DAY ONE: Wednesday, 7 November 2018 | RECs-Only Validation Meeting

ARRIVAL AND REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

OPENING SESSION

**Moderator:** Mr. David Mehdi Hamam, Director, United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA)

Welcome and Opening Remarks by Moderator (7 mins)

**REMARKS**

- H.E. Mr. Ahmad Allam-mi, Secretary-General of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) (7 mins)
- Mr. François Louncény Fall, Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa and Head of the United Nations Regional Office in Central Africa (UNOCA) (7 mins)

TOUR DE TABLE

STAGE-SETTING:

- Agenda and Objectives of the Meeting, **Mr. Emmanuel Habuka Bombande**, Lead Facilitator of EGM and Senior Mediation Adviser, Standby Team of Mediation Advisers, United Nations Department of Political Affairs
- Overview of Study: Focus Areas, Methodology, Main Findings and Recommendations, **Mr. Ejeviome Eloho Otobo**, OSAA Consultant and a Non-Resident Senior Expert in Peacebuilding and Global Economic Policy at the Global Governance Institute in Brussels (10 mins)

11:00-11:20 Group Photo and Coffee Break

SESSION ONE: Conflict Trends in Africa & Implications for work of African Subregional Organizations in Conflict Prevention

**Facilitator:** Mr. Emmanuel Habuka Bombande

Presentation: **Mr. Abdel-Fatau Musah**, Director, Africa II, United Nations Department of Political Affairs (10 mins)

Responses: **Concrete Examples of Institutionalizing Conflict Prevention at Subregional Levels**
Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) (5 mins)
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA) (5 mins)
East African Community (EAC) (5 mins)
Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) (5 mins)
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (5 mins)
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) (5 mins)

Discussion (60 mins)

This session will discuss persisting and new causes and trends of conflicts in Africa, which has necessitated a renewed focus on prevention. It will discuss what this implies for RECs in institutionalizing conflict prevention, in order to create a shared understanding of the possible scope of work RECs can undertake. **RECs will provide concrete examples of their engagements on conflict prevention in their respective regions and share lessons learned and best practices.** Discussions will cover aspects of the study report on “existing institutional capacities (namely mandates, policies, organs and strategies) for conflict prevention”.

13:00-14:15  Lunch Break

14:15-16:00  SESSION TWO: Operationalizing Conflict Prevention at Subregional Levels: Successes, Challenges and Gaps

Facilitator: Mr. Abdel-Fatau Musah

Presentation of findings of study: Mr. Ejeviome Eloho Otobo (10 mins)

Responses:

Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), (5 mins)
Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), (5 mins)
East African Community (EAC), (5 mins)
Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) (5 mins)
Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (5 mins)
Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) (5 mins)

Discussion (65 mins)

This session will focus on concrete examples of how the RECs are operationalizing conflict prevention. What tools are they utilizing for prevention at both regional and national levels? What are their successes, challenges and gaps? Discussion will cover sections of the study report on “main conflict prevention tools and resources”.

16:00-16:15  Coffee Break
SESSION THREE: Strategic Priority Areas for Strengthening REC’s Conflict Prevention Capacities

Facilitator: Professor Cheryl Hendricks, Facilitator of EGM and Executive Director, Africa Institute of South Africa, Human Science Research Council

- Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), (7 mins)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), (7 mins)
- East African Community (EAC), (7 mins)
- Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) (7 mins)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (7 mins)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) (7 mins)

Discussion (40 mins)

This session will discuss concrete and strategic priority areas where the RECs need to reinforce their prevention capacities. It will identify specific priorities for the RECs and how these will concretely respond to present and emerging conflict trends and issues. It will also identify commonalities as well as possible areas for mutual support and joint actions, among RECs and by RECs and other partners. The discussions will build on what is contained in the study report on key areas and recommendations for bolstering the conflict prevention capacities of RECs.

17:45-18:00

Wrap-up of Day One and Validation of Study Report: Mr. Emmanuel Habuka Bombande

DAY TWO: Thursday, 8 November 2018

09:30-10:00

SESSION FOUR

Chair: Ambassador Baudouin Hamuli Kabarhuza, Director of Political Affairs & the Central African Early Warning Mechanism (MARAC), ECCAS

WELCOME REMARKS:

- Ambassador Baudouin Hamuli Kabarhuza (5 mins)
- Mr. David Mehdi Hamam, Director, United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA) (5 mins)

DEBRIEFING ON DAY ONE:

- Mr. Sancho Coutinho, Chief, Political Affairs Section (PAS), UNOCA (7 mins)

TOUR DE TABLE
10:00-11:00 PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION:

Preventable Conflicts in a Changing Global Context, Professor Cheryl Hendricks (10 mins)

This session will examine global trends such as demographic concerns, migration, impact of new technology, shifting global economy, climate change, populist and nationalist identities, vis-à-vis their impact for conflict prevention in Africa. It will highlight some specific considerations for RECs in advancing their work on especially structural prevention.

