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The EU increases its support for conflict prevention and resolution in Africa with EUR 40 million

The European Commission confirmed its support to the implementation of the African Peace and Security Architecture (APSA) by providing an additional EUR 40 million to the African Union. This brings the EU allocation to APSA to a total of EUR 84.5 million from the African Peace Facility (APF) since 2004.

The APSA was established by the African Union (AU) in collaboration with the Regional Economic Communities (RECS) in 2000. Its role is to deal with prevention, management and resolution of conflicts in Africa.

This renewed EU support will enable the African Union and African Regional Organisations/Mechanisms with a mandate in peace and security to continue to fulfil and strengthen their mandates in order to:

- enhance synergies built between the African Union Peace and Security Council, the core organ of the APSA, and regional entities dealing with conflict prevention, management and resolution;
- increase the capacity of the Continental Early Warning System to anticipate and prevent conflicts;
- contribute the optimal functioning of the Panel of the Wise and mediation structures;
- provide support to the operational capability of the African Standby Force;
- enhance the capacity to develop and implement strategies and policies in related peace and security areas;
- build project and finance management capacity in support of APSA.

The EU support to APSA is funded under the African Peace Facility (APF), which was established in 2004 with an initial envelope of EUR 250 million from the 9th European Development Fund (EDF) to fund peace support operations conducted under the authority of the African Union and other African Regional Organisations as well as capacity-building activities in the area of peace and security. The first APF was subsequently replenished several times to a total amount of EUR 440 million. Under the 10th EDF, EUR 300 million have been allocated to the APF.

The APF is currently the major instrument of the Partnership on Peace and Security of the Joint Africa-EU Strategy. It provides substantial predictable funding for Africa-led Peace Support operations and supports not only the APSA but also the EU-Africa dialogue on peace and security.

For more information please contact:
Nancy DZOKOTO POMENYA
Unit E4 "Africa-EU Partnership, Peace Facility"
DG Development and Cooperation - EuropeAid
Nancy.DZOKOTO-POMENYA@ec.europa.eu
<http://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/peace-facility>

