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New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support: causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 13 September 2021

[without reference to a Main Committee ([A/75/L.112/Rev.1](#)
and [A/75/L.112/Rev.1/Add.1](#))]

75/327. Implementation of the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General on the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa

The General Assembly,

Recalling the report of the Open-ended Ad Hoc Working Group on the Causes of Conflict and the Promotion of Durable Peace and Sustainable Development in Africa,¹ its resolution [53/92](#) of 7 December 1998 and all subsequent annual resolutions, as well as all its resolutions on the New Partnership for Africa's Development,² and all resolutions and decisions regarding the cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union, in particular the comprehensive strategic partnership between the two organizations,

Reaffirming all other previous resolutions and outcome documents adopted by consensus relating to the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, including the Security Council resolutions on peace and security in Africa, on women and peace and security, on youth, peace and security, on children and armed conflict, on the role of the Council in the prevention of armed conflicts, on strengthening the effectiveness of the role of the Council in conflict prevention, particularly in Africa, and on threats to international peace and security,

Reaffirming also its resolution [70/1](#) of 25 September 2015, entitled "Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development", in which it adopted a comprehensive, far-reaching and people-centred set of universal and

¹ *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 45 (A/56/45).*

² [A/57/304](#), annex.



transformative Sustainable Development Goals and targets, its commitment to working tirelessly for the full implementation of the Agenda by 2030, its recognition that eradicating poverty in all its forms and dimensions, including extreme poverty, is the greatest global challenge and an indispensable requirement for sustainable development, its commitment to achieving sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, and to building upon the achievements of the Millennium Development Goals and seeking to address their unfinished business,

Reaffirming further its resolution 69/313 of 27 July 2015, entitled “Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development (Addis Ababa Action Agenda)”, which helps to contextualize the means of implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development with concrete policies and actions and to address the challenge of financing and creating an enabling environment at all levels for sustainable development,

Recalling the 2005 World Summit Outcome,³ through which world leaders reaffirmed their commitment to addressing the special needs of Africa, and its resolution 60/265 of 30 June 2006,

Recognizing, in particular, the capacity of the African Union and subregional organizations to address the root causes of conflict in Africa, while recognizing the need for the provision of support by the international community and the United Nations, taking into account the responsibilities of the Organization in this regard according to the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming the primary responsibility of national Governments and authorities for peacebuilding,

Recalling its resolution 66/293 of 17 September 2012, by which it established a monitoring mechanism to review commitments made towards Africa’s development,

Reaffirming the importance of aligning international support with Africa’s own priorities, aimed at the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the African Union Agenda 2063, including but not limited to industrialization, equal access to work opportunities, youth employment, access to quality education and high-quality and resilient infrastructure, the eradication of poverty, environmentally sustainable and climate-resilient economies and communities, and the reduction of inequalities,

Underscoring the importance of continuing the efforts of the African Union and subregional organizations to prevent and settle conflicts and promote human rights, democracy, the rule of law and constitutional order in Africa, while continuing to develop African capacities, including those required for the realization of sustainable development, particularly in countries emerging from conflict,

Reaffirming the commitment to ensure that there will be no tolerance for impunity for genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity or for violations of international humanitarian law and gross violations of human rights law, and that such violations will be properly investigated and appropriately prosecuted and sanctioned, through national judicial mechanisms and institutions or, where appropriate, regional or international judicial mechanisms, and for that purpose encouraging Member States to strengthen national judicial systems and institutions,

Emphasizing the importance of a comprehensive approach to sustaining peace, particularly through the prevention of conflict and addressing all its root causes, including by strengthening the rule of law, good governance, democracy, accountability, gender equality and respect for and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms, as well as addressing economic and social disparities,

³ Resolution 60/1.

corruption, structural inequalities, illicit trade in and proliferation of arms, and the illegal exploitation of natural resources, in all its aspects for peace, security and development in Africa, underlining the importance of sustainable and inclusive socioeconomic development for sustaining peace in Africa through economic development, including but not limited to transnational and transregional infrastructure development, industrialization, poverty eradication, job creation, agricultural modernization and promotion of entrepreneurship, and expressing the need for continued support to African countries, based on their national priorities and needs,

