



## Security Council

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### Letter dated 27 May 2020 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

In accordance with Security Council resolution [2472 \(2019\)](#), in which the Council requested the African Union to report regularly on the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM), I have the honour to transmit to you a letter from the Chairperson of the African Union Commission (see annex) and his report on the situation in Somalia and the renewal of the mandate of AMISOM (see enclosure 1), as well as a communiqué of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union at its 923rd meeting, held on 7 May 2020, on the situation in Somalia and the renewal of the mandate of AMISOM (see enclosure 2).

I should be grateful if you would bring the letter and its annex to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* António Guterres



## Annex

[Original: English]

I am writing to you within the context of our sustained strategic partnership and cooperation in addressing the situation in Somalia to enable the country to expeditiously exit from the current crisis. In this regard, the Peace and Security Council of the African Union held its 923rd meeting on 7 May 2020 and considered my report on the situation in Somalia and the renewal of the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) (see enclosure 1).

The Peace and Security Council endorsed the report and decided to renew the mandate of AMISOM for a further 12 months in order to enable AMISOM to continue supporting the completion of phase two of the Somali transition plan and to also facilitate the implementation of phase three of the plan, within the context of our overall coordinated peace efforts in Somalia.

In line with paragraph 32 of Security Council resolution [2472 \(2019\)](#), and within the framework of the strategic partnership between the African Union and the United Nations in the area of peace and security in Africa, I am therefore transmitting to you herewith the communiqué of the above-mentioned 923rd meeting of the Peace and Security Council (see enclosure 2), together with my report on the situation in Somalia and the renewal of the mandate of AMISOM, for your kind circulation to the members of the Security Council as a working document.

I look forward to the continuation and intensification of our strategic partnership and cooperation in Somalia, particularly at this critical juncture of the country's history.

I would be most grateful if the present letter and its enclosures could be transmitted to the members of the Security Council.

*(Signed)* Moussa Faki **Mahamat**

## Enclosure 1

### **Report of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission on the situation in Somalia and renewal of the mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia**

[Original: English and French]

#### **I. Introduction**

1. This fourth report is submitted pursuant to paragraph 11 of the Communiqué of the African Union Peace and Security Council (AUPSC), adopted at its 848th meeting held on 9 May 2019, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. In this Communiqué, the AUPSC requested the Commission to work closely with the United Nations (UN) and to ensure timely quarterly reports to the AUPSC on the situation in Somalia. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in paragraph 32 of its Resolution 2472 (2019), adopted at its 8537th meeting held on 31 May 2019, also requested the African Union to keep it informed every 90 days, through the UN Secretary-General, on the implementation of AMISOM's mandate.

2. Thus, the present report outlines progress achieved since the 911th meeting of the AUPSC held on 24 February 2020 in the following areas: (a) political and related developments, including update on the National Elections and enactment of the National Electoral Bill (b) security situation and joint operations in support of the Somali Transition Plan, performance issues, including command and control (c) Implication of the AMISOM drawdown and overall implications on the Mission (d) Progress in ensuring protection of civilians and compliance with applicable IHL, IHRL principles as well as conduct and discipline standards (e) stabilization and humanitarian situation, including support of AMISOM and its Civilian Sector teams in facilitating increased engagements with the Federal Member States and communities (f) Engagement with AMISOM Troop and Police Contributing Countries (TCCs) and key international stakeholders on Somalia; and (g) key issues for consideration of the AU PSC for the renewal of AMISOM's Mandate.

#### **II. Political and related developments and update on national elections**

3. Progress continues to be recorded on Somalia's preparation towards its proposed 27 November 2020 election – the first direct elections that will be conducted since 1969. These include the establishment of a Joint Parliamentary Committee for the completion of the Electoral Law, following the National Elections Bill (NEB) signed into law on 21 February 2020 as well as the activities of the National Electoral Security Taskforce (NESTF). With the Joint Parliamentary Committee beginning its work in early March 2020, the Committee has drafted its workplan, elected key officials, and completed an election retreat with the National Independent Electoral Committee (NIEC) in April 2020, with a view to holding regional consultations in the near future. Additional to completing the electoral law, the NESTF has also stepped up preparations for the elections, with the adoption of its Terms of Reference (ToRs), as well as its concept of operations (CONOPs) for election security, and for voter's registration.

### **III. Security situation and joint operations in support of the Somalia transition plan**

4. Somalia continues to contend with a broad range of security risks, threats and vulnerabilities, including increasing mortar shelling of AMISOM base camp, illicit proliferation and flow of arms as well as Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and its materials which are used more extensively by Al Shabaab and other Armed Opposition Groups (AOG). Experiences and lessons in Somalia and other similar conflict areas have pointed to the fact that Al-Shabaab and AOG cannot be defeated by military means alone. In this regard, AMISOM continues to engage all stakeholders, including Somalia Security Forces (SSF) and relevant partners to discuss the possibility of strengthening SSF, as well as to enable stabilization and governance efforts and processes to consolidate military gains. This is why AMISOM and the SSF continues to conduct Joint Operations to disrupt and degrade Al Shabaab and AOG to further deny them freedom of movement and action in AMISOM's Area of Responsibility (AoR).

5. Among the Joint Operations conducted, the capture of Janaale Town, which was an Al Shabaab stronghold, situated approximately 90 kilometers South West of Somalia was critical. This operation also led to the capture of several key Al Shahaab Commanders in Lower Shabelle by the Somali National Army (SNA). This marks an important step towards the reduction of Al Shabaab's capability to collect revenue as well as plan and conduct terrorist operations and activities in Lower Shabelle. To achieve more success, AMISOM notes the need to ensure enhanced coordination with SSF and relevant partners. In this regard, AMISOM continues to hold several coordination meetings. These include: (a) the Weekly Senior Leadership Military Coordination (SLMC) meetings, attended by AMISOM Military Command, SSF leadership and Partners; (b) the Weekly Joint Intelligence and Information sharing meetings; (c) the Sector Commanders Joint Security Meetings with their SSF counterparts and other stakeholders in the respective AoR; and (d) the Military Coordination Group (MCG) weekly meeting with SNA and International Partners (IP) under Strand 2A of the Comprehensive Approach to Security (CAS).

6. Furthermore, AMISOM continues to support the Somali Police Force (SPF) in the conduct of operational activities in Mogadishu, Baidoa, Beletweyne, Dhobley, Jowhar and Kismayo. In Mogadishu, these operational activities include special duties, joint day and night foot and vehicular patrols within designated areas. These areas include the SPF Headquarter, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Old Parliament, General Kaahiye Police Academy, JOCC/NISA Headquarters, Banadir Regional Administration, Lido beach, as well as periodic snap checks at X-Control in Afgooye. As has been noted, these AMISOM operational supports play a key role in enhancing public confidence in the SPF, deterring criminal activities, improving safety and security and enabling the public and government officials to undertake their activities without fear and disruptions.

### **IV. Implications of the AMISOM troop drawdown**

7. The drawdown of 1000 AMISOM troops in February 2020 pursuant to paragraph 7 of UNSCR 2472 (2019) has sent negative signals to Al-Shabaab concerning AMISOM's security posture currently and post 2021. The thinking within Al Shabaab circles suggest that the insurgents are counting on AMISOM's further drawdown of troops and eventual exit from Somalia. This situation has emboldened the insurgents as demonstrated in recent escalation of mortar attacks on AMISOM base camp as well as other direct attacks in other AMISOM locations.

Notwithstanding, AMISOM's security responsibilities remain at all-time high whilst drawdowns continue to stretch security personnel due to the absence of significant force generation from the FGS. As such, AMISOM troops are now engaged in holding areas recovered from Al-Shabaab with limited ability to intensify its operations across its AoR. An example of this relates to the stalled deployment of the Ghana Formed Police Unit (FPU) which requires a Super Convoy Operation across areas currently controlled by Al Shabaab to transport the personnel and equipment to their designated AoR. The situation further allows Al-Shabaab to gain momentum, regroup, and train for more attacks on AMISOM, SSF as well as innocent civilians.

8. Taking note of the dire implications of the drawdown, AMISOM TCCs made additional sacrifices to sustain non-AMISOM troops in Somalia as a stop gap measure to preserve the gains made by AMISOM. However, and whilst this support of TCCs are really commendable, it is not sustainable in the long run. In this regard, there is need for a halt in reductions of AMISOM uniformed personnel taking note of the consequences of any further drawdown – taking note of the planning for the election and successful implementation of the Somali Transition Plan leading to 2021.

## **V. Progress in ensuring protection of civilians and compliance with IHL and IHRL principles as well as conduct and discipline standards**

9. AMISOM continue to ensure compliance with its obligations under applicable International Humanitarian Law (IHL) and International Human Rights Law (IHRL) principles as well as Conduct and Discipline standards. As part of these efforts and commitment, AMISOM also investigates allegations of civilian casualties through its Civilian Causality Tracking Analysis and Response Cell (CCTARC) and its Board of Inquiry (BOI) regimes. As AMISOM awaits endorsement of its amendments to the Standard Operating Procedures (SOP) on Ex Gratia Payments for civilian casualty amends, it is already working on a number of cases to determine those that meet the criteria for ex gratia payments. In addition, some allegations of human rights violations are currently at preliminary stages of investigation, the outcome of which will determine whether BoI will need to be convened as part of response measures.

10. In enhancing its mitigation measures, AMISOM monitored several Pre-Deployment Training (PDT) on IHRL, IHL, Child Protection, Women Protection, CCTARC, Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (SEA), Conduct and Discipline, Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) and Conflict Related Sexual Violence (CRSV) for its uniformed personnel. In the period under review, 453 AMISOM Police and military personnel undertook PDT whilst various Induction and other In-Mission training programmes were also conducted by AMISOM. Through these training programmes, AMISOM underlined the obligations of its personnel in respecting and protecting human rights and emphasized the need to uphold the highest standards of transparency, conduct and discipline and strict adherence to relevant international norms and standards in the implementation of their mandated tasks.

## **VI. Stabilisation and humanitarian situation/engagement of civilian sector teams with federal member states**

11. The humanitarian situation in parts of Somalia remains dire, with persistent protection concerns. Within the context of COVID-19 pandemic and its effects in Somalia, refugee settlements and dense urban settings are at particularly high risk. In this regard, there is need for vigilant approaches to facilitate case identification and

treatment. With 2.6 million people currently displaced, these populations face the imminent threat of an epidemic that could claim thousands of lives.

12. Within its capacities, AMISOM, in coordination with relevant humanitarian actors and, as part of the international response to the humanitarian crisis, continues to facilitate delivery of humanitarian assistance in Somalia. To this end, AMISOM provided daily clean water to Internally Displaced Persons (IDP) located near its FOBs. Additionally, AMISOM convened meetings to discuss COVID-19 concerns and implications within the Somali IDP community living near AMISOM Forward Operating Basis (FOBs) and bases as part of efforts to raise awareness about the virus to enhance prevention.

## **VII. Engagement with AMISOM troop and police contributing countries (TCCS) and key international stakeholders on Somalia on Somalia**

13. Taking note of the effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and in view of current developments in Somalia, the Commission engaged virtually with AMISOM TCCs who agreed to continue supporting the efforts of the FGS/SNA, including in generating Somali security forces and training (whenever requested by FGS), combat mentoring and joint operations. Among the key issues discussed was the need to continuously strengthen Command and Control within the Military Component, creation and operationalisation of mobile forces within each AMISOM operational sector and judicious use of the force multipliers and enablers including the incoming Helicopters from Uganda, in offensive operations against Al Shabaab.

14. The Commission also conveyed a virtual High level meeting with key strategic partners co-chaired by the AU Commissioner for Peace and Security and the Prime Minister of the Federal Government of Somalia on 29th April 2020. The High Level meeting, amongst others, discussed *Security in Somalia* from now up to beyond 2021; Measures that should be taken to ensure that the gains achieved by FGS and AMISOM are not reversed; Mechanisms that can be established and or utilised to consolidate Regional coordination and consensus, especially involving neighbours and TCC actions in Somalia and Resource mobilisation for AMISOM including the replenishment of AMISOM Trust Fund.

15. The meeting took note and appreciated the tremendous success of AMISOM (including its T/PCCs) and FGS, operating in a very difficult environment and constraints, in implementing their mandates and responsibilities, and called on the AU, including the PSC, IGAD and the A3 to ensure that these successes and sacrifices are not reversed, but rather supported and consolidated. While addressing itself to the long term support to the security sector in support of state building processes in Somalia, the High level meeting noted the need for a comprehensive political and stabilization approach to Somalia's future, closer cooperation between the FGS and FMS' to facilitate force generation, and that terrorists, not political rivals, must be the focus of security operations.

16. While commending the FGS and FMS on the progress attained in inclusive politics and the adoption of the National Electoral Bill into Law, the meeting urged the FGS to ensure that the Joint Parliamentary Committee (JPC) working on the finalization of the Electoral Law, to speedily conclude its consultation processes and ascertain the roll-out of all State elections mechanism at Federal and Regional levels. This was highlighted as critical noting the proposed election date of 27 November, 2020 which is fast approaching. In this regard, there were calls for commencement of the elections engagements, dialogue and security related provisions at all levels to

enable a peaceful, transparent and fair elections in Somalia. In the same vein, the FGS was also requested to further engage with relevant actors on the Constitutional Review Process (CRP), as well as discussions on the special procedures for adopting the amended the Federal Constitution by the two Houses of Parliament. This was said will ensure that the major normative frameworks of the state are finalized and set for implementation accordingly.

17. The meeting agreed that sustaining the hard won gains require sufficient security presence, and effective stabilization efforts. Therefore, the need for the STP revision was welcomed and expected to outline a realistic plan with timelines to meet benchmarks for force generation, security sector reform, and civilian security. Security transition in Somalia will require international security presence beyond 2021 with stronger and renewed regional political consensus in Somalia, similar to what existed when AMISOM was launched in 2007, with the AU playing a key role in enhancing the enabling environment for political processes as well as formulation of international security presence in Somalia, with a multidimensional AMISOM or AMISOM like operation with regional support.

## **VIII. Key issues for the consideration of AUPSC for the renewal of AMISOM's mandate**

18. Cognizant of the above, PSC may wish to consider:

19. Renewing AMISOM's mandate for a period of 12 months in order for AMISOM to support complementation of Phase Two and implementation of Phase Three of the Somali Transition Plan which ends on 31 December 2020.

20. Acknowledging and appreciating the additional sacrifices being made by some of the TCCs to sustain non-AMISOM troops in Somalia (following the recent drawdown of 1000 troops) as a stop gap measure, noting that this is not sustainable in the long run. Council may also wish to reiterate the need for the UN Security Council to halt reductions of AMISOM uniformed personnel numbers to enable AMISOM to continue to effectively support implementation of the Somali Transition Plan, whilst force generation, integration of regional forces and enhancement of the capabilities of the SSF are being facilitated.

21. Taking note of the negative effects of Novel Corona Virus Pandemic (COVID-19) on the implementation of the STP, especially restrictions of movements as well as actions taken by FGS, AMISOM leadership and UN/UNSOS to contain the spread of COVID – 19 and treating those infected by the virus. In this regard, call on partners and the broader international community to further enhance support to Somalia in containing the virus, taking note of the incoming equipment donated by the Governments of China and Korea to support the efforts to contain COVID-19 in Somalia.

22. Requesting international support to the recent floods and locust invasion of Somalia and across East Africa which have negatively impacted local community settlement and the agri-business chain, particularly within the context of COVID-19.

23. Reiterating the call on the FGS to continually work closely with the Federal Member States to resolve political issues and differences as this has direct implications on the security operations of AMISOM, including in the FMS and with the FMS forces as well as on good governance and sustainable peace across Somalia.

24. Appreciating AU Member States, UN, EU and bilateral partners in providing resources for AMISOM, including funding and logistic support and Calling for high level AU consultations, including possibly at Summit level, as well as high level

engagement with multilateral and bilateral partners to consider other supplementary options for the mobilization and provision of required resources to support AMISOM, including the replenishment of AMISOM Trust Fund, leading up to December 2021 and possibly beyond.

25. Calling on AMISOM, within its existing civilian capability and utilising its Civilian Sector Teams, to assist the Federal Government of Somalia and its Member States, in collaboration with the United Nations, to extend state authority, including ensuring full compliance with international humanitarian law and human rights law and standards as well as support to local governance, humanitarian and stabilization processes in areas recovered from Al-Shabaab. Also requesting the SRCC to use good offices to facilitate peace initiatives in support of Somali efforts in building the capacity of traditional leaders in the mediation of local disputes as well as administration of humanitarian services.

