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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL
200TH MEETING
21 AUGUST 2009
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/BR(CC)

PRESS STATEMENT

PRESS STATEMENT OF THE 200TH MEETING OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL

The Peace and Security Council of the African Union, at its 200th meeting held on 21st August 2009, received a briefing by the Special Envoy of the Chairperson of the Commission, Ablassé Ouedraogo as well as by the Commissioner for Peace and Security, Ramtane Lamamra, on the latest developments in Madagascar.

Council welcomed the significant progress made in the process of ending the crisis in Madagascar, characterized, among other things, by the holding of the Summit of the Leaders of the four Malagasy political movements, from 5 to 10 August 2009 in Maputo, Mozambique, under the auspices of the AU and with the facilitation of the International Joint Mediation Team (AU, SADC, OIF, UN).

Council took note with satisfaction of the adoption and signing by the leaders of the four movements of the Transitional Charter and the Complementary Agreements, which, among others, determine the duration of the transition to 15 months starting from the date of its signing, defines its principles and determines its institutions and organs, as well as their functions and modes of operation. Council commended the Malagasy parties for the results obtained in Maputo and urged them to do everything possible to implement, without delay, the spirit and the letter of the Charter, in order to create the best conditions for a smooth transition. Council requested the parties to those agreements to honor the commitments they have freely undertaken.

In this regard, Council stressed the hope it places in the Maputo II Summit, scheduled for 25 to 26 August 2009 and focused mainly on the consensual distribution of posts within the Transitional Institutions and Organs between all political and social forces of the country. In this context, Council expressed the hope that, as was the case during the "Summit", held from 5 to 10 August last, the supreme interest of Madagascar and the people of that country will prevail over the individual interests.

Council furthermore called on all political forces and civil society to support the implementation of the Charter and other Agreements signed in Maputo, and to accompany in good faith the process from the crisis from the return to constitutional order after the transition.

Council commended and thanked the International Joint Mediation Team, including the Special Envoys of the AU, Ablassé Ouedraogo, the OIF, Edem Kojo, the United Nations, Tiébilé Dramé, and the leader of the SADC mediation, former President Joaquim Chissano of Mozambique, who presided over the deliberations of

the Maputo Summit, under the auspices of the AU, for the remarkable work it has accomplished and the results obtained in Maputo. Council encouraged the International Joint Mediation Team to continue to work and to support the people of Madagascar in their efforts to resolve the crisis and to monitor the implementation of the Charter of the Transition.

Council also thanked countries and international organizations, members of the International Contact Group on Madagascar, for their support to the implementation of relevant decisions taken at its second meeting held, in Addis Ababa on 22 July 2009, which made it possible to initiate the ongoing moving towards a lasting resolution of the crisis.

Council, remains seized of the matter, decided to meet after the Maputo II Summit on the sharing of portfolios within the transitional Institutions, scheduled from 25 to 26 August 2009, in order to assess the results of the Summit, review the situation on the implementation of the Charter and the various agreements signed in Maputo and consider the way forward to support the Transition in Madagascar.