Acknowledging the particular challenges that infectious disease outbreaks, especially the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, pose in conflict-affected areas and their effect on health emergency and crisis management, as health systems in areas of conflict are often compromised and ill-equipped to deal with the threat posed by infectious disease outbreaks, and strongly condemning violent attacks and threats directed against medical personnel and facilities, which have long-term consequences for the civilian population and the health-care systems of the countries concerned, as well as for the neighbouring regions, and have a negative impact on sustainable development,

Reiterating the need to enable equitable access to quality, safe, efficacious and affordable COVID-19 diagnostics, therapeutics, medicines and vaccines for all, including the most vulnerable, in addition to support for strengthening health systems to ensure effective delivery, particularly in conflict-affected areas, and inviting continued, increased and accelerated provision of safe and effective vaccine doses from developed economies and all those in a position to do so to African countries in need, particularly through the Access to COVID-19 Tools (ACT) Accelerator, the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access (COVAX) Facility and other relevant supplies and assistance as appropriate, and commends the efforts of Member States in this regard, while emphasizing the role of immunization against COVID-19 as a global public good for health,

Welcoming the work of the Peacebuilding Commission and its convening role in mobilizing attention and commitment to bringing a strategic approach and coherence to international peacebuilding efforts, and recognizing the valuable work done in country-specific, regional and thematic meetings, including the country-specific configurations of the Commission,

Reaffirming Security Council resolution [2558 \(2020\)](#) and General Assembly resolution [75/201](#) of 21 December 2020 on the review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, which stressed the importance of continued implementation of the resolutions on peacebuilding and sustaining peace, with emphasis on the impact made at the field level,

Welcoming the second edition of the Aswan Forum for Sustainable Peace and Development, held virtually in March 2021 under the theme “Shaping Africa’s new normal: recovering stronger, rebuilding better”, at which the need to prioritize institution-building in conflict-affected countries was emphasized, particularly in view of the socioeconomic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic,

Renewing its unwavering commitment to strengthening international cooperation to prevent and combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and reaffirming that any acts of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of their motivation, wherever, whenever and by whomsoever committed, and also recognizing that any measures taken by Member States to prevent and combat terrorism, as well as to prevent violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, must fully comply with their obligations under international law, including the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the purposes and principles thereof, and relevant

international conventions and protocols, including those related to international human rights law, international refugee law and international humanitarian law,

Encouraging the United Nations system, the African Union and subregional organizations to enhance their interaction with civil society, including women's and youth organizations, academia and research institutions, on issues relevant to the promotion of peace, security and sustainable development in Africa, and taking note with appreciation of the ongoing efforts in this regard, including by the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa as well as by the Peacebuilding Commission,

Welcoming the high-level events to celebrate Africa's culture and history organized by the Office of the Special Adviser on Africa during the 2021 Africa Dialogue Series in close partnership with the African Union Commission and the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on the implementation of the recommendations contained in his report on promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa;⁴

2. *Also takes note* of the advice submitted for the first time in 2021 by the Peacebuilding Commission on the item on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, as contained in the letter from the Chair of the Commission addressed to the President of the General Assembly, and further encourages the Commission to continue that good practice with a view to enhancing cooperation and synergies in support of addressing root causes of conflict in Africa;

3. *Recalls* the adoption of the African Union Agenda 2063 and its first 10-year implementation plan (2014–2023), which outlines key African flagship projects, fast-track programmes, priority areas, specific targets and African strategies and policy measures at all levels, and urges further efforts to support the implementation of the plan;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made by African countries, the African Union and subregional organizations in conflict prevention, peacemaking, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and development, calls for intensified efforts, support and a coordinated approach among national Governments, the African Union, subregional organizations, the United Nations system and relevant partners in addressing those challenges, with a view to achieving further progress towards the goal of a conflict-free Africa, and in this regard recognizes the important role played by civil society organizations, including women's organizations;

5. *Reiterates* that we are setting out together on the path towards sustainable development in its three dimensions – economic, social and environmental – in a balanced and integrated manner, including through international cooperation and partnership on the basis of mutual trust and the full benefit of all, in a spirit of global solidarity, and for the common future of present and coming generations, focusing on the needs of African countries and the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals;

6. *Recognizes* the need for African countries to make continued efforts to create enabling environments for inclusive growth in support of sustainable development, and calls upon the international community to enhance support and fulfil its commitments to take further action in areas critical to Africa's economic and social development;

7. *Urges* continued support for measures to address the challenges of poverty eradication and hunger, decent job creation and sustainable development in Africa,

⁴ A/75/917-S/2021/562.

including, as appropriate, domestic resource mobilization, debt relief, improved market access, regional integration and intra-African trade, including through the African Continental Free Trade Area, support for the private sector and entrepreneurship, fulfilment of commitments on official development assistance and increased flows of foreign direct investment and transfer of technology on mutually agreed terms;

8. *Urges* Member States to commit to enhancing public health cooperation with Africa, supporting Africa in strengthening and improving health systems, namely, through capacity-building;

9. *Recognizes* the adverse effects of climate change, ecological changes and natural disasters on the sustainable development of African Member States, including through drought, desertification, biodiversity loss, land degradation, flooding and food insecurity, emphasizes the importance of sustainable use of natural resources and the need for adequate risk assessment and risk management strategies, highlights the importance of supporting efforts to strengthen the implementation of initiatives aimed at enhancing resilience in Africa, in particular the Comprehensive Africa Agriculture Development Programme and other initiatives launched under the leadership of the African Union Commission such as the Great Green Wall and the Land Policy Initiative and the African Union Green Recovery Action Plan, as well as initiatives launched by African countries such as the Adaptation of African Agriculture and the Security, Stability and Sustainability initiatives, and welcomes the efforts and initiatives of the African Union on addressing climate change on the continent;

10. *Reaffirms* the need to promote and protect effectively the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all migrants, regardless of their migration status, especially those of women and children, and to address international migration through international, regional or bilateral cooperation, recognizing the roles and responsibilities of countries of origin, transit and destination in promoting and protecting the human rights of all migrants, calls for respect for the principle of refugee protection in Africa and the resolution of the plight of refugees, including through support for efforts aimed at addressing the causes of refugee movement and bringing about the voluntary, dignified, safe and sustainable return and reintegration of those populations, and also calls for respect for the principle of non-refoulement of refugees in Africa;

11. *Reaffirms* the convening of the intergovernmental conference held on 10 and 11 December 2018 in Marrakech, Morocco, and recalls that it adopted the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration, also known as the Marrakech Compact on Migration;⁵

12. *Notes* the opportunities and challenges presented by Africa's demographic structure, and stresses the importance of addressing the socioeconomic dimension of youth unemployment as well as facilitating the enhanced participation of youth in decision-making processes, reaffirms the important and positive contribution of youth to the efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security and the role young people play in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, including through the promotion of narratives of peace, and as a key aspect of the sustainability, inclusiveness and success of peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts, and further notes with concern the tragic plight of children in conflict situations in Africa, in particular the unlawful recruitment and use of children by parties to armed conflicts, sexual violence as well as other violations and abuses committed against children;

13. *Expresses grave concern* about the growing threat posed by terrorism, and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism to the peace, security and social and economic development of Africa, and calls upon the Office of Counter-

⁵ Resolution 73/195, annex.

Terrorism and relevant Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, within their existing mandates, to intensify cooperation, assistance and capacity-building, for African Member States, the African Union and African subregional organizations, while ensuring compliance with international law, and encourages the United Nations system and Member States to support the efforts on the establishment of the African Union Special Fund on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism and Violent Extremism in Africa;

14. *Calls upon* the Office of Counter-Terrorism and relevant Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, within their existing mandates, to intensify cooperation, assistance and capacity-building, for African Member States, the African Union and African subregional organizations, while ensuring compliance with international law, upon their request, in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism as and when conducive to terrorism, through the implementation of relevant international and regional treaties and protocols, and in this regard welcomes in particular African initiatives, namely the African Union Plan of Action on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism in Africa, the African Centre for Studies and Research on Terrorism, based in Algiers, and the Intergovernmental Authority on Development Centre of Excellence in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism in the Horn of Africa, based in Djibouti, as well as the Community of Sahel-Saharan States Counter-Terrorism Centre, based in Cairo;