26. Requesting AMISOM, within its capabilities, and in coordination with other parties, to assist with implementation of the Somali national security plans, through training and mentoring of the Security Forces of the Federal Government of Somalia, including through joint operations;

27. Requesting the Commission working closely with AMISOM to review the AMISOM CONOPS, by September 2020 to align it with the priorities for the consolidation of the implementation of the STP leading to 2021. Council may also wish to consider calling for a review of progress achieved in the implementation of the Somali Transition Plan, including the contribution of AMISOM, EU, UN and bilateral partners as this will provide a good basis for the reprioritization of critical elements in the plan leading to 2021 as well as guide the confirmation of Somali priority initiatives for post-2021 and support by the international community in this regard.



**Enclosure 2****Communiqué of the 923rd meeting of the Peace and Security Council, held in Addis Ababa on 7 May 2020**

[Original: English]

**COMMUNIQUÉ**

Adopted by the Peace and Security Council (PSC) of the African Union (AU) at its 923rd meeting held on 7 May 2020, on the Situation in Somalia and Renewal of the Mandate of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM):

The Peace and Security Council,

*Noting* the remarks made by the Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Lesotho to the AU and Chairperson of the PSC for May 2020, H.E. Ambassador Professor Mafa Sejanamane, as well as the statement made by the Commissioner for Peace and Security, Ambassador Smail Chergui, the briefing provided by Ambassador Francisco Madeira, Special Representative of the Chairperson of the AU Commission for Somalia and Head of AMISOM, and the statements made by the representatives of the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS) and the United Nations Office to the African Union (UNOAU);

*Further noting* the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Somalia and renewal of AMISOM mandate;

*Recalling* its previous decisions and pronouncements on the situation in Somalia and AMISOM, particularly Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM(CMXI)], adopted at its 911th meeting held on 24 February 2020; Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1(CMI)] adopted at its 901st meeting held on 13 December 2019; Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.(DCCCLXV)] adopted at its 865th meeting held on 7 August 2019; and Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1(DCCCXLVIII)] adopted at its 848th meeting held on 9 May 2019, as well as UN Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) [2472 \(2019\)](#) of 31 May 2019.

Acting under Article 7 of its Protocol, the Peace and Security Council:

1. *Welcomes* the fourth Report of the Chairperson of the Commission submitted pursuant to paragraph 11 of the PSC Communiqué [PSC/PR/COMM.1(DCCCXLVIII)] adopted at its 848th meeting, held on 9 May 2019, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, in which, among others, Council requested the Commission to work closely with the UN and to ensure timely quarterly reports to the PSC on the situation in Somalia including issues relating to AMISOM;

2. *Commends* all efforts deployed by the Federal Government of Somalia (FGS), the Federal Member States (FMS) of Somalia, as well as AMISOM towards the promotion of inclusive political participation and dialogue to further enhance national cohesion, and *requests* the AMISOM to continue its engagement with the FGS and all other relevant stakeholders, with a view to assisting Somalia in addressing the current challenges;

3. *Encourages* additional efforts in building greater coordination and cooperation between the FGS and FMS to promote collective governance and socio-economic development of Somalia;

4. *Welcomes* the progress made in Somalia's preparation for elections scheduled for November 2020, including the establishment of a Joint Parliamentary

Committee for the completion of the Electoral Law; following the National Elections Bill (NEB) signed into law on 21 February 2020; as well as the activities of the National Electoral Security Taskforce (NESTF); *applauds* the Joint Parliamentary Committee for drafting the work plan, electing key officials, and successfully organizing a retreat on elections with the National Independent Electoral Committee (NIEC) in April 2020, with a view to creating conducive conditions for the holding of regional consultations as soon as possible;

5. *Expresses deep concern over* the security threats, including increasing mortar shelling of AMISOM base camp, illicit proliferation and flow of arms, as well as Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) and its materials which are used more extensively by the Al Shabaab terrorist group and other armed opposition groups (AOG) operating in the country; in this regard, Council *encourages* AMISOM to continue providing support to the Somali National Forces in degrading the activities of Al Shabaab; *commends* the Republic of Uganda for its initiative to deploy helicopters for AMISOM, and *calls for* adequate force enablers and multipliers that the Mission desperately needs, in order to enable it to more effectively discharge its mandate and to consolidate peace in Somalia;

6. *Condemns, in strongest terms possible*, the continuous and indiscriminate attacks by Al-Shabaab against civilian population and facilities, as well as targeted assassinations of Government personnel and prominent politicians; *expresses deep condolences* to the families of those who lost their lives and *wishes* quick recovery to those injured during those cowardly attacks; *pays tribute* to the AMISOM Troop and Police Contributing Countries (T/PCCs), and their nationals, especially those that have paid the ultimate sacrifice in the promotion of peace, security, stability and reconciliation in Somalia;

