

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION DIRECTORATE

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Visit of the African Union High Representative for the Horn of Africa to Addis Ababa on 4 August 2022

H.E. Olusegun Obasanjo, the African Union (AU) High Representative for the Horn of Africa, and former President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, undertook an official visit to Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 4 August 2022. During the visit, the High Representative met with H.E. Abiy Ahmed, Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, H.E. Demeke Mekonnen, the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, and members of the recently appointed Peace Committee, to discuss critical developments and preparations for the upcoming peace talks between the Government of Ethiopia and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF).

The High Representative also had fruitful discussions with Ambassador Bankole Adeoye, the AU Commissioner for Political Affairs, Peace and Security, who underscored the AU's continued support and confidence in the High Representative and the ongoing peace process, which has resulted in crucial confidence-building measures including improved humanitarian access, notwithstanding recent challenges in aid distribution.

The High Representative also briefed the AU Peace and Security Council on the ongoing AU-led peace efforts in Ethiopia. Council reiterated their appreciation and support for the work of the High Representative and further called on the AU Member States and the International Community to provide the necessary support to the process.

He also convened a meeting with Ms Hanna Tetteh, UN Under-Secretary-General and Special Envoy to the Horn of Africa, Ambassador Mohamed Ali Guyo, IGAD Special Envoy for the Red Sea, Gulf of Aden and Somalia, Ms Annette Weber, EU Special Representative for the Horn of Africa, and Ambassador Mike Hammer, US Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa, to discuss recent developments in the country including the outcomes of their recent visit to Mekelle, the planned peace talks as well as modalities for information-sharing.

The aforementioned Envoys reiterated the centrality of having one peace process under the undisputed leadership role of the African Union and the High Representative and emphasized the need to scale up cooperation and coordination in support of the AU process.

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