15. *Takes note* of the establishment of regional programme offices of the Office of Counter-Terrorism in Africa, in Rabat, Morocco, and Nairobi, Kenya, and welcomes their efforts in this regard, further takes note that the offices have been established to prevent and counter violent extremism conducive to terrorism and enhance counter-terrorism training and capacity-building support to Member States of the region, upon request and with the consent of the relevant Member States and in coordination with them, for delivery of programmes closer to the beneficiaries, and invites the Office of Counter-Terrorism to work in close coordination with relevant local, subregional and regional institutions working to counter terrorism as well as with relevant Global Counter-Terrorism Coordination Compact entities, and further invites relevant institutions dealing with counter-terrorism to coordinate, with the regional programme offices of the Office of Counter-Terrorism, in order to ensure updated and tailored training materials and programmes, while underlining the need for upholding the principle of consent of the host countries in the context of all such United Nations field engagements, in line with respective mandates, and in cooperation with the respective host countries;

16. *Notes* the decision taken at the fourteenth extraordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union, within the context of the African Union Agenda 2063, to extend the implementation of the African Union Master Road Map of Practical Steps for Silencing the Guns in Africa for a period of 10 years (2021–2030), with periodic reviews every two years, and to extend the commemoration and conduct of Africa Amnesty Month during September of each year for a period of 10 years (2021–2030), and calls upon Member States and the United Nations system, as appropriate, to intensify their support and cooperation with African countries, the African Union and the African regional economic communities and relevant regional mechanisms towards the timely realization of this goal;

17. *Emphasizes* that the illicit flow of arms, particularly small arms and light weapons, to rebel armed groups, terrorists and criminals contributes significantly to insecurity and violence in various parts of Africa and undermines social cohesion, public security, socioeconomic development and the normal functioning of State institutions, underlines the importance of promoting the implementation of relevant international instruments and strengthening law enforcement mechanisms, and in this regard urges Member States to take effective measures to holistically address all root

causes of conflicts and redouble efforts to effectively curb the illicit flow of conventional weapons into and within Africa, including by taking the necessary steps at the national level to implement the Programme of Action to Prevent, Combat and Eradicate the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects;⁶

18. *Stresses* the critical importance of a regional approach to conflict prevention, including early action to address rising conflict risk and emerging violent conflict and, in particular with respect to cross-border issues such as transnational organized crime, drug trafficking, disarmament, demobilization, repatriation, resettlement and reintegration programmes, the prevention and combating of illegal exploitation of and trafficking in natural resources and high-value commodities and the illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects, and emphasizes in this regard the central role of national Governments, the African Union and subregional organizations in addressing such issues;

19. *Notes* that in some armed conflict situations, the illicit exploitation, trafficking and trade in natural resources has contributed to the outbreak, escalation or continuation of such conflicts, and calls for the implementation of resolutions adopted on this issue to support the prevention of the illegal exploitation of natural resources;

20. *Welcomes* the ongoing efforts of the African Union and subregional organizations to strengthen their capacity in peacekeeping operations on the continent, in accordance with Chapter VIII of the Charter of the United Nations and in close coordination with the United Nations, through the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, and in this regard takes note of the Cairo Road Map on Enhancing Peacekeeping Operations: From Mandate to Exit that was endorsed by the Peace and Security Council of the African Union as an African contribution to advance United Nations peacekeeping reform efforts related to the Secretary-General's Action for Peacekeeping initiative, and further welcomes language from the communiqué as well as the ongoing efforts to develop a continental early warning system, strengthen the readiness of the African Standby Force and enhance mediation capacity and preventive diplomacy, including through the Panel of the Wise;

21. *Recognizes* the role of the Peacebuilding Commission in ensuring that national ownership of the peacebuilding process in countries under consideration is observed and that nationally identified priorities are at the core of international and regional efforts in peacebuilding and sustaining peace in the countries under consideration, welcomes the bridging role of the Commission as a dedicated intergovernmental advisory body to bring together all the relevant actors in the United Nations system as well as international and financial institutions, representatives of national Governments, representatives of civil society and regional and subregional organizations consistent with its mandate to promote a strategic approach and coherence in international peacebuilding efforts, calls upon the Peacebuilding Commission to further enhance its relationship with regional and subregional organizations in Africa, welcomes the Peacebuilding Fund's engagement, as a timely, catalytic and risk-tolerant instrument for enhancing the impact and coherence of United Nations peacebuilding support, including with respect to cross-border initiatives that recognize the complex dynamics and regional impacts of conflicts in areas such as the Sahel, and calls upon the entirety of the United Nations system to develop cross-border initiatives that are coherent with one another (including funding from international financial institutions) and address underlying causes of regional tensions and conflict;

⁶ Report of the United Nations Conference on the Illicit Trade in Small Arms and Light Weapons in All Its Aspects, New York, 9–20 July 2001 (A/CONF.192/15), chap. IV, para. 24.

