

**MEMORANDUM OF INTENT  
BETWEEN  
THE UNITED NATIONS  
AND  
THE AFRICAN UNION  
CONCERNING  
COOPERATION IN AREAS OF OPERATIONAL SUPPORT**

The United Nations, represented by the Department of Operational Support, and the African Union, represented by the African Union Commission, hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties" and individually as a "Party";

*Considering* the provisions of Chapter VIII of the United Nations Charter, as well as of the Protocol relating to the establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union regarding the role of regional arrangements in the maintenance of peace and security;

*Considering* the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairperson of the African Union Commission's endorsement of the Joint UN-AU Framework for Enhanced Partnership in Peace and Security, signed on 19 April 2017, to enhance mutual cooperation and coordination between the two organizations, and the effective collaboration between the Department of Operational Support and the African Union Commission in various areas of operational matters;

*Considering* the important role of the partnership between the United Nations and the African Union in maximizing impact of peace and security efforts in Africa;

*Acknowledging* the Parties' common intent to deepen the collaboration in areas of mutual interest;

**NOW, THEREFORE**, the Parties decide:

**1. PURPOSE**

- 1.1 The purpose of this Memorandum of Intent ("Memorandum") is to facilitate the identification of areas of operational support where the Parties would benefit from collaborating based on their respective comparative advantages to achieve common objectives.
- 1.2 The Parties recognize the mutual benefit of collaborating in operational support areas to strengthen the implementation of respective mandates, including through supporting the advancement of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA), such as the full operationalization of the African Standby Force (ASF), and mobilizing more sustainable and predictable resources and expertise.

- 1.3 The Parties reaffirm their full commitment to the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in the implementation of this Memorandum.

## **2. AREAS OF COOPERATION**

- 2.1 The Parties may consider the following indicative and non-exhaustive list of operational support areas for possible collaboration:
- a) Knowledge and expertise exchange, including learning and capacity building;
  - b) Knowledge management;
  - c) Resource stewardship;
  - d) Situational awareness when engaged in joint operations;
  - e) Joint planning when engaged in joint operations;
  - f) Supply chain management;
  - g) Information and communication technology;
  - h) Environmental management; and
  - i) Services and goods provision.
- 2.2 The Parties' cooperation under this Memorandum will be subject to and in accordance with each Party's respective mandate, regulations, rules, policies and procedures, and the decisions of their respective governing bodies. To this end, the Parties will consult with each other concerning the manner and form of such cooperation.

## **3. SUBSEQUENT ARRANGEMENTS**

- 3.1 In the event that the Parties agree to jointly undertake specific activities, the Parties will conclude, as necessary and appropriate, specific separate agreements or arrangements in writing, setting out the terms and conditions of their cooperation for these activities.
- 3.2 The separate agreements or arrangements referred to in paragraph 3.1 may address, as appropriate, financial and legal issues as well as any other relevant matters.

## **4. USE OF NAMES**

Neither Party shall, in any manner whatsoever, use the name, emblem or logo of the other Party, including any abbreviations thereof, without the prior written permission of the other Party.



## **5. FINANCIAL ARRANGEMENTS**

- 5.1 Nothing in this Memorandum will be construed as creating any financial obligations between the Parties. Unless otherwise expressly agreed by the Parties in writing, the Parties will cover their own expenses arising from any activities taking place under this Memorandum.
- 5.2 The Parties further agree and acknowledge that neither Party will engage in fundraising activities on behalf of or using the name of the other Party for any projects implemented pursuant to this Memorandum, and that the Parties will not engage in fundraising activities for such joint projects unless such fundraising is mutually agreed upon and is allowed under the Parties' respective rules and regulations.

## **6. CHANNELS OF COMMUNICATION AND NOTICES**

- 6.1 For the purpose of facilitating the implementation of this Memorandum, the channels of communication for the Parties will be:
- (a) For the African Union: Cabinet of the Deputy Chairperson: [DCPExecutiveOffice@africa-union.org](mailto:DCPExecutiveOffice@africa-union.org);
  - (b) For the United Nations: Department of Operational Support, Division for Special Activities, Support Partnerships Service: [dos-sps@un.org](mailto:dos-sps@un.org)
- 6.2 Either Party may, by notice in writing to the other Party, designate additional representatives or substitute other focal points for those designated in paragraph 6.1 above.

## **7. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES**


Nothing in or relating to this Memorandum will be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities, exemptions and facilities enjoyed by the United Nations and the African Union, including their subsidiary organs and personnel.

## **8. RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES**

The Parties will make good faith efforts to resolve any difference between them arising from or in connection with this Memorandum.

## **9. RENEWAL, AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION**

- 9.1 This Memorandum will come into effect on the date of the last signature by the representatives of the Parties and will remain in effect for three (3) years. It may be renewed by mutual consent of the Parties in writing.
- 9.2 This Memorandum may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties in writing.



9.3 This Memorandum may be discontinued by either Party at any time by giving the other written notice thereof.

Signed at Addis Ababa by the duly authorized representatives of the United Nations and the African Union, in duplicate, in the English language.

**For the United Nations:**



**Atul Khare**  
Under-Secretary-General  
for Operational Support  
United Nations

14 September 2023  
Date

**For the African Union:**



**H.E. Monique Nsanzabaganwa**  
Deputy Chairperson  
African Union Commission

01 / Sept / 2023  
Date