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Addis Ababa, Ethiopia P.O. Box 3243 Tel: (25111) 551 38 22 Fax (25111) 551 93 21, (251-11) 5514227
Email : situationroom@africa-union.org

PRESS RELEASE

The African Union Commission convenes the Joint Committee Meeting to work out a Comprehensive implementation plan for the disarmament of light weapons in the Tigray Region

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 01 December 2022: The African Union Commission (AU) convenes the Joint Committee Meeting in Shire, Tigray region on the Implementation of the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement between the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) and the Tigray Peoples' Liberation Front (TPLF) of 2 November 2022. The meeting is consistent with the Declaration of the Senior Commanders, which called for the establishment of a comprehensive implementation plan for the disarmament of light weapons. The Joint Committee is made up of representatives of the FDRE, the TPLF and the African Union.

The Shire meeting is a major confidence-building measure in furtherance of the Parties' commitment to fully implement the Cessation of Hostilities Agreement (COHA) for lasting peace and stability in Ethiopia.

The AU wishes to commend the Government of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front for this significant milestone in the peace process.

The African Union Commission expresses its appreciations to the African Development Bank for its continued support towards the AU-led process, and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) for its meaningful support towards facilitating the conduct of the meeting.



United Nations

Secretary-General

01 December 2022

Readout of the Secretary-General's meeting with H.E. Mr. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission

The Secretary-General met today with H.E. Mr. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia and H.E. Moussa Faki Mahamat, Chairperson of the African Union Commission.

The Secretary-General reiterated his full support for the implementation of the permanent cessation of hostilities agreement (COHA) and the declaration on the modalities for its implementation, brokered by the African Union.

The Secretary-General is fully committed to mobilizing the entire UN system to provide humanitarian support to all those who need it.

The Prime Minister, the Chairperson of the African Union Commission and the Secretary-General also discussed national, regional and global issues of mutual interest.

UN Will Fully Support Ethiopia's Humanitarian, Development Activities: Secretary-General Guterres

December 1, 2022

Addis Ababa (ENA) December 1/2022 Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the United Nations will fully support Ethiopia's humanitarian and development activities by mobilizing the capacity of UN agencies and appealing to the international community.

Guterres made the remark at the joint press conference he held with African Union Commission Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat at the end of the 6th AU-UN annual conference in Addis Ababa today.

Responding to questions posed by journalists, the Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said the UN will support the AU-led peace agreement implementation, the rebuilding effort, and humanitarian aid and development of the country.

"We have dramatic humanitarian needs in the areas impacted by the conflict. (So) we are upscaling the capacity of all the UN agencies and our partners in order to be able to take advantage of the opening of roads that already exist, the access by air, and all the other

aspects in order to be able to as quickly as possible provide the maximum possible support to all the populations in need.”

According to him, the UN is ready to fully support the AU and the parties in implementing the peace agreement.

“Now we are in the phase of implementation and we are ready to fully support both the AU and the parties in whatever way it is necessary to make sure that the implementation is successful.”

But the UN believes in African leadership to solve African problems, he underscored.

“We are very happy to be able to support the African Union in this process.”

Furthermore, the secretary-general stated that the United Nations will continue to appeal to the international community to support Ethiopia’s development.

“We appeal to the international community to support Ethiopia in its development,” Guterres stressed, adding that “there is no better way to consolidate peace than developing the country by creating the conditions for the people to see the peace dividends, people to see how peace contributes to improvement of the living conditions of the citizens in the country.”

He underscored that the UN will be in the first line of advocating for international support for the development of Ethiopia in this crucial moment of the country.

Above all, the secretary-general pointed out the need to create favorable conditions for the people to see the peace dividend as implementing the agreement will improve the livelihood of the citizens.