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PEACE AND SECURITY COUNCIL  
45<sup>TH</sup> MEETING  
12 JANUARY 2006  
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA

PSC/PR/Comm.(XLV)

**COMMUNIQUE**

The Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU), at its 45<sup>th</sup> meeting, held on 12 January 2006, adopted the following decision on the situation in Darfur:

**Council,**

1. **Takes note** of the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Darfur [PSC/PR/2(XLV)] and the pertinent observations contained therein;
2. **Expresses satisfaction** at the very significant progress made in the deployment of the African Mission in the Sudan (AMIS), as well as at the fact that, in spite of serious financial, logistical and other constraints facing the Mission, AMIS has contributed significantly to the protection of the civilian population and the improvement of the security and humanitarian situation in Darfur;
3. **Stresses** the importance of the ongoing Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur, in Abuja, Nigeria, and the need for their speedy conclusion. In this respect, Council **expresses concern** at the very slow progress made so far in the 7<sup>th</sup> Round of the Inter-Sudanese Peace Talks on the Conflict in Darfur and **urges** the parties to demonstrate more flexibility so as to allow compromise on the issues involved. Council **stresses** the need for continued and increased pressure by African leaders and other stakeholders on the Sudanese parties, to bring them to honour their commitments and negotiate in good faith with a view to ending violence in Darfur and concluding a comprehensive peace agreement;
4. **Stresses** that, with the progress made in the initial stabilization phase of Darfur and the ongoing efforts to conclude a comprehensive peace agreement, steps should be taken to sustain the peace support operation in Darfur in 2006 and beyond, bearing in mind the requirements for an increased integration of the different aspects of the peace efforts;
5. **Expresses its support**, in principle, to a transition from AMIS to a UN operation, within the framework of the partnership between the AU and the United Nations in the promotion of peace, security and stability in Africa, and **decides** to convene a meeting of the Peace and Security Council at ministerial level, in Addis Ababa, before the end of March 2006, to review the situation and make a final decision on the issue of the transition towards a UN operation in Darfur and its modalities. In this respect, Council **requests** the Chairperson of the Commission to initiate appropriate consultations with the United Nations and other stakeholders, with a view to providing the proposed meeting of the Peace and Security Council at ministerial level with all relevant additional information, including on the modalities for a transition towards a UN operation and the financial aspects of the ongoing operation in Darfur;
6. **Decides**, in the interim, to extend the mandate of AMIS until 31 March 2006;
7. **Decides** to remain actively seized of the matter.