



Security Council adoption on AU PSOs, 21 December 2023

Malta Statement delivered by Her Excellency Ambassador Vanessa Frazier
Permanent Representative of Malta to the United Nations, New York

Malta voted in favour of this resolution because we believe that a new season of peace operations missions needs to emerge within the Security Council.

With this resolution, we acknowledge the changing nature of conflicts in Africa, and the need to draw on a range of international responses to fit specific complex operating environments and evolving threats.

We will also open the way to peace enforcement when necessary, implementing a clear, robust, and focused mandate with a limited duration in time and an exit strategy defined from the outset.

At the same time, we collectively affirm the primacy of politics and the need for coherent political strategies for African Union-led Peace Support Operations authorised by the Security Council.

These strategies will have a holistic approach and address the root causes of conflicts.



With this resolution, we agree on a clear decision-making and authorisation process. More importantly, we set a minimum of compliance standards that will characterise all future AU PSO missions. The protection of civilians will always be prioritised.

We are also pleased to share that the African Union significantly strengthened its international humanitarian law, human rights, and conduct and discipline compliance frameworks with the support of the European Union.

President

This framework resolution is a step forward from case-by-case resolutions that provide partial UN assessed contributions. We support the intention of the A3 to achieve a situation in which predictable funding is secured for AU Peace Support Operations. We cannot deny that no agreement has been achieved yet on burden sharing.



Having said that, we consider the amended text as adopted as a compromise to move forward. On this point we must be clear. The responsibility for the funding of these missions should not rest with one country or one regional group alone. Ambitious action demands collective effort.

Contributions for future AU PSOs must come from all actors, as it has been stated in the resolution we voted for.

President, as a European member State, let me share the EU position on the resolution.

The European Union supports the use of UN-assessed contributions in compliance with relevant agreed standards and mechanisms.

We welcome the commitment of the African Union, sub-regional organizations and its member states to contribute significantly to the African Union-led Peace Support Operations.



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Following today's milestone adoption, and building on our existing partnership, we look forward to working closely with the African Union and African member states in implementing this resolution.

I thank you.