

PRESENTATION OF THE AFRICAN PEACE AND SECURITY ARCHITECTURE (APSA)

African Union's blue print for the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa Agenda 2063

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“A shared strategic framework for inclusive growth and sustainable Development & a global strategy to optimize the use of Africa's Resources for the benefit of all Africans”

An integrated, prosperous and peaceful Africa, driven by its own citizens and representing a dynamic force in the global arena

- Aspirations, Flagship programs, focus areas, etc.
- Silencing the Guns
- Women, youth, peace and security

AU ANTHEM (excerpt)

*Let us all unite and celebrate together
The victories won for our liberation
Let us dedicate ourselves to rise together
To defend our liberty and unity*

...

*Let us all unite and sing together
To uphold the bonds that frame our destiny
Let us dedicate ourselves to fight together
For lasting peace and justice on the earth*

Peace and Security Mandate

- The UN has the mandate to promote peace, security and stability globally
- The African Union has the primary responsibility for promoting PS& Stability in Africa (*Chapter VIII UN Charter*)
- **Principle** : African Ownership, Solidarity, and Partnership (with other stakeholders)

The AU Structure at the AU Commission in Addis Ababa

- AU Chairperson
- Deputy Chairperson
- Commissioners who head thematic areas
- Departments headed by Directors
- Below these are Divisions and Units
- Staff, experts, consultants, technical advisers, etc.

AU Structure – Key Organs

- The Assembly (supreme organ) – Heads of State and Govt (HoS) – meet twice a year at ordinary sessions (Assembly) and at extra-ordinary sessions for urgent decisions
- The Executive Council (Ministers of Foreign Affairs who report to the HoS)
- Permanent Representatives' Committee (PRC) – African Ambassadors in Addis Ababa – responsible for the daily running of the Commission
- The Commission (Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson, Commissioners, Directors and Staff, Experts, etc.)
- Peace and Security Council: standing decision making organ for Conflict Presentation, Management and Resolution (CPMR)
- Pan-African Parliament
- Economic, Social, and Cultural Council (ECOSOCC)
- The Court of Justice
- Specialized Technical Committees

CONSTITUTIVE ACT (CA) OF THE AU JULY 2000

Article 4

RELEVANT AREAS

- c). participation of the African peoples in the activities of the Union ;
- d). establishment of a common defense policy for the African Continent;
- e). peaceful resolution of conflicts among Member States through such appropriate means as may be decided upon by the Assembly ;
- f). prohibition of the use of force or threat to use force among Member States of the Union ;
- g). non-interference by any Member State in the internal affairs of another ;
- h). the right of the Union to intervene in a Member State pursuant to a decision of the Assembly in respect of grave circumstances, namely : war crimes, genocide and crimes against humanity ;
- i). peaceful co-existence of Member States and their right to live in peace and security ;

- j). the right of Member States to request intervention from the Union in order to restore peace and security
- k). promotion of self-reliance within the framework of the Union ;
- l). promotion of gender equality ;
- m). respect for democratic principles, human rights, the rule of law and good governance ;
- n). promotion of social justice to ensure balanced economic
- o). development ;
- p). respect for the sanctity of human life, condemnation and rejection of impunity and political assassination, acts of terrorism and subversive activities ;
- q). condemnation and rejection of unconstitutional changes of governments.

APSA

The African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) is built around :

- Structures
- Objectives
- Principles and
- Shared Values
- As well as decision-making processes relating to Crises /CPMR, and Post Conflict Reconstruction and Development (PCRD) to the continent