11:00-11:20 Group Photo and Coffee Break

11:20-13:00 SESSION FIVE: Inclusive & Collaborative Approaches in Preventing Conflicts

Chair: Ambassador Baudouin Hamuli Kabarhuza

PRESENTATION: What Inclusivity, Collaboration & Partnerships Entails in Conflict Prevention, Dr. Chukwuemeka Eze, Executive Director, West Africa Network for Peacebuilding (WANEP) (10 mins)

Responses: Concrete Example of Types of Collaboration and Partnerships

- A Civil Society Perspective, Ambassador Welile Nhlapo, Senior Political Advisor, African Centre for Constructive Resolution of Disputes (ACCORD) (5 mins)
- Partnering and Collaborating with Women to Prevent Conflicts, Ms. Marie-Josée Kandanga, Regional Peace and Security Adviser, UN-Women (5 mins)
- Engaging the Private Sector in Conflict Prevention, Ms. Olajobi Makinha, Chief, Intergovernmental Relations & Africa, United Nations Global Compact (5 mins)
- Working with Young People as Agents of Prevention, Mr. Armand-Michel Broux, Regional Governance and Conflict Prevention and Recovery Programme Specialist, UNDP (5 min)

Discussion (70 mins)

This session will highlight the importance of inclusion, collaboration and partnerships in conflict prevention at all levels, from community to global. It will discuss concrete types of collaborative partnerships on conflict prevention and the various categories of non-state actors RECs can engage. Lessons and best practices will also be shared.

13:00-14:15 Lunch

14:15-16:00 SESSION SIX: Multilateral Collaboration and Partnerships on Conflict Prevention: RECs/RECs, RECs/AU and RECs/UN

Facilitator: Mr. Abdel-Fatau Musah

Presentation of findings: Mr. Ejeviome Eloho Otobo, (10 mins)
SESSION SEVEN: Partnerships & Collaboration between RECs and other International Organizations on Conflict Prevention: Lessons & Forward-Looking Approaches

Chair: Ms. Michelle Ndiaye, Director, Africa Peace and Security Programme, Institute for Peace & Security Studies, Addis Ababa University

PANELISTS:

- **H.E. Mr. Burkhard Ducoffre**, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany (7 mins)
- **Mrs. Alice Ouedraogo**, Resident Representative of the World Bank (7 mins)
- **Ambassador Helmut Kulitz**, Head of Delegation of the European Union to Gabon, for Equatorial Guinea, Sao Tome & Principe and ECCAS (7 mins)
- **Representative of Japan, Embassy of Japan in Gabon** (7 mins)

Discussion (57 mins)

This session will discuss the role and support of other international and regional partners to the RECs to develop and strengthen their institutional conflict prevention capacities. It will highlight key factors that enable or hinder such partnerships, as well as identify concrete opportunities and modalities for working better together.

17:45-18:00

Wrap-up of Day Two: **Professor Cheryl Hendricks**
SESSION EIGHT: Support provided by RECs to Member States in Promoting a Regional Culture of Prevention

Facilitator: Mr. Abdel-Fatau Musah

PRESENTATION: Findings on RECs’ Support to Member States on Conflict Prevention, Mr. Ejeviome Eloho Otobo (10 mins)

Responses:
- Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), (5 mins)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), (5 mins)
- East African Community (EAC), (5 mins)
- Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) (5 mins)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (5 mins)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) (5 mins)

Discussion (50 mins)

Member States have the primary and ultimate responsibility for preventing conflict and the RECs play an important facilitative role supporting the efforts of Member States. In this respect, this session will discuss how RECs can better assist their Member States in preventing conflict and addressing the root causes.

Coffee Break

SESSION NINE: Monitoring and Assessing Progress in Conflict Prevention

Chair: Mr. William Moki Lifongo, UNOWAS

PANELISTS:
- Professor Charles Ukeje, Department of International Relations, Obafemi Awolowo University (7 mins)
- Dr. Rachel Mukamunana, Head Country Review Coordination, African Peer Review Mechanism (7 mins)
- Mr. Armand-Michel Broux, Regional Governance and Conflict Prevention and Recovery Programme Specialist, UNDP (7 min)

Discussion (50 mins)

This session will explore concrete entry points and methods for monitoring and assessing progress in conflict prevention. What are the types of progress markers that could be utilized?

Lunch
SESSION TEN: **Next Steps: Identifying Concrete Action Areas**

**Facilitator:** Mr. Emmanuel Habuka Bombande

- Arab Maghreb Union (AMU), (7 mins)
- Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA), (7 mins)
- East African Community (EAC), (7 mins)
- Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) (7 mins)
- Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) (7 mins)
- Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) (7 mins)

Discussion (60 mins)

16:00-16:15 **Coffee Break**

16:15-17:00 **CLOSING SESSION**

**Moderator:** Mr. Makosso Sosthene, Chief of Protocol ECCAS

**REMARKS:**

- **Mr. David Mehdi Hamam,** Director, United Nations Office of the Special Adviser on Africa (OSAA)
- **Mr. François Louncény Fall,** Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Central Africa and Head of the United Nations Regional Office in Central Africa (UNOCA)
- **H.E. Mr. Ahmad Allam-mi,** Secretary-General of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS)