

AFRICAN UNION

الاتحاد الأفريقي

UMOJA WA AFRICA



UNION AFRICAINE

UNIÃO AFRICANA

UNIÓN AFRICANA

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. P.O. Box: 3243 Tel.: (251-11) 5513 822 Fax: (251-11) 5519 321

Email: situationroom@africa-union.org

PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
1238TH MEETING

28 OCTOBER 2024
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/COMM.1238 (2024)

COMMUNIQUÉ



COMMUNIQUÉ

Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 1238th meeting held on 28 October 2024 an update on the Situation in Somalia, and Post-ATMIS Arrangements with a Specific Focus on the Preservations of State Institutions.

The Peace and Security Council,

Recalling all its previous decisions and pronouncements on the situation in Somalia and on ATMIS, particularly, Communiqués [PSC/PR/COMM.1225 (2024)], adopted at its 1225th meeting held on 1 August 2024 on Consideration of the Concept of Operations (CONOPS) for the AU-Led Mission in Somalia Post-ATMIS; [PSC/PR/COMM.1217 (2024)], adopted at its meeting held on 20 June 2024 on the Report of the African Union Commission on the Joint Strategic Assessment for the Post-ATMIS Security Arrangement for an AU-Led Mission in Somalia; [PSC/PR/COMM.1205 (2024)], adopted at its 1205th meeting held on 3 April 2024 on the Federal Government of Somalia's Plan for a Post-ATMIS AU Mission in Somalia; [PSC/PR/COMM.1177 (2023)], adopted at its 1177th meeting held on 30 September 2023 on the Request by the Federal Government of Somalia for a three months technical pause of Phase 2 drawdown of 3000 ATMIS troops; [PSC/PR/COMM.1173 (2023)] adopted at its 1173rd meeting, held on 14 September 2023 on the Situation in Somalia and the Operations of ATMIS, and [PSC/PR/COMM.1068 (2022)], adopted at its 1068th meeting held on 08 March 2022 on the Reconfiguration of the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) into AU Transition Mission in Somalia (ATMIS); and [PSC/PR/COMM.1236 (2024)], adopted at its 1236th meeting held on 22 October 2024 on Financing Peace Support Operations and Activities of the Peace and Security Council; [PSC/PR/BR.1192 (2024)], adopted at its 1192nd meeting held on 17 January 2024 on the situation between the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Federal Republic of Somalia;

Also recalling UN Security Council Resolution 2628(2022), which authorized the reconfiguration of AMISOM into ATMIS, Resolution 2710(2023), which authorized the AU Member States to deploy up to 17626 uniformed personnel to ATMIS till 31 December 2023; Resolution 2741(2024) which calls for finalization of the overall design of the follow-on mission to ATMIS; its implications for the UN; and provide insight on the estimated resources required for the mission and costs thereof; and Resolution 2748(2024) which calls for maintaining momentum on the security transition to the successor mission;

Reaffirming the AU's solidarity with the people and the Government of the Federal Republic of Somalia in their aspirations for durable peace, security, stability, and prosperity; while **reiterating** the AU's respect for the sovereignty, unity, independence, and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Somalia;

Taking note of the opening remarks by H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Gad, Permanent Representative of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the AU and PSC Chairperson for October 2024; and the Introductory Statement and Update by H.E. Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, the AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security; the briefing by Mr. Sivuyile Bam, Deputy Head of ATMIS on behalf of H.E. Ambassador Mohammed EL-Amine Souef, the Special Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission to Somalia and Head of ATMIS; as well as the statements by H.E. Ambassador Abdullahi Warfa, the Permanent Representative of the Federal Republic of Somalia to the AU, and by the Representative of the Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD); and

Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council,

1. **Takes note** of the Report of the Chairperson of the AU Commission on the Situation in Somalia and the Post-ATMIS Arrangements with Specific Focus on Preservation of State Institutions;

2. **Underlines the importance** of preserving the gains registered thus far and the current momentum in the fight against Al-Shabaab; and in this regard, **reiterates** the need to continue supporting the Federal Republic of Somalia by providing capacity building to the Somali Security Forces, to accelerate its force generation and integration efforts;
3. **Acknowledges** the efforts of the President of the Federal Republic of Somalia, H.E Hassan Sheikh Mahmoud, (Ph.D.), in visiting and engaging with the relevant stakeholders and neighboring countries in the planning process for the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission (AUSSOM) to be deployed on 1 January 2025;
4. **Takes note** of the noteworthy progress achieved in Somalia, especially in security and political gains made during the past two years;
5. **Pays tribute** to the Troop and Police Contributing Countries (T/PCCs) to the AU Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and to ATMIS since 2007 for their continued sacrifices; **pays special tribute** to the men and women of the two missions for their commitment and dedication to duty, particularly those who have paid the supreme sacrifice; and **wishes** speedy recovery to those nursing injuries from attacks by the Al Shabaab terrorist group;
6. **Expresses grave concern** over the continued threat posed by Al Shabaab to peace and security in Somalia and the region and **condemns** all the attacks against Somali security forces and ATMIS forces;
7. **Underscores the imperative** for scaling up assistance to the Federal Government of Somalia in the mobilization of resources for stabilization and state-building priorities, as well as the need to ensure a smooth and orderly transfer of security responsibilities to Somali security forces; **further reaffirms** the imperative for enhanced capacitation and empowerment of the Somalia security forces and **encourages** the Federal Government of Somalia to expedite the force generation and integration process;
8. **Acknowledges** the enhanced partnership between the AU, the FGS and key international partners to facilitate effective and efficient execution of the mandate of the newly established AUSSOM; in this regard **commends** the ongoing efforts of the AU to draft jointly with the UN the mission design report to be presented by the UN Secretary-General to the UNSC on 15 November 2024;
9. **Takes note** of the recent joint AU/UN planning assessment mission in consultation with the FGS and international partners for the AUSSOM, including the consultations on the proposed mission structure, funding options, mission support, benchmarks, exit strategy and compliance and accountability measures;
10. **Expresses appreciation** to the UN and all international partners for their unwavering commitment and efforts to promoting peace and stability in Somalia and for their invaluable contributions to AMISOM and ATMIS; and **calls upon** the international partners to continue providing the necessary support to Somalia and AUSSOM in accordance with the Concept of Operations (CONOPs) adopted on 1 August 2024, for its deployment as of 1 January 2025;
11. **Highlights the need** for the development of a detailed timeline for the finalization of the Mission Planning for AUSSOM and take into account the need for a liquidation plan for ATMIS;
12. **Takes note** of the Note Verbale, addressed to the Peace and Security Council Chair for the month of October 2024 by the Federal Government of Somalia, dated 24 October 2024, regarding the Post-ATMIS Security arrangements, and in this regard **underscores** the African Union's respect for the

sovereignty, unity, independence and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Somalia; in this connection, **directs** the African Union Commission to undertake consultation with AU Member States that have expressed readiness to contribute troops to AUSSOM; **underlines** that Troop Partner Nations that will contribute to AUSSOM must respect the principles of the Mission as stipulated in its CONOPs adopted by the AUPSC and stipulated in PSC Communiqué 1225 of 1 August 2024, including respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Somalia; to this end, **directs** the Chairperson of the African Union Commission to liaise with the Federal Government of Somalia, as the host country, on the composition of the Mission;

13. **Stresses the importance** of predictable, sustainable, and adequate funding for the AUSSOM, and in this regard, **underscores the need** for a dedicated funding mechanism through UN-assessed contributions in accordance with UN Security Council Resolution 2719 (2023), as a suitable mechanism to provide the sustainable funding, among other options, in order to avoid the perennial financial challenges faced by previous Missions;

14. **Welcomes** Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM. 1236 (2024)] adopted by the joint meeting of the PSC with the PRC Sub-Committee on General Supervision, Administrative and Budget Matters, in which the PSC proposed, in paragraph 11, to use part of the interest accrued from the AU Peace Fund investment and the Crisis Reserve Facility (CRF) to substantially contribute to the financing of AUSSOM;

15. **Requests** the AU Commission to continue extensive engagements with the UN, European Union, strategic partners and potential new donors to ensure adequate, predictable, sustainable funding and other forms of support for the AUSSOM;

16. **Underlines the importance** of ensuring credible force protection and survivability for the AUSSOM, including in terms of enhanced intelligence surveillance and reconnaissance capacities, force enablers and force multipliers, in order to avoid the challenges of the past AU missions in Somalia;

17. **Emphasize the importance** of adhering to International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) and the AU Policy on Conduct and Discipline for Peace Support Operations; as well as the importance of establishing mechanisms for accountability and risk mitigation, in order to safeguard civilians and ensure the mission's success;

18. **Requests** the Chairperson of the African Union Commission working in close cooperation with the relevant Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs), and other stakeholders, to use all available preventive diplomacy tools to urgently find an amicable/peaceful solution to the differences between the Federal Republic of Somalia and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia based on respect for the sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the Federal Republic of Somalia, in line with Article 4 of the AU Constitutive Act and Article 4 of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, as well as the Charter of the United Nations; and **encourages** both sides to further adhere to the AU principles of good neighborliness and other core principles of the AU and international law in their bilateral and international relations;

19. **Underscores the need** for the AUSSOM to mainstream post-conflict reconstruction and development, as well as peacebuilding components and, in this regard, **stresses** the critical role of the AU PCRDC Centre in efforts to rebuild the institutional capacities of the Federal Government of Somalia; and

20. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.

2024-10-28

Communiqué of the 1238th Meeting of the Peace and Security Council held on 28 October 2024 on the Situation in Somalia, and Post-ATMIS Arrangements with a Specific Focus on the Preservations of State Institutions.

Peace and Security Council

African Union Commission

<https://papsrepository.africa-union.org/handle/123456789/2199>

Downloaded from PAPS Digital Repository, Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS)