


LAU

Note to Mr. Gambari, Mr. Guéhenno, Mr. Michel and Ms. McAskie

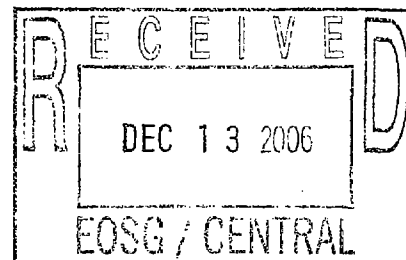
AU-UN cooperation – Egyptian proposal

1. Attached is a "verbal message" from the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt, Mr. Aboul Gheit, proposing the creation of a mechanism to enhance coordination and cooperation between the African Union and the United Nations at three levels:
i) between the AU Peace and Security Council and the UN Security Council;
ii) between the respective Secretariats of the AU and the UN and iii) between the AU Peace and Security Council and the UN Peacebuilding Commission.
2. Before placing the message for the consideration of the Secretary-General, we would like to have your respective views on the possible political, operational and legal implications of the proposed mechanism for the United Nations.
3. We would be grateful to receive your comments by Wednesday, 20 December..

Thank you.


Vijay Nambiar
13 December 2006

cc: - Mr. Malloch Brown
- Ms. Bárcena
- Mr. Lopes





**PERMANENT MISSION OF THE ARAB REPUBLIC OF EGYPT
TO THE UNITED NATIONS**

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Date: December 11th, 2006

Excellency,

It gives me pleasure to attach herewith a verbal message addressed to His Excellency Mr. Kofi Annan, Secretary-General of the United Nations, from His Excellency Ahmed Aboul Gheit, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Arab Republic of Egypt, concerning the enhancement of the cooperation between the African Union.

My best regards,

Maged A. Abdelaziz
Ambassador, Permanent Representative

His Excellency
Mr. Vijay K. Nambiar
Undersecretary-General
And Special Adviser to the Secretary-General
New York

26-15660

Verbal Message

1. Latest international developments have undoubtedly confirmed the need for the international community to develop and reinforce coordination mechanisms between international and regional organizations, principally as regards peace and security issues. Many members of the international community in general, and African States in particular, have embarked on a number of serious and effective steps toward establishing early warning systems, and are attempting to consolidate regional and international efforts intended for peaceful resolution of conflicts.
2. On the other hand, the African Peace and Security Council and the United Nations Security Council are currently tackling several African issues in parallel. The Constitutive Act of the African Union and the Protocol Establishing the Peace and Security Council, as well as the Charter of the United Nations and the numerous resolutions of the General Assembly and the Security Council, emphasize the principle of coordination and consultation between the architectures for peace and security within the Africa Union and the United Nations. Various steps are still lacking in order to invigorate the relationship between the two sides, and to synchronize their efforts further in areas related to crisis management, peaceful resolution of conflicts, deployment of peacekeeping operations, and coordinating reconstruction and recovery efforts in post-conflict situations, hence reinforcing the objectives of the two organizations.
3. The signing of the Framework for the Ten-Year Capacity Building Programme for the African Union, on 16 November 2006 in Addis Ababa, by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairperson of the Commission of the Africa Union, is indeed a positive first step to consolidate and cement the coordination and cooperation relationship between the two organizations in the future.
4. In the same spirit, I would like to inform you that Egypt is currently proposing an initiative in the African context, with a view to creating a mechanism to enhance the coordination and cooperation relationship between the two organizations on three levels. The first is between the United Nations Security Council and the African Peace and Security Council, in accordance with rule 37 of its provisional rules of procedures, and Article 17 of the Protocol Establishing the Peace and Security Council. The second level is between the Secretariat of both the United Nations and the African Union and their respective departments dealing with the issues related to peace and security. The third is between the African Peace and Security Council and the Peace Building Commission. The Members of the African Peace and Security Council and the Commission of the African Union have welcomed this initiative.
5. Egypt greatly values your unabating contribution to all African efforts aimed at bolstering the capacity of the peace and security architecture of the African Union. We are confident that this initiative will supplement the ability of both the United Nations and the African Union to deal with the myriad aspects of peace and security issues in Africa, and that you will spare not effort in supporting the above mentioned initiative.