



PERMANENT MISSION OF GREECE
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Security Council briefing on the Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations (AU)

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Greece's Statement delivered
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Thank you, colleagues, for your kind words; now I would like to speak in my national capacity.

I am particularly pleased that we are beginning our month with a discussion focused on Africa, and we will do our utmost to make it a productive month for strengthening our partnership with the continent. Greece is connected to Africa not only by history, but also by geography and longstanding trade and economic ties. This close interconnectedness gives us a natural interest in further deepening our cooperation with our African partners.

Let me also thank our briefers, Special Representative Parfait Onanga-Anyanga and Commissioner Bankole Adeoye, for their valuable contributions today. The Secretary-General's report and the briefers' insights we have just heard are clear: the UN-AU partnership is stronger and more institutionalized than ever. The question before us is whether we are using it effectively to prevent conflict, support African-led solutions and deliver results on the ground.

The adoption of General Assembly resolution 79/329 last year, which Greece supported, gave renewed political impetus to this partnership, reaffirming the need to further enhance its strategic and operational dimensions. Our task now is to translate these commitments into effective cooperation on the ground.

Against this backdrop, I would like to highlight three priorities, where Greece sees scope for further action.

First, prevention, political solutions and peacebuilding must remain at the heart of our partnership. Across Sudan, the eastern DRC, Somalia and the Sahel, security approaches alone cannot deliver sustainable peace. The UN and AU should continue to leverage their respective comparative advantages in prevention, mediation and peacebuilding, in close coordination with subregional organizations. The A3 group remains an essential bridge between African perspectives and the Security Council, and

Greece welcomes its important contribution to our deliberations. In this spirit, Greece will always welcome strong African participation in the Council and other multilateral fora.

Strengthening this political dialogue is precisely the purpose of our regular interaction with the AUPSC. We very much look forward to hosting the Annual Joint Consultative Meeting between the Security Council and the AUPSC later this month, following the informal joint seminar and retreat. These exchanges should help us move towards more coherent, coordinated and timely responses to the conflicts and crises on our shared agenda.

Second, we must move from commitments to the implementation of AU-led peace support operations. Greece attaches particular importance to the full operationalization of Security Council resolution 2719. The progress made in developing modalities for joint planning, mission support, and the protection of civilians is welcome. The next step must be to ensure adequate, predictable and sustainable financing for AU-led operations authorized by the Council. The case of AUSSOM highlights both the indispensable role of African-led peace support and the consequences of persistent resource constraints. We should therefore continue working towards the effective implementation of Resolution 2719, including its case-by-case framework for access to UN assessed contributions, while strengthening the AU's own capacities and accountability mechanisms. This also calls for closer tripartite coordination among the UN, AU and EU, building on the complementarity of our respective tools and capacities in support of peace and security in Africa.

Third, our partnership must remain people-centred and responsive to emerging dimensions of peace and security. We welcome the progress made by the African Union towards finalizing its Common African Position on Climate Change, Peace and Security, which can provide an important continental framework for addressing climate-related security risks and strengthening prevention, early warning and resilience.

We also welcome the appointment in February of Ambassador Jainaba Jagne as the first African Union Special Envoy for Children Affected by Armed Conflict. This is an important step towards stronger continental leadership on the protection of children in conflict, and we look forward to further strengthening cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union in this area, including on prevention and early warning.

More broadly, we should continue to ensure the full, equal, meaningful and safe participation of women, as well as the meaningful participation and leadership of young people in conflict prevention, mediation, peacebuilding and peace support efforts.

The strength of the UN-AU partnership lies ultimately not only in the institutions and mechanisms we have created, but also in our collective ability to translate political commitments into concrete action. Greece remains committed to strengthening this partnership in support of African-led solutions, stronger multilateralism and lasting peace and security across the continent.

I thank you.