7. *Expresses concern over* the security implications of AMISOM drawdown and *stresses the imperative need* for a halt in further reduction of AMISOM uniformed personnel, with regard to the planning for the safe holding of elections and the successful implementation of the Somali Transition Plan leading to 2021, with a view to preserving the gains made so far, and also taking into consideration the impacts of COVID-19 on the entire Mission;

8. *Recalls* UN Security Council Resolution [1863\(2009\)](#) establishing a Trust Fund to provide support to AMISOM and *calls for* urgent contributions to address additional challenges, including COVID-19 and supporting and securing humanitarian activities in Somalia;

9. *Urges* the AU Commission to further strengthen its oversight over AMISOM and ensure Mission unified command and control between FHQs and Sector Units operational coordination among AMISOM contingents, strengthen command, control and accountability of the operationalization of the mission enabling units, including mission air assets, enabling the creation and operationalization of mobile military forces in the sectors, and promote coordinated operational decision making under the Force Commander, and ensure that all Mission force enablers and multipliers operate under the Force Commander.

10. *Appeals* to all relevant stakeholders to continue working together to expedite the deployment of the Ghana and Djibouti Formed Police Unit (FPU) and equipment, including utilization of air assets of other UN Missions in Africa, if such capabilities are not currently available within Somalia;

11. *Expresses concern over* the effects of the desert locust invasion, as well as the floods and the attendant humanitarian situation in Somalia which has displaced many people and in this context, *appeals* to all Member States and the international community to provide humanitarian assistance to the affected population, as well as

for provision of security and rebuilding of infrastructure to facilitate humanitarian access and movement of goods and people;

12. *Requests* the AU Commission, through Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) to continue providing necessary support to the FGS in the fight against COVID-19 pandemic, with a view to ensuring preservation of the gains made in political and socio-economic sectors in the country, as well as in the preparation of the planned elections;

13. *Calls* for a comprehensive review of the Somali Transition Plan and its implementation modalities, led by the FGS, with full participation of the AU, UN, EU and key FGS bilateral partners by July 2020, in order to provide a solid basis for the reprioritization of critical elements in the Transition Plan leading to 2021, which would also inform AMISOM's CONOPs review and guide the confirmation of Somali priority initiatives for post-2021, as well as support by the international community;

14. *Also calls* for enhanced coordination between FGS, AU, UN and other strategic partners in supporting the STP, including in the training and equipping of the SSF which are instrumental to achieving effective force generation to enable the SSF to gradually take over security responsibilities in Somalia. Council *requests* AMISOM, within its existing civilian capability and utilizing its Civilian Sector Teams, to assist the FGS and FMS, in collaboration with the UNSOM, to support the extension of state authority, including ensuring full compliance with international humanitarian law, human rights law and standards, as well as support to local governance, humanitarian efforts and stabilization processes in areas recovered from Al-Shabaab. *Further requests* AMISOM to continue facilitating peace initiatives in support of Somali efforts in building the capacity of traditional leaders in the mediation of local disputes;

15. *Recalls* communiqués adopted at its 901st (paragraph 17) and 911th (paragraph 13) meeting and *calls* on the AU Commission, working closely with UNSG, and the Government of Somalia, to conduct, by 15 November 2020, an independent comprehensive assessment of the security environment giving due attention to broader and comprehensive stabilization and security requirements, with a view to presenting options for consideration to the PSC and UN Security Council on the role of the AU, UN and international partners in Somalia post-2021;

16. *Decides* to renew the mandate of AMISOM for 12 months, from 27 May 2020, in order for AMISOM to continue supporting the completion of Phase Two and implementation of Phase Three of the Somali Transition Plan and, in this regard, *requests* the Commission to review the AMISOM CONOPS, by September 2020, in order to align it with urgent priorities;

17. *Also decides* to adopt the Report of the Chairperson of the Commission on the situation in Somalia and *requests* the Chairperson of the Commission to transmit this Communiqué to the African Members of the UN Security Council (A3), and to the UN Secretary General for circulation to the members of the UN Security Council as working document, pursuant to paragraph 32 of UNSCR [2472 \(2019\)](#); and

18. *Decides* to remain actively seized of the matter.