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3RD MEETING OF THE MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE OF THE PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA 25 APRIL 2005

CONCLUSIONS OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE MILITARY STAFF COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 APRIL 2005, AT ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

<u>CONCLUSIONS OF THE THIRD MEETING OF THE MILITARY</u> <u>STAFF COMMITTEE HELD ON 25 APRIL 2005,</u> <u>AT ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA</u>

1. The third meeting of the Military staff Committee (MSC) of the Peace and Security Council (PSC) was held at Addis Ababa, on 25 April 2005 to consider the situation in Darfur. The meeting was a follow up to the AU – led Assessment Team's visit to Darfur region of the Sudan from 10 - 22March 2005 and its subsequent report and recommendations on the enhancement of the African Union Mission in Sudan (AMIS).

2. The meeting was declared open by the Ambassador of the Kingdom of Lesotho, His Excellency M.H Leteka, the Chair of the PSC for the month of April 2005, with a follow up introductory remarks by the Commissioner, Peace and Security, to set the stage for the meeting.

3. In line with the Rules of Procedure of the PSC, the meeting was chaired by Colonel M Mahao, the Defence Advisor of the Kingdom of Lesotho, and had in attendance, military and police experts of Member States of the Peace and Security Council, with the exception of the Republics of Gabon and Togo.

4. The meeting considered the report of the AU – led assessment mission to Darfur including its proposals for the enhancement of the AU Mission in Sudan to a total strength of 5887 for the Military Component and 1560 for the Civilian Police Component. The Committee received detailed briefings from the Force commander and the Civilian Police Commissioner, and observations on the content of the report under consideration by the MSC, from the Government of the Sudan (GOS).

5. Taking cognisance of the salient issues in the report, the submissions by the Force Commander, the Civilian Police Commissioner, as well as the observations made by the GOS, the Committee after due deliberations arrived at the following conclusions:

5.1 That the Security situation in Darfur has relatively improved but still remains at an unacceptable level arising from lack of

compliance of the parties to the Humanitarian Ceasefire Agreement of 8 April 2004.

- 5.2 The African Union Mission in Sudan in its present strength is over stretched to address the security concerns. In consequence therefore, there was the need to enhance the mission by increasing its strength and providing it with adequate logistical support.
- 5.3 The strength of 5887 for the Military Component proposed by the Assessment Team lacked basic elements of a balanced military force such as an integral Combat Service Support Unit required to deal with the situation in Darfur. Consequently, the Committee considered the force structure presented by the Force Commander more realistic to address the situation.
- 5.4 The Committee therefore recommends for the consideration of the PSC, the enhancement of the Military Component of AMIS to a total strength of **6171** to be composed of:
 - Protection Force.

Force HQ (FHQ)

	100
 Force HQ Reserve 	120
 Light Engr Company 	100
 EOD Section 	10
- MP Platoon	60
 FHQ HQ Company 	196
- HQ Staff (Incl. 10 Int. Staff)	66
 Joint Ops Centre 	05
Total	557

Sectors

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- One Inf. Battalion (Sectors 1,2,3 and 8) 680 x 4 = 2720 - One Inf. Battalion (Sectors 4,5,6 and 7) 538x 4 = 2152 - One Inf. Platoon (Abeche) 40 Total = 4912

Military Observers

- AU Observers	542
 Chadian Mediators 	32
- AU Partners	32
 Party Representatives 	96
Total	702

Grand Total (557+4912+702) = 6171

5.5 The Civilian Police Component be enhanced to a total strength of 1560.

6. Noting that the AMIS Civilian Police Component was expected to operate in close collaboration with the GOS Police, the Committee raised serious concern about the ability of the AMIS Civilian Police Component to carryout its duties effectively in areas under the control of the Movements where the GOS Police are currently not deployed for obvious reasons, particularly as AMIS Civilian Police Component had no executive powers of arrest and capacity for criminal investigation.

7. The Committee recognised the commendable performance of AMIS under the prevailing constraints, and requests the PSC to approve the recommended structure as well as look into the issue of how to make the AMIS Civilian Police Component efficient in the areas under the control of the Movements, in order to provide the mission with the capacity to deal with the situation in Darfur.

Addis Ababa, 25 April 2005