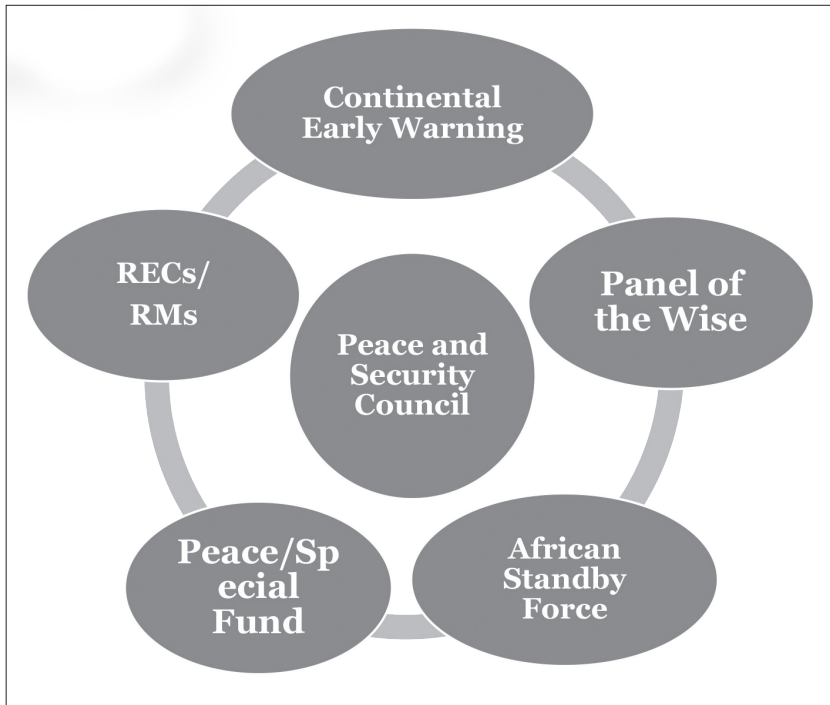
Important frameworks and instruments

- The various components of APSA and their respective responsibilities are outlined in the **Peace and Security Council (PSC) Protocol**, which was adopted in July 2002, in Durban.
- The Protocol entered into force in December 2003.
- Other documents were subsequently adopted to facilitate and expedite the operationalization of APSA.

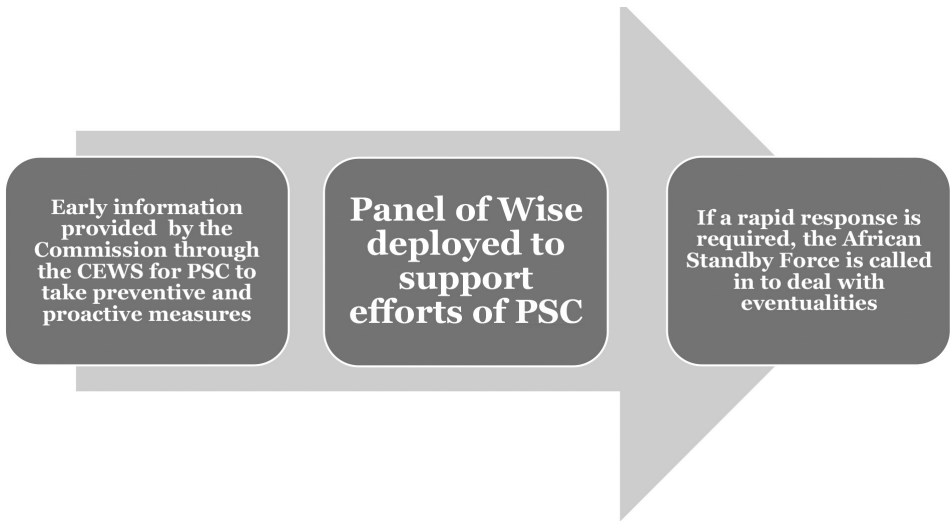
APSA PILLARS

- The main pillar of the APSA is the PSC, which is supported, in the discharge of its mandate, by various structures, namely :
- The Commission
- The Panel of the Wise
- The Continental Early Warning System (CEWS)
- Regional Economic Communities and Regional Mechanisms (RECs/RMs) – building blocks of AU
- The African Standby Force (ASF)
- The Peace Fund

APSA in a general sense



Linear operation



CHALLENGES to AU Coordination

- The environment
- A complex of activities and agendas
- Multiple actors
- Multiple interests
- Competition
- Negative influences, spoilers
- Protection of ‘turf’

APSA OVERALL AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

- Provide Clear and Consistent Strategic Guidance
- Improve Staffing Levels
- A holistic and Flexible Approach to APSA
- Establish Stronger Institutional Linkage with the RECs/RMs
- Improve Inter-Departmental Co-ord/Co-op in Addis
- Mainstream Gender Issues in all APSA Components
- Increase Collaboration and Partnership with Civil Society
- Improve Stakeholder Engagement and Outreach

New Reforms of the AUC

- Process kick-started in 2016 – Necessity of Institutional Reform of the Union to achieve AU Agenda 2063
- Key Challenge noted : AU's complicated structure and limited managerial capacity
- Advocate for a lean and more efficient structure
- Identified 5 focal areas as key for transforming the Union :
- 5 focal areas for transformation

1. Focus on few priority areas
2. Review the structure and operations of the AU
3. Operational effectiveness and efficiency
4. Connection with African Citizenry
5. Identify and implement sustainable financing for programs AU Reforms cont ...

- Key recommendation: AU Agenda to focus on a few priority areas that have continental impact
 - 4 Continental Priorities identified : Political Affairs, Peace and Security, Economic Integration & Reinforcing Africa's Global Voice
 - This necessitated :
 - an institutional re-alignment to deliver against the identified continental priorities,
 - Improved service delivery
 - Update of the structure of key organs and institutions
 - Re-evaluation of size and capabilities of AUC structures
- Impact of the AU Reforms

– Merger of two key departments : Political Affairs & Peace and Security
Now operates under the auspice of the Department of Political Affairs, Peace and Security (PAPS)

Two Directorates : Governance and Conflict Prevention (GCP) and Conflict Management Directorate (CMD). ■