

Expert Group Meeting
on “*African Perspectives on International Terrorism*”
3 to 4 June 2009
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

The Office of the Special Adviser on Africa is convening an Expert Group Meeting on “*African Perspectives on International Terrorism*” to be held in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia from 3 to 4 June 2009.

The Expert Group Meeting will examine the evolving response of different African stakeholders, including the countries themselves, as well as the African Union, African sub-regional organizations, and civil society to the continuing threat of international terrorism and the areas where greater collaboration with the United Nations and other international partners can be undertaken to promote a holistic response to the complex threat. Efforts will be made to reinforce and build upon the collaboration and cooperation that is already underway among these different actors. Particular attention will be given to ensuring that the continental implementation of the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy fully reflects the African perspective.

The Meeting will bring together leading experts in the field with a view to examining the interrelationships between international terrorism and other factors which have hindered sustainable development, notably, proliferation of illicit arms, illegal trafficking of small arms and light weapons, drugs and precious stones; money laundering and other crimes of transnational character. The Meeting will review steps already taken by the African Union, sub-regional organizations and national authorities, and the United Nations to address the problem and identify ways in which Africa can strengthen its response and support to the fight against international terrorism in a manner which is sensitive to the prevailing realities within Africa.

The promotion of peace and security, and sound political, economic and corporate governance in Africa are key priorities of the New Partnership for Africa’s Development (NEPAD), whose implementation of programme activities is supported by OSAA. The two-day Expert Group Meeting is being held in keeping with the mission of OSAA to address issues of emerging importance to Africa in the nexus among peace, security and development.