22. *Recalls*, in this regard, decision Assembly/AU/Dec.729(XXXII) of 11 February 2019 of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union on revitalizing and operationalizing the African Union Policy on Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, while aligning it with the evolving international discourse on peacebuilding and sustaining peace and the actual needs of countries emerging from conflict in Africa, and calls upon the United Nations system and Member States to support the peace consolidation mechanisms and processes, including the African Peace and Security Architecture, the African Governance Architecture, the African Union Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development Framework and the African Union Centre for Post-Conflict Reconstruction and Development, in order to fully contribute to conflict prevention, peacemaking initiatives, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction;

23. *Notes with concern* that sexual violence in conflict continues and may increase even as armed conflicts draw to an end, urges further progress in the implementation of policies and guidelines relating to the protection of and assistance to victims of sexual violence in conflict and post-conflict situations in Africa, including more systematic monitoring and reporting, notes the adoption by the General Assembly and the Security Council of relevant resolutions, including Council resolution [2467 \(2019\)](#) of 23 April 2019, and encourages the entities that compose United Nations Action against Sexual Violence in Conflict, as well as other relevant parts of the United Nations system, to assist the Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict in the implementation of her mandate, including in Africa;

24. *Reiterates* the calls for the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in conflict prevention and resolution, and peacebuilding, consistent with Security Council resolution [1325 \(2000\)](#) of 31 October 2000 and subsequent Security Council resolutions on women and peace and security, recalls the ongoing efforts of African countries and the African Union, including the work of the African Union Special Envoy on Women, Peace and Security, to ensure the protection of the rights of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict situations, also recalls the adoption and entry into force of the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa, as well as all other relevant instruments for strengthening the role of women in peace and conflict on the continent, and further recalls in this regard the adoption of national action plans on women, peace and security by several African countries and the various initiatives of the African Union, and urges the provision of adequate international support for the implementation of these plans;

25. *Recognizes* the important contribution of the African Peer Review Mechanism since its inception in improving governance and supporting socioeconomic development in African countries, takes note of the decision adopted by the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the African Union in January 2017 on the revitalization of the African Peer Review Mechanism, expanding the monitoring and evaluation mandate of the Mechanism, and invites the United Nations system and Member States to provide voluntary substantial financial and capacity-building support to the revitalization of the Mechanism and to advance its activities;

26. *Urges* all stakeholders to consider ensuring appropriate financing of digital development and adequate means of implementation, including strengthened capacity-building of African developing countries in support of increasing domestic resource allocation;

27. *Recalls* the adoption of its resolution [71/254](#) of 23 December 2016 on the Framework for a Renewed United Nations-African Union Partnership on Africa's Integration and Development Agenda 2017–2027, and calls upon the Secretary-

General to provide, as appropriate, predictable support for full, effective and efficient implementation of the Framework;

28. *Also recalls* the commitment of the African leaders to Africa's political, social and economic integration agenda and to the ideal of pan-Africanism and African renaissance, as well as their effort to achieve the goal of a conflict-free Africa as affirmed in the solemn declaration adopted on 26 May 2013 on the occasion of the fiftieth anniversary of the Organization of African Unity/African Union, expresses its readiness to contribute, and calls upon all, in particular relevant United Nations entities, to help to achieve this goal;

29. *Calls upon* the United Nations system and Member States, bilateral and multilateral partners and new partners to deliver expeditiously on their commitments and to support the full and speedy implementation of the provisions of the political declaration on Africa's development needs,⁷ as well as the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development and the African Union Agenda 2063;

30. *Welcomes* the convening of the fourth United Nations-African Union annual conference at the level of the Secretary-General and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission at United Nations Headquarters on 9 December 2020, and reaffirms the commitment to continue to deepen the strategic partnership between the United Nations and the African Union in addressing peace and security, sustainable development and human rights and implementing Agenda 2063 in Africa;

31. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to monitor and report to the General Assembly on an annual basis on persistent and emerging challenges to the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa, including the root causes of conflict and conditions to promote sustainable development, as well as on the approach and support of the United Nations system.

*104th plenary meeting
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⁷ Resolution 63/1.