undertake consultations.

11. Where the region(s) has submitted more than one (1) candidate and in the event that during the first round of balloting none of the candidates obtains the majority required, the candidate with the fewer votes shall withdraw. Balloting shall continue until the one (1) candidate obtains the required majority, provided that if the third balloting remains inconclusive, the elections shall be suspended to enable Member States of the region concerned to undertake consultations.

   b) **Election of members for a two (2) year term**

12. Where the region(s) has submitted the required number of candidatures the balloting shall continue until the candidate(s) obtains the two-thirds majority required, provided that if the third balloting
remains inconclusive, the elections shall be suspended to enable Member States of the region concerned to undertake consultations.

13. Where the region(s) has submitted more than the required number and in the event that during the first round of balloting none of the candidates obtains the majority required, the candidate with the fewer votes shall withdraw. The remaining candidates shall proceed to the next round and the balloting shall continue until the candidate(s) obtains the required majority, provided that if the third balloting remains inconclusive, the elections shall be suspended to enable Member States of the region concerned to undertake consultations.

ELECTIONS FOR REGIONS WHICH HAVE NOT SPECIFIED THE TERM OF THEIR CANDIDATURES

14. Where the region(s) does not specify the term for which candidatures are submitted the candidate that first obtains the required majority shall be taken as elected for a three (3)-year term and the subsequent candidate(s) that obtain the required majority and the highest vote(s) shall be taken as having been elected for a two (2)-year term.

CANDIDATURES RECEIVED FROM THE VARIOUS REGIONS

15. In view of the fact that the modalities for the election of members of the Peace and Security Council has not been adopted, no Member State had submitted its candidature at the time of the preparation of the Report. Accordingly, the list of the candidatures will be submitted to the Executive Council separately as an Annex to this Report.

ANNEX I: Candidatures received from Member States
NAMES OF CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE PEACE 
AND SECURITY COUNCIL
(In alphabetical order starting with candidature for 3 years) 
Submitted by Regions

CENTRAL:

1. GABON - 3 years
2. CAMEROON - 2 years
3. CONGO - 2 years

EAST

1. ETHIOPIA - 3 years
2. KENYA - 3 years
3. RWANDA - 2 years
4. THE SUDAN - 2 years

NORTH

1. ALGERIA - 3 years
2. LIBYA - 2 years

SOUTH

1. SOUTH AFRICA - 3 years
2. LESOTHO - 2 years
3. MOZAMBIQUE - 2 years

WEST

1. NIGERIA - 3 years
2. BURKINA FASO - 2 years
3. GHANA - 2 years
4. THE GAMBIA - 2 years
5. MALI - 2 years
6. SENEGAL - 2 years
7. TOGO